



“The most important thing I’ve learned thus far is how difficult it is for low-income or uninsured individuals to get the health care they need. So many people need dental care but can’t afford it, and our waiting list is about 10 months just for extractions. I’ve always had insurance and have been able to see a doctor whenever I need to, so this has been an eye-opening experience.”

Amanda Ross, 2010 Fellow,
Good Samaritan Clinic, Morganton, NC



APPLICATION DUE FEBRUARY 11, 2011

Interested in the **Sowing Seeds for Change Fellowship?**

Contact

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SAF’s mission is to bring students and farmworkers together to learn about each other’s lives, share resources and skills, improve conditions for farmworkers and build diverse coalitions working for social change.

The Sowing Seeds for Change Fellowship is a 6 month leadership development program for college students and recent graduates to improve farmworkers’ access to healthcare as well as advocate for improved living and working conditions.

Many people don’t think about where their food comes from; they just go to the grocery store and buy it, unaware of the people who produce it. Farmworkers have one of the most dangerous jobs and are among the lowest paid workers in the U.S. They face discrimination, heat illness, pesticide exposure, poor housing, and low wages.

Farmworkers have a long history of organizing, standing up for better working and living conditions through labor unions and community organizations. Health clinics help to serve the immediate health needs of farmworkers, the majority of whom do not have health insurance. By participating in SSC you can be a part of this tradition!

Through Sowing Seeds for Change you will support health clinics and get trained on the issues surrounding farmworkers’ lives and the broader context of the agricultural industry. Student Action with Farmworkers will place 5 fellows with health clinics that serve farmworkers in North Carolina. They will be trained alongside our 25 summer interns at 3 retreats. SAF fellows and interns come from diverse backgrounds and about half are from farmworker families.

Fellow Qualifications

- Current college student or recent graduate (within 1 year)
- Intermediate to advanced Spanish
- Use of a vehicle for the duration of the program (June 1-November 18)
- Commitment to farmworker justice
- Previous experience in healthcare, campus activism, community volunteer work with farmworkers, or academic coursework on farmworkers

Note: Preference given to students from farmworker families and students from the Southeast. Former SAF interns and fellows encouraged to apply.

Expectations of Fellows

In order to participate in the SSC Fellowship you must:

- Work 40 hours a week
- Participate in the entire program from June 1-November 18, 2011
- Conduct a community awareness project
- Write 7 guided journals
- Complete a documentary or theater project*
- Fundraise \$650 to contribute to the program
- Be willing to drive/travel long distances to trainings and to conduct outreach to farmworkers (1-4 hrs/day, 2-5 days/week)

Where You'll Work

Fellows will live and work in rural agricultural areas in North Carolina. Fellows will be placed in health clinics that serve farmworkers and provide interpretation, case management, transportation to clinics and health education trainings about pesticides, HIV/STI prevention, and heat stress. All placements offer office work as well as some outreach to farmworkers, their children, or meat processing workers. Outreach varies but can be 2-5 times/week.

Theater & Documentary Projects*

In addition to working full-time at a health clinic, SAF fellows will work on one of the following projects:

Theater students will use skits to initiate dialogue among farmworkers and to mobilize them to come up with solutions to the issues they face. Performances take place in labor camps in Eastern NC and address issues important to workers; the 2011 topic is HIV & STI prevention.

Documentary students will get to know an individual or family more in-depth by documenting their lives through interviews, photography, and creative writing. The 2011 focus will be on the meaning of home & work for farmworkers and their families.

* Fellows may submit a proposal to fulfill an academic requirement at their school in lieu of a theater or documentary project, which must be approved by SAF staff.



Above Left: '10 Fellows receive documentary training at Orientation. Photo by Bart Evans Above Right: '05 Intern Guillermo Raya takes a farmworker's blood pressure Photo by Carmela Meehan Bottom Left: '07 Interns Maribel Maldonado and Anna Jensen share a message at final retreat. Photo by Alix Blair

Benefits

\$9,000 stipend, room and board at trainings, academic credit available. Fellows will set up their own housing and will use their stipend to cover living expenses.

Program Timeline

November 1	Application available online
February 11	Application deadline
February 21-25	Applicant Interviews
March 8	Applicants notified of Selection/Waitlist/Decline
March 15	Deadline to accept position or be on the waitlist
March 27- April 2	Farmworker Awareness Week
June 1-6	Orientation with ITF Interns (NC)
June 8	First day of on-site work
July 8-10	Mid-Retreat with ITF Interns (NC)
August 5-7	Final Retreat with ITF Interns (NC)
November 17	Last day of on-site work
November 18	Farewell Event (NC)