

## **SUMMER FELLOW: Star of the Sea Foundation (2 fellow positions available)**

### **The Hunger Free America Summer Fellows Program**

During the summer, Hunger Free America's Child Nutrition Department places a multitude of fellows across the country at various hunger-fighting institutions with a focus on combatting child hunger during the summertime. Once school lets out, millions of children no longer receive school meals and face tremendous obstacles accessing the Summer Food Service Program, which offers free meals for any child under the age of 18.

Our fellows work with food banks, summer camps, state agencies, and local community groups to find innovative ways to help more children access Summer Meals sites. Our passionate, dedicated, and progressive group of fellows are determined to be an invaluable resource for the resource-strapped non-profits looking to feed children during summer.

### **The Placement Site: *Star of the Sea Foundation (Stock Island, FL)***

The Star of the Sea Foundation (SOS) aims to increase the health and well-being of low-income individuals and families in Monroe County, Florida. SOS was founded in 2006 as a client-choice food pantry that aims to enhance the health of our community by providing fresh produce and nutritious foods to the working-poor in Monroe County, Florida. Having operated a 365-day per year soup kitchen in Key West for over 39 years, we became acutely aware of the epidemic of hunger in our community. We responded to this problem with a food pantry that has since grown to be one of the largest in all of South Florida. In the early days of operation, we distributed pre-selected bags of canned and packaged items, although we quickly realized this system was not sensitive to individual's cultural or dietary needs. SOS now operates a client-choice food pantry, and much like at a traditional grocery store, clients are allowed to select foods their families need. This in turn leads to not only more satisfied customers but also a reduction in food waste.

As one of the largest pantries in South Florida, SOS currently distributes fresh produce, meats, dairy products, breads, and canned goods to over 9,000 unduplicated individuals each year as well as 35 different agencies that serve children, veterans, seniors, and the homeless. Utilizing primarily volunteer support, SOS distributes 1,500,000 pounds of food annually to these underserved populations. As nutrition and healthy eating are both key focuses of our organization, more than 50% of the food we distribute is fresh produce. And recently SOS has expanded its efforts with helping the community through the community kitchen and nutrition education programs.

For more information, visit the SOS website at <http://www.sosmission.org/>.

### **The Position:**

The Star of the Sea is looking for two (2) Summer Fellows to expand and support the Summer Food Service Program (SFSP), assist with nutrition education efforts, and raise awareness of and eliminate barriers to SNAP and other food/nutrition- access services. Responsibilities include:

- Conduct outreach in targeted communities of low-income individuals to raise awareness of the Summer Food Service Program
- Work in the Community Kitchen to assist with all aspects of meal preparation and clean-up
- Assist staff members at SFSP sites, which include childcare centers, summer camps, and community centers, to serve meals, complete daily & monthly paperwork, set-up and clean-up eating areas, and coordinate and/or lead enrichment activities

**The Ideal Candidate Will Have:**

- High school diploma or higher
- Excellent communication, interpersonal, and organizational skills
- Experience in a restaurant or kitchen setting a plus, but not required
- Research experience a plus, or desire to learn more about nutrition education
- Knowledge or interest in child nutrition and hunger-related issues

**Time Commitment:**

This is a short-term, full-time position beginning June 3<sup>rd</sup>, 2019 and ending August 13<sup>th</sup>, 2019. You are expected to be available for the needs of your community and project at all times. Summer Fellows may be able to have a part-time job outside of service hours; however, they will discuss this with their supervisor prior to starting their position.

**Housing:**

You are responsible for finding your own housing. No housing allowance will be provided.

**Program Benefits:**

- \$13/hour, 39.5 hours a week, paid biweekly
- Paid holidays
- Experience in the nonprofit sector
- Access to Hunger Free America's national network of hunger-fighting institutions

**How to Apply:**

Please email resume and cover letter to Natalie Amstutz, Seasonal Child Nutrition Coordinator, at [namstutz@hungerfreeamerica.org](mailto:namstutz@hungerfreeamerica.org), with subject line "Summer Fellow\_StarofTheSea\_YourName" Applications are rolling; early applicants will be given first preference.