



The Lower East Side Ecology Center has pioneered community-based models in urban sustainability since 1987. We provide unique e-waste and composting services, environmental stewardship opportunities, and educational programming to all New Yorkers to create an equitable, resilient, and sustainable city.

THE POSITION: Food Justice Summer Fellow

The Ecology Center seeks someone who is deeply motivated to inspire knowledge of urban food systems and justice through older youth education. The Food Justice Fellow will work closely with the Food Justice Education Coordinator to develop and teach workshops for our cohort of Summer Youth Employment Program participants, tend to our small food justice garden, and conduct outreach activities with the broader Lower East Side community. Alongside the youth participants and FJ Education Coordinator, the Fellow will develop and lead a Youth Participatory Action Research Project to better understand food access in the Lower East Side. The Food Justice Fellow must be committed to environmental justice and be comfortable interacting with a wide-range of individuals from a variety of social, ethnic and organizational backgrounds.

PRIMARY RESPONSIBILITIES

- Develop and facilitate workshops about food systems and food justice for SYEP participants ages 16-24. Topics include but are not limited to growing and cooking food, nutrition, waste, equity, and soil health.
- Support the supervision of up to 10 Summer Youth Employment Program (SYEP) interns for 6-weeks.
- Co-develop and lead a Youth Participatory Action Research project focused on Lower East Side food access (specific research topic to be determined by the Fellow, the FJ Education Coordinator and SYEP participants)
- Support the maintenance of a small food garden including planting, watering, pest management, and harvesting.
- Track participation and programmatic data and write program reports as needed

CORE SKILLS AND EXPERIENCE

- At least 1 year of experience as a non-formal educator, preferably with teens and older youth.
- Familiarity with urban agriculture, food systems, and food justice
- Demonstrates a commitment to diversity, equity and inclusion
- Ability to work with and effectively communicate with a wide range of audiences including: staff, community and city agency partners, volunteers, youth and adult participants, the general public
- Team player that is self-directed with a can-do attitude, organized, and able to manage multiple tasks
- Enthusiasm and comfortability working outdoors in all kinds of weather conditions
- Complete physically demanding tasks and be comfortable lifting items up to 50 lbs
- Comfortable with Mac OS, Microsoft Office, and Google Drive apps

ADDITIONAL SKILLS AND EXPERIENCE PREFERRED

- At least two years of higher education experience
- Bilingual skills, especially in Spanish, Cantonese, or Mandarin
- Comfortable with being flexible and adapting to change

- Demonstrated mentorship and leadership skills

SCHEDULE

This is an 8-week position from July 1 to August 26. The Fellow will work up to 21 hours or 3 days per week.

COMPENSATION

The fellow will receive an hourly rate of \$20 to be paid biweekly.

HOW TO APPLY

Qualified candidates should submit the [online application form](#) and upload a resume by April 15, 2026.

No phone calls please.

The Lower East Side Ecology Center does not discriminate on the basis of race, color, ethnic origin, national origin, creed, religion, political belief, sex, sexual orientation, marital status, age, veteran status, or physical or mental disability.