



POSITION AVAILABLE: GLEANING ASSISTANT

ABOUT THE POSITION: This position is a physically active and hands-on role which entails working in a highly collaborative and dynamic outdoor environment. A person in this role supports the Gleaning Coordinator and creates a positive volunteer experience during gleaning activities.

ABOUT YOU: We seek individuals who understand that food is a fundamental human right and who want to join us as we both provide food to our community and also work to undo the systems that have led to the need for food banks.

There is no required level of education or work experience specified because we believe that there are many lived experiences that are at least as relevant to this work as a university degree or employment history.

ABOUT BELLINGHAM FOOD BANK: Bellingham Food Bank is Whatcom County's largest hunger relief organization. We provide free groceries in a dignified setting to 1 in 5 Whatcom County households annually. Bellingham Food Bank is committed to becoming an anti-racist organization.

MISSION

We reduce hunger by creating access to high quality, desirable food and other essentials, building a responsive regional hunger relief network, disrupting racism, because of its historical and structural connection to hunger and poverty.

VALUES

Quality & Choice: We offer a variety of high-quality foods, culturally relevant foods, and other essentials. We strive to create a welcoming, respectful, and dignified experience.

Justice & Equity: We believe hunger, poverty, and systemic racism are inextricably linked. Food justice is social justice.

Inclusion & Access: We actively work to remove barriers to food and essentials and to offer what is familiar and valued by our diverse community.

Responsiveness & Innovation: We listen, experiment, learn, and adjust as we seek ways to deepen our impact on both immediate needs and the root causes of hunger.

Job Description: Gleaning Assistant

- Harvesting vegetables and fruit on both farms and home orchards
- Sharing harvest instructions with volunteers and encouraging volunteers during the work
- Preparing box truck for gleans with pallets, crates, signs and harvesting equipment
- Driving a food bank vehicle to and from harvest sites or Bellingham Farmers Market
- Leading the Saturday Farmers Market Glean on planned days
- Delegating tasks to volunteers in a fast-paced environment
- Lifting and stacking crates of produce and equipment into box truck for transport

- Helping setup, stage, and cleanup the gleaning equipment before and after gleans
- Ensure produce is high quality, cleaned and organized appropriately
- Delivering, storing and recording of produce to Bellingham Food Bank warehouse

This position will require *up to* 12 hours per week, with a possibility of up to 20 hours during peak season. It is possible that this position will finish before mid-October or that weekly hours may be less than 12, dependent on weather, available crops, etc. The Gleaning Assistant must be available to work **two Saturdays per month**, dates to be determined with the Gleaning Coordinator.

Status: Temporary/non-exempt. **Wage:** \$22.50/hr. **Preferred Start date:** July 16th thru mid-October, crop-dependent

Skills & Qualifications

- WA State Driver's License with acceptable record
- Complete forklift and box truck training program at Bellingham Food Bank
- Ability to work closely with and support volunteers of all abilities
- Ability to work on a team, including among farmers and volunteers with diverse backgrounds
- Good communication, enthusiastic spirit and interpersonal and time management skills
- Ability to repeatedly lift up to 50lbs onto a harvest vehicle
- Ability to climb and harvest fruit from a 10-foot ladder
- Farm experience is helpful but not required

Work Environment

Reports to the Gleaning Coordinator. The work environment includes farms, orchards, backyard fruit trees, the Bellingham Farmers Market, warehouses, and the Bellingham Food Bank office. The assistant will need to walk, stand, lift, balance, and work in various weather conditions.

Transportation to harvest sites will be in Bellingham Food Bank vehicles, or in personal vehicle with mileage reimbursement.

To Apply

Email cover letter and resume to glean@bellinghamfoodbank.org, subject "Gleaning Assistant". Application due date: **July 2nd, 2026 at 11:59pm**. NO phone calls, please. More information at bellinghamfoodbank.org. Please do not send paper copies of any documents.

Disclaimer: This job description is not to be construed as an exhaustive list of all responsibilities, duties, and skills required for this position. All Bellingham Food Bank employees may be required to perform duties outside of their normal responsibilities from time to time, as to meet the ongoing needs of the organization.

We strongly support equal employment opportunity for all staff members, as articulated by federal, state, and local laws. Alternatives to Hunger actively seeks to recruit individuals without regard to race, creed, color, gender, sexual orientation, disability, marital status, veteran status, national origin, or age. Particularly, Alternatives to Hunger and all its staff members will comply with the AMERICANS WITH DISABILITIES ACT (ADA) OF 1990, PUBLIC LAW 101-336, also referred to as the "ADA" 28 CFR Part 35, which provides comprehensive civil rights protection to individuals with disabilities in the areas of employment, public accommodations, state and local government services, and telecommunications. Our equal employment opportunity philosophy applies to all aspects of employment, including recruitment, training, promotion, transfer, job benefits, pay, and dismissal.