Community Food Systems Mentorship Program Informational Call

Tuesday, December 15, 2020

3:00-3:30 pm CST

The Food Systems Leadership Network

A national peer learning community that connects current and emerging leaders, strengthens individual and collective leadership capacity, and fosters collaboration across communities.

- The goal of the network is to accelerate the realization of a just, equitable, and sustainable food system that generates good food, health, and opportunity for all.

- We envision these leaders linked through a living network of shared purpose, learning, and action that advances social justice locally, regionally, and nationally.

www.foodsystemsleadershipnetwork.org

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Community Food Systems Mentorship Program

Program Goals:

- To build relationships of solidarity and support across the Good Food movement
- To create space for seasoned leaders to share their wisdom, knowledge, & expertise with others
- To strengthen the capacity of food systems leaders to catalyze social change through food

Stats to date:

- Launched in January 2018
- 4 cohorts = 103 mentees total
- 100% of participants feel more confident in their leadership capacity & 94% planned to make changes to their practices

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IN MENTEE'S WORDS

The Difference between Mentorship and Technical Assistance

- Mentorship is based on relationship— a mentor's purpose is to support their mentee.

- Asking for and receiving specific technical assistance may be *part* of the relationship, but it is not its primary purpose

- Mentees consistently say their mentor was a sounding board.

- Answers/solutions ultimately reside within the mentee.

- Mentors are also learning--solidifying their own experience and expertise, and exchanging ideas with mentees.

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WHAT TO EXPECT

- 8-hour commitment with mentor over 4 months
    - February 15 – June 15
- Create time for follow-up, prep, and action in-between calls
- Kickoff and debrief calls with mentee cohort
- Topics past mentees have worked on:
    - Organizational Leadership
    - Personal Leadership
    - Racial Equity
    - Technical Areas
- Hear from past mentors and mentees!

APPLICATION TIPS

- ## Who should apply:
  - Anyone from program staff to directors
  - Consider your capacity to engage with a mentor and follow-up between calls

- ## When filling out your application:
  - Be honest about your current status and where you want to get through mentorship
  - Consider why you are seeking mentorship

- ## Process:
  - Complete Organizational Capacity Assessment
  - Select your 1st and 2nd choice for mentor on the application
  - Wallace Center screens applications and passes on to mentors
  - Mentors review applications and select who they would like to work with

KEY DATES

- **Applications open through January 11**
- Mentees notified: week of January 25
- Mentees kickoff call: February 11
- Mentorship runs: Feb. 15-June 15
- Feedback Survey due June 22

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Q/A