



Rural Food Access Coordinator

Location: Montezuma and Dolores Counties, Ute Mtn Ute Reservation, or surrounding area

Employment: ¾ to Full Time

Location: This is a remote, community-based position that involves frequent community engagement. Accordingly, candidates must be based in Montezuma or Dolores Counties or the surrounding area.

Overview:

The Good Food Collective (GFC) works with partners and stakeholders across Southwestern Colorado to collectively build a just and thriving food system. We believe that an intact regional food system creates economic opportunities for rural areas, creates jobs, stewards our environment, ensures that **everyone** in our community has access to nutritious, dignified food, and builds the backbone of a vibrant community.

The Good Food Collective in partnership with the Montezuma County Food Security Action Team (FSAT) is seeking a dedicated Rural Food Access Coordinator to enhance healthy food access and resource navigation in Montezuma and Dolores Counties, as well as, the Ute Mountain Ute reservation. The Good Food Collective and FSAT have worked together for six years to identify systems-level strategies for advancing food security, promoting healthy eating habits, and ensuring equitable food access to residents in Montezuma County. This position provides the critical capacity to be able to implement these strategies through both facilitating collaborative efforts with strategic partners, as well as, providing direct support services to residents experiencing food insecurity. This role is ideal for someone dedicated to driving systemic change in food security and fostering collaboration among a diverse range of stakeholders.

Key Responsibilities:

- **Coordinate Strategic Partnerships & Projects**
 - a. Work in partnership with FSAT members and key stakeholders to identify, develop, and implement collaborative projects that advance food security, ensuring alignment with the shared vision and goals.

- b. Provide training, technical assistance, and support to partners to build their capacity to contribute effectively to the collective impact initiative.
 - c. Monitor progress towards goals, identifying barriers and opportunities for course correction.
- **Enhance School Dining Opportunities**
 - a. Support the TeamUp Montezuma Food Security Action Team (FSAT) to identify summer meal sites in Montezuma County.
 - b. Assist in project design, community engagement, implementation, advertising, outreach, and ongoing support for summer meal site sponsors and hosts.
 - c. Support the effective implementation of Healthy School Meals for All across school sites in Montezuma/Dolores Counties
- **Administer Emergency Food & Shelter Program (EFSP)**
 - a. Establish and administer the EFSP in Montezuma County.
 - b. Complete administrative processes within FEMA.
 - c. Form and facilitate the Montezuma County Granting Board.
 - d. Oversee the annual allocation of funds to local organizations.
- **Provide Food Assistance Navigation & Outreach:**
 - a. Collaborate with Food Assistance Providers and community members seeking Emergency Food Assistance services to identify needs and opportunities.
 - b. Develop and implement strategies to address identified needs and opportunities which could include:
 - i. Provide resource referrals and navigation support to people seeking food assistance
 - ii. Outreach on new SNAP-related initiatives (ex eHIP pilot program, Summer EBT)
 - iii. Assess and develop strategies to increase SNAP enrollment.
 - c. Collect feedback and provide recommendations to Nourish Colorado, Colorado Department of Human Services, and other agencies and partners to improve program accessibility and impact.
- **Coordinate Local Gleaning Efforts:**
 - a. Collaborate with community members and local food pantries to organize community gleans.
 - b. Organize distribution of surplus produce to local food pantries.
- **Advance community engagement in Food Security and Food Systems efforts:**
 - a. Incorporate Community Leadership and equitable practices across all activities and projects.

- b. Build additional capacity for residents with lived experience to influence/lead food security efforts
 - c. Foster opportunities for community leadership within existing entities and institutions.
 - d. Advance Language Justice practices across food system efforts in Montezuma County
- **Liaison for Local, Regional, and Statewide Efforts:**
 - a. Participate in local food access groups and efforts including monthly participation with the Team Up Food Security Action Team.
 - b. Strengthen connectivity, coordination, communication, and collaboration between efforts.
 - c. Participate in statewide collective impact groups like the Colorado Blueprint to End Hunger.
 - d. Integrate local perspectives into larger strategies and bring resources back to the community.
- **Administration & Support:**
 - a. Assist with budget tracking, invoice processing, and expense reporting. Ensure timely submission of financial documents and adherence to budget guidelines.
 - b. Enter and update data in databases, spreadsheets, and tracking systems. Generate regular reports to track project progress, financials, and other key metrics

Qualifications:

Education and Experience:

- Minimum of 3 years of experience in community engagement, public health, food security, or related fields.
- Proven experience in project management, including planning, execution, and evaluation of community-based initiatives.
- Experience working with diverse populations, particularly BIPOC, seniors, youth, and rural communities.
- Deep knowledge of and connection to Montezuma and/or Dolores Counties and/or Ute Mountain Ute Tribe

Skills and Abilities:

- Strong ability to develop and manage strategic partnerships with community organizations, businesses, government agencies, and other stakeholders.
- Exceptional facilitation and meeting management skills, with the ability to foster collaboration and trust among diverse groups.
- Proficient in capacity building, providing technical assistance, and delivering training to community partners.

- Experience in emergency food assistance programs
- Strong communication skills, both written and verbal, with the ability to engage and motivate community members and partners.
- Bilingual abilities, especially in Spanish, Ute, a/o Dine, are highly desirable.
- Proficiency in data analysis and evaluation to monitor progress, identify challenges, and recommend improvements.
- Ability to navigate complex systems and advocate for policy changes at local, regional, and state levels.
- Successful prior experience in grant writing is highly desirable.

Personal Attributes:

- Passion for addressing food insecurity and promoting equity in food systems.
- Culturally competent, with a deep understanding of the challenges faced by marginalized communities.
- Innovative, with a mindset geared towards continuous learning and improvement.
- Highly organized, with strong attention to detail and the ability to manage multiple projects simultaneously.
- Collaborative, with a strong commitment to shared ownership of initiatives and goals.
- Adaptable, with the ability to navigate changing environments and respond to emerging community needs.

Compensation Package:

- \$56,000-\$60,000 for 1.0FTE depending on experience (prorated for ¾ time)
- SIMPLE IRA with 3% match
- 3 week of PTO plus 80 hours of Sick Leave annually

How to Apply:

Interested candidates should submit a resume and cover letter outlining their qualifications and interest in the position to Rachel Landis at rachel@goodfoodcollective.org by 9/13/24

Diversity & Equal Opportunity:

The Good Food Collective cultivates spaces for underrepresented communities to gain power and create meaningful solutions to food inequity. The coalition recognizes the systemic oppressions and inequities that face these communities. We strive to break down these barriers through understanding differences to build power, confidence, and leadership within Indigenous, Black, LatinX, Disabled, Senior, and geographically isolated communities. In principle and in practice the diverse nature of our board, staff, and volunteers is recognized as one of our best assets. We respect each individual's unique gifts and

prohibit unfair or discriminatory practices against anyone because of age, race, color, religion, national origin, disability, gender, sexual orientation, and any other protected category.

About the Good Food Collective: The Good Food Collective (GFC) works in deep partnership with stakeholders across our food system to build a just and resilient regional food system in Southwestern Colorado. We believe that an intact regional food system creates economic opportunities for rural areas, creates jobs, stewards our environment, ensures that EVERYONE in our community has access to nutritious, dignified food, and builds the backbone of a vibrant community. We are currently focused on three core areas: 1) Agricultural Support, 2) Regional Convening, Coordination & Support, and 3) Food Security and Health Equity.

About the Team Up Food Security Action Team: The Montezuma Food Security Action Team (FSAT) is a collective impact group operating under TeamUp, United Way, with the Good Food Collective (GFC) as one of its founding members. With a proven track record of effective partnership, FSAT has established itself as a force for change in addressing food insecurity in Montezuma and Dolores Counties. Their work is guided by the 2021 Four Corners Community Food Assessment, which serves as the foundation for their initiative

Thank you for your interest! For more about The Good Food Collective please visit our website: <http://www.goodfoodcollective.org>