

Graduate Research Assistantship

August 2019 – May 2020

Case Western Reserve University
Mary Ann Swetland Center for Environmental Health
Modeling the Future of Food in Your Neighborhood Study (PI: D. Freedman)

The Mary Ann Swetland Center for Environmental Health is seeking two graduate students to assist with data collection and maintenance for the Modeling the Future of Food in Your Neighborhood Study (foodNEST 2.0). This position will involve travel to local Cleveland neighborhoods for field data collection, food retail audits, data documentation and entry, and community engagement with potential opportunities for data analysis.

The goal of the foodNEST 2.0 study is to develop computational models that reflect interdependencies among different actors and interventions influencing local food system dynamics in neighborhoods and their impact on food security, nutrition equity, and economic opportunity among residents. The graduate research assistants will be working with the Program Manager and other members of the research team to gain valuable public health and fieldwork experience, and develop relationships in this interactive and collaborative discipline.

The ideal candidate will have excellent communication and oral skills, an ability to follow study protocols, an ability to work well with other team members, a flexible schedule, and will be detail oriented. Preference will be given to candidates with experience in data collection/management and community-based research as well as experience using statistical programs and software such as REDCap, SAS, or R, and/or qualitative data analysis software such as NVIVO.

Responsibilities

The graduate research assistant must show capacity for working independently as well as collaboratively. The candidate must complete required trainings for the ethical conduct of human subjects research.

Responsibilities will include a selection of the following tasks.

1. Conduct Food Retail Audits in the Community
 - a. Visiting food retailers in 4 of the Cleveland Communities to systematically document availability, quality, variety, and the pricing of foods sold
2. Data Entry in REDCap
3. Support foodNEST 2.0 Study
 - a. Support coordination of Core Modeling Team Events
 - b. Support coordination, evaluation, and dissemination of findings for public convenings and listening tours
 - c. Support development of system dynamic models and simulations including organization of underlying database
 - d. Assist with qualitative or quantitative data analysis
4. Support development of manuscripts and presentations.
5. Other tasks as needed.

Hours and Payment

The graduate research assistant will work 20 hours/week. Hourly wages are \$15-\$18/hour depending on experience. Work related travel will be reimbursed.

Application

Interested applicants must be a CWRU student. To apply for the graduate research assistantship position, applicants should complete an application, attach course schedule, CV/resume, and cover letter indicating your research experience and interest in the foodNEST 2.0 Graduate Research Assistantship. Review of

applications will begin immediately and continue until filled with the goal of starting the position in August 2019. Please direct questions to Dominique Rose at dominique.rose@case.edu.