Organization Name: Berea Mennonite Church (Oakleaf Farm)

Address: 1088 Bouldercrest Drive SE, Atlanta, GA 30316

Phone: 404-944-0522
Website: http://www.bereamennonitechurch.org
https://oakleafmennonitefarm.wordpress.com

Internship Supervisor: John Wierwille, Pastor

Contact information: john.wierwille@gmail.com, 404-944-0522

Organization’s Mission Statement: Oakleaf Mennonite Farm is a ministry of Berea Mennonite Church. It exists as a reminder that humanity first met God in a garden and the God of Israel is still tilling and sowing and tending and harvesting the New Creation to bless us with milk and honey. Our goals include careful stewardship of our land, the production of good food for ourselves and our neighbors, and sharing in the lessons and fellowship and holy labor that farms invite.

Summary of organization’s primary programs and services: We are a church operating a 9 acre urban farm in the City of Atlanta. We produce crops and eggs for sale at market. We also lease sheep and goats for brush clearing. Until recently, we had a farmer who operated a CSA program, but she has moved on to larger fields and that aspect of the farm is in transition while we look for another farmer/partner. We still keep a garden dedicated to the production of food to share. The intern will share in both daily rounds and garden work.

We primarily use the farm to teach children and youth where food comes from, the miracles of this world, and the peace of good labor. We host several hundred every summer. We also use the farm as the main classroom for camps aimed at teaching a way of life dedicated to peace with a focus on teaching conflict resolution skills and non-violent living. Summer work on the farm is especially focused on providing camp experiences – we call them Peace and Carrot Camps – for ages 5 to 12 and all economic, racial, and religious backgrounds. In the last few years, over 90% of campers received at least partial scholarships and 45 of our campers were homeless children from Action Ministries.

Intern’s title: Assistant Farmer/Camp Counselor

Number of interns requested by your organization? 1 or 2.
Internship project/job description:

Helping with day to day activities on the farm, working outside in the elements (very hot in the summer months), planting, harvesting, weeding, etc. More specifically, we would really like for the intern to work with our farm working group to help maintain farm operations, most especially the garden, while also working closely with the camp directors and staff and other volunteers. There will likely also be a chance to work with Freedom University and Coalition of Immokalee Workers on immigrant rights issues.

Qualifications: Our summer intern should have an interest in food production. We ask that interns be capable of working physically hard outside for at least 8 hours on some days and be capable of carrying at least 30 lbs. for 15 minutes (not all at one time or for 15 sustained minutes). Interns will also need to take direction well, have good organizational skills, share their concerns openly and productively, work in a variety of tasks, and work well with others. Flexibility will be important.

If there are other requirements for this position, security check, drug screen, immunizations, please note them here: The church requires a background check for all persons who work with children. This background check can be secured through the Agnes Scott Police Department for $10. A recent tetanus shot is recommended but not required. Proper work attire will be required – work boots (or at least heavy shoes), heavy jeans, long-sleeved shirts (for when you might get scratched - t-shirts are fine otherwise), etc.

Will the internship require that the student have a car? No.

Is placement accessible by public transit/other transport options? Yes.