Farmworkers are the United States' most vital workers. Their labor enables the production of high-quality, low-cost, fresh agricultural products; yet ironically they sometimes struggle to put food on their own tables.

- Farmworkers earn poverty wages and face discrimination because of language barriers, immigration status, class, race, and ethnicity.
- Farmworkers bear widespread labor abuses, face high rates of occupational injuries, illnesses, and pesticide exposure, and live in substandard and overcrowded housing.
- Farmworkers work long hours under dangerous conditions, yet are exempt from many workplace safety laws.

Despite these setbacks, farmworkers make essential contributions to our communities.

SAF works with young people to improve the lives of farmworkers and their families. Since 1992, over 1000 SAF students have supported more than 100,000 farmworkers to gain access to health, legal, education, and organizing resources.

Work with SAF to learn about farmworkers' lives and the broader context of the agricultural industry, and make collective change so that one day, all farmworkers will have dignity in their work and livelihood.

Contact us:
1317 W. Pettigrew St | Durham, NC 27705
919-660-3652 | www.saf-unite.org

Apply for our student programs:
www.saf-unite.org/programs

Paid summer & academic year internships in the farmworker movement
SAF Programs

Into the Fields

Spend your summer/fall meeting and supporting the people who plant, harvest, and produce the food we eat everyday! Through the Into the Fields Program, SAF develops the leadership of college students and recent graduates from diverse backgrounds, giving them the opportunity to work directly with farmworkers in the Carolinas.

SAF trains 24 bilingual students on farmworker issues, and places them to work full-time with legal aid, health clinics, migrant education, and community and labor groups reaching thousands of farmworkers each agricultural season. Students may conduct know your rights trainings, teach ESL classes, organize worker meetings, or provide health education trainings, interpretation, and transportation for workers.

In addition to working full-time with a partnering organization, SAF interns & fellows participate in a documentary project to better understand the conditions and stories of workers through participatory workshops or a theater group to educate and empower farmworkers. Participants also raise awareness about farmworkers in the larger community by conducting presentations and writing blogs about their experiences.

SAF students benefit from the Into the Fields Program by receiving training, mentorship by experienced advocates, and financial support. Many former SAF interns/fellows have gone on to continue working with farmworkers and immigrants after their SAF experience.

“...My participation in the Into the Fields internship has taught me how to effectively advocate for myself and others. I have learned the importance of engaging with local and national social justice movements and I’ve gained an appreciation for considering different viewpoints and approaches toward effective activism.”

– Micah Lowery, 2019 SAF intern

Fellowship

5-month program June-October
Applications due in February

Benefits:
$7,500 stipend, $1700 scholarship upon completion, room and board at 5 trainings, and mentorship. Fellows will gain experience in a health setting. Out-of-state students from farmworker families receive paid travel to North Carolina.

Are you Eligible?
• Current college student or recent graduate
• Must speak advanced Spanish
• SAF preferences students from the Southeast, those with an interest in health, and students from farmworker families (including the CAMP program)
• Students who have use of a vehicle for the duration of the program are encouraged to apply
• Participants must fundraise $850 to contribute to SAF’s work

Internship

10-week summer program June-August
Applications due in February

Benefits:
$1600 stipend, $1700 scholarship upon completion, rent-free housing, room and board at 3 trainings, and mentorship. Out-of-state students from farmworker families receive paid travel to North Carolina.

Are you Eligible?
• Current college student or recent graduate
• Must speak intermediate to advanced Spanish
• SAF preferences students from the Southeast and students from farmworker families (including the CAMP program)
• Participants must fundraise $750 to contribute to SAF’s work

Into the Fields Contacts:
Ramon Zepeda, Program Director
919-660-0704 | ramon.zepeda@duke.edu
Maria Lopez Gonzalez, Program Coordinator
919-660-9247 | maria@saf-unite.org

SAF develops students’ leadership through training and activism. We train students on the history of the farm labor movement, equity, advocacy, organizing & popular education. We provide opportunities for young people to practice new skills and explore their academic and career interests through activist experiences. We mentor students to explore their individual and collective paths toward social justice.

What is Farm Work?
• Planting, cultivating, and harvesting crops
• Poultry and meat processing
• Nursery and greenhouse work
• Packing and food processing

SAF program participants come from diverse backgrounds, with more than half farmworker families. We seek applicants with personal or family backgrounds from sharecropping to fast food, meatpacking to organic farming.

Solidaridad

Academic year program September-April
Applications accepted from April-August

Spend the academic year learning about the social justice movement and gaining leadership skills. Through mentorship and training, 5-10 Solidaridad interns gain an understanding of farmworker issues and experience in social justice and nonprofit work, while increasing SAF’s capacity to fulfill our mission.

Students intern approximately 10 hours a week at the SAF office in Durham, NC. Students may conduct presentations, mentor farmworker youth, plan events, create communication tools, participate in actions, rallies, and coalition meetings.

Students will participate in a documentary project and write blogs about their experiences. In addition, students will be introduced to seasoned advocates so that they have the opportunity to build their professional network.

Benefits:
$2400 scholarship, room and board at 1 weekend orientation & 2 day-long trainings, nonprofit office experience, and mentorship.

Are you Eligible?
• Current college student or recent graduate in NC Triangle area
• No Spanish language required for most placements
• DREAMERs and DACAmented students eligible to apply
• Able to work 10 hours/week and provide your own transportation to the SAF office
• SAF preferences students from farmworker families
• Participants must fundraise $450 to contribute to SAF’s work

Solidaridad Contact:
Sandra Rodriguez, Assistant Director
919-660-3652 | sandra@saf-unite.org

Apply Online:
www.saf-unite.org/programs