

Cayce Hill

San Jose, CA | (408) 529-5159 | cayce.hill@ceo.sccgov.or

FOOD SYSTEMS MANAGER

Food Systems Manager at the County of Santa Clara over 25 years' experience developing strategies to promote food system and environmental equity. Excel in developing, translating, and aligning strategy with organization vision and goals. Forward-thinking leader who leads by example, fostering an environment of open communication, motivation, empathy, and engagement. Proven ability to drive transformational change by capturing opportunities for growth, resulting in long-term financial and operational sustainability. Innate passion for tackling big challenges with extensive knowledge of community health, food systems, and climate resilience principles. Engaging communicator credited with gaining buy-in from diverse stakeholders for a compelling vision and navigating cross-functional teams through successful execution of complex community programs and projects.

PROFESSIONAL EXPERIENCE

Food Systems Manager-County of Santa Clara, San Jose, CA 12/23-present

- Expand, support implementation of, and document impact of the adopted Food System Workplan
- Plan, organize and direct a county program that provides direct service to the public or other agencies
- Work collaboratively across County departments and sectors involved in food-and sustainability-related issues and programs to share information
- Integrate food systems work between the County and organizations across the county
- Handle complex coordination between County, local and State resources
- Manage implementation, control, monitoring and evaluation of provided services to ensure compliance with terms of received grants and contracts
- Prepare and make presentations to staff, boards, commissions, and external groups
- Determine program funding needs and obtain available outside funding when necessary
- Define personnel resource needs and allocate them as required to reach program objectives

Executive Director-Veggievolution, San Jose, CA 03/15-12/2

- Cultivated high-performing organization through strategic recruitment of staff with deep professional and lived experience
- Accelerated the growth of the organization by developing a fundraising strategy to grow annual income from \$350,000 to \$3.5M over seven years
- Developed a strong, diverse team

- Effectively represented the organization before other nonprofit partners, individual donors, community residents, philanthropic and local government agencies, and the media.
- Navigated legal requirements pertaining to contracts, compliance reporting and applicability of laws specific to administration and management of nonprofit organizations
- Communicated effectively both verbally and in writing
- Actively engaged the organization's participation in the Sí Se Puede Collective, comprised of five place-based East San José nonprofits working in tandem through a collective impact model
- Led three 3-year strategic planning processes over eight years
- Collaborated with and gained the Board of Directors' confidence, resulting in its transformation from an operating board to one responsible for establishing mission and vision, and providing governance/policy.

Culinary Gardener-Cayce Hill Gardens, San Jose, CA

08/09-03/15

- Operated a sole proprietorship to design and manage estate and restaurant gardens
 - Sons & Daughters Restaurant (San Francisco, CA)
 - Planned and maintained edible estate gardens
 - Coordinated with chefs to harvest produce for restaurant use.
 - Supervised garden apprentice
 - Delphi Agrarian Arts Foundation (Los Gatos, CA)
 - Planned and maintained edible estate gardens
 - Developed and managed garden internship program
 - The Absinthe Group: Provided guidance to strengthen restaurant group direct-purchasing programs with local farmers.
 - Other special project consulting, including:
 - Minkoff Group/CREO Landscape: Wrote Community Garden Report for submission to Menlo Park City Planning Department.
 - Consultant to Fremont Pat Ranch LLC (KB Home): Wrote Urban Farm Operations Manual for submission to Fremont City Planning Department.

Garden Maintenance Team Lead-Middlebrook Gardens, San Jose, CA

06/08-10/09

Research Assistant-Japan Organic Agriculture Association, Tokyo, Japan

10/05-02/08

Research Assistant-The New York Academy of Medicine, New York, NY

02/04-04/05

Education Coordinator-The Children's Hospital at Montefiore, New York, NY 01/02-08/03

Proprietor-El Puente English Institute, Morelia, Mexico

09/99-07/01

TEFL Course Manager-New World Teachers, Various locations worldwide

07/98-08/99

Education:

- TRINITY UNIVERSITY, San Antonio, TX: Bachelor of Science: Finance, Spanish: 1997
- NEW YORK UNIVERSITY Robert F. Wagner Graduate School of Public Service, New York, NY: Master of Public Administration, Public Policy Specialization: 2005
 - Coursework included: Principles and practices of public health and health care administration, financial management, multiple regression and econometrics
- Naganuma School of Japanese Language, Tokyo, Japan: 2005-2008

Languages: English (native), Spanish (fluent), Japanese (conversational)

Training: Master Gardeners of Santa Clara County; Foothill College Horticulture coursework; Yanagihara School of Traditional Japanese Cuisine; NYU Professional Translation Certificate (Span-Eng); Teaching English as a Foreign Language Certificate

Accomplishments: Santa Clara University (SCU) Valeriote Goldman Fellowship Mentor, SCU Leavey School of Business Mentor, Silicon Valley Business Journal 2020 Woman of Influence, American Leadership Senior Fellow and DIEL Affinit, On the Verge Mayfair Emerging Leader.

Board Service: San Jose Parks Foundation, Treasurer (2020-present); Santa Clara County League of Conservation Voters (2019-present); Friends of (Santa Clara County) Master Gardeners, Treasurer (2009-2014); California Native Garden Foundation (2009-2012)