Create Common Good

Create Common Good’s mission is to provide training and employment to refugees and others in need. Their experiential programs transform lives and enrich communities. They build upon the generosity and creativity of their volunteers and partners. CCG’s vision is to celebrate human resilience and promote lasting recovery and self-sufficiency. They use food to change lives.

Overview

CCG provides training and employment for individuals with barriers to employment. They use food to change lives and build healthy communities. The Create Common Good Farm model grows sustainable produce for healthy food experiential education. They offer U-Pick CSA shares, class and community center field trips and fee-based workshops. The Create Common Good Farm provides youth internships that are designed to put emphasis on 21st century skills, such as, problem solving, empathy, teamwork and leadership. These are all built on the CCG core values of gratitude, excellence and engagement.

Assess Needs

I have assessed the needs of the CCG farm by volunteering and spending time with Jen. After being on the farm there seemed to be a few gaps in regards to the safety at the farm. Myself and Jen concluded that there needed to be an extensive safety plan on the farm in case something were to happen while a volunteer, intern, or a staff member was working. Assessment included, equipment, natural disaster, heat related illnesses, and animals and insect bites.

Plan

After assessing the needs of the farm, Jen and I started planning on what the safety plan would look like and what would be included. We planned on included each of the areas assessed.

Implement

Implementing the safety plan includes having all interns read the material, as well as, sign and date it was viewed. Jen and I feel it will be their responsibility to know the information is the safety plan book.

Research

A large amount of research has been done to complete this safety plan. Research has been done for all areas of the safety plan including, how to handle someone with any type of heat related illness, how to administer an epi pen, how to check for pulse, how to handle animals and insect bites, what is protocol for natural disasters, etc. All of these have been thoroughly researched for the Boise area and have been included in the end result of the safety plan.

Summary

Being able to do this kind of research to create a safety plan has helped me to learn a number of things. First, there is a lot of research and time that goes into creating a safety plan so that the information is relevant and the most credible. Second, I have learned that there are a number of risk factors included when you have volunteers working in an outdoor environment with dangerous equipment and conditions. It is very important to inform those working on the farm of what needs to be done if something should happen. Lastly, I learned this safety plan is going to keep changing as time goes on and more resources become available to CCG and the farm. It is essential that a future intern or an employee keep the safety plan relevant and add any tools or items at the farm that may help keep everyone at the farm in a safe and controlled environment.

Words of Advice

To the next intern: Do your research and work hard. Any internship can be fun as long as you make it that way! There is a learning experience in everything you do, so treat it that way. Good Luck!