**Job Profile: Co-operative Food Organiser**

Reporting to: Debbie Burton

Responsible for: Community Builder Programming

Four Greens Community Trust is delighted to be able to work in partnership with Co-operation Town an organisation set up in 2019 to develop a new network of community led food co-ops, organising on streets and estates across the country. This post will embed itself into the local food network in Plymouth and work closely with Food Plymouth.

Co-operation Town co-ops are small buying groups, providing their members with free and affordable groceries, sourced in bulk, and distributed at very low price. The co-ops are owned by their members and run according to local needs.

**Our Core Values** Four Greens Community Trust is an Equal Opportunities employer and requires all its employees to promote the vision and objectives of the Trust

**Our Vision**

To eradicate poverty, social isolation, and health inequalities within our community.

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**Our Mission Statement**

In partnership with our community to develop a diverse range of quality services and opportunities that will promote economic regeneration and reduce social inequality.

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**Our Values**

Everyone is Unique

Transparency of Action

Creativity

Compassion and Understanding

Honesty and Integrity

**Main Purpose of Job:**

. You will work directly with members of the community across different locations in Plymouth to share information, recruit members, find organising spaces and help groups establish new community food co-ops. You will provide ongoing support as co-ops develop and grow.

You will help the co-ops link up with local food suppliers, including surplus and wholesale suppliers, and work with them to establish a smooth and effective logistics operation.

You will be actively listening to the community needs, providing support and encouragement, building social connections and resources to overcome challenges. Your role will bring people together and facilitate a space for collaboration, mutual support experimentation and solidarity.

**You’re Good At:** Establishing and maintaining good working relationships with members.

Bringing people together and to develop partnership ways of workings

Identifying potential volunteers and “community anchors” and supporting them in their initial role

Organising workshops, network and community meetings

Building relationships with a wide variety of organisations within the food distribution business

Finding community spaces and liaising with them to facilitate community food co-ops

Supporting members of the community to overcome barriers to participation

Keeping records and collating data to show impact of future food co-ops

Finding innovative solutions to issues that may be encountered when working with local communities.

**What success looks like:**

You feel valued, supported, and fulfilled in your work

There is a happy, positive, and constructive working environment and workplace culture

Sustainable food co-ops created across the City.

Increased knowledge of food co-ops and the impact they can have on their local community

Recruitment of “community anchors” and volunteers that are trained and committed to the maintenance and development of food co – ops created as part of this initiative.

Partners and stakeholders identified and committed to the principles of food co - ops

Reduction of food poverty

The integration of the co-op food model into other community based initiatives that are committed to grassroots based initiatives.

Skill Requirements Educated at GCSE Level or above

Experience of community organising, event planning and facilitation.

A passion for tackling the integrated issues of food justice, social exclusion, poverty and food waste.

Innovation, initiative and passion for community development work.

Being empathetic , personable, friendly and approachable.

Confidence in engaging with people from various backgrounds, abilities and ages and in different roles and responsibilities

Being highly organised, proactive and a self-starter

An ability to self-manage time and resources efficiently and effectively.

Confidence using standard office software, including spreadsheets and online tools.

Commitment to challenging inequality, racism and all forms of social justice.

A willingness and openness to learn, share knowledge and self-educate.

Desirable Experience in setting up or working in a co-operative, especially a workers or food co-op

Experience in working in a social or economic justice organisation

Experience using design tools to produce marketing materials.

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