



Stony Brook Heights Rooftop Farm

About the Farm

Stony Brook Heights is an innovative micro-farm located on the third floor deck of the Health Science Center at Stony Brook Medicine. The farm boasts 36 raised beds, allowing for 2,242 square feet of gardening space to be filled with an array of colorful, fresh, organic vegetables and herbs. The farm yields around 1,500 pounds of produce each growing season.

With a “farm to bedside” concept, the farm utilizes organic gardening methods to produce an abundance of vegetables and herbs, which are then used to supplement patient meals at Stony Brook Medicine. The Hospital kitchen serves between 1,800 and 2,000 individual meals per day, sharing the bounty of the farm with patients, and the wholesome nutrition that comes with it.

While the **Nutrition Division** manages Stony Brook Heights, a largely student volunteer corps helps the farm to flourish. With the additional produce over the years, we have been able to donate produce weekly to the Stony Brook University student food pantry, Stony Brook Home (a free student-run clinic), Stony Brook WIC program, and Hope House Ministries in Port Jefferson.

Position Description

- Working on the Stony Brook Heights Rooftop Farm (planting, weeding, adding soil amendments and harvesting) with Nutrition Division staff and other volunteers.
- Helping to plan farm-side cooking demonstrations (we intend to measure pre and post nutrition knowledge and intended behavior).
- Creating education material and recipes for patients/clients to which we donate produce (we intend to measure impact of providing such material).
- Helping to plan a fall harvest benefit
- Participate in planning a study to measure the impact providing such produce, as well as associated educational activities, on nutrition knowledge and intended food-related behavior changes.

Requirements

- Must be able to perform physical labor including weeding and harvesting, and be able to lift at least 50 pounds (i.e. supplies/soil amendments).
- Gardening experience is preferred.
- Excellent organizational and communication skills required.
- Knowledge of data entry in Excel required
- In order to make deliveries to some local charities, having a car is helpful.