

Slide Number	Activity
Slide 1	<p>Welcome to the Volunteer Orientation!</p> <p>Welcome everyone to the Hope's Harvest RI 2021 Volunteer Orientation! Thank you for your interest in gleaning with Hope's Harvest RI.</p> <p>Reminder that attendance/viewing of this orientation is REQUIRED for gleaning with Hope's Harvest RI in 2021</p> <p>You will need to take a quiz after this video to be approved to glean with us in 2021, as well as a few other steps to be a fully registered and approved volunteer. Make sure to pay attention and feel free to rewatch this video or parts of the video to familiarize yourself with our volunteer guidelines. And check for follow up links to quizzes and forms on our registration page and in the video description.</p>
Slide 2	<p>Land Acknowledgement</p> <p>Hope's Harvest RI acknowledges that it operates on the traditional, ancestral, and contemporary lands of the Narragansett, Nipmuck, Niantics, Wampanoag, and Manissee Indigenous peoples. This stolen land was cared for and called home by many more indigenous tribes from time immemorial, now since gone. Native peoples then and now cultivated the land and animals in symbiosis, living in partnership with the natural world in a fundamentally sustainable way that we could learn much from as we suffer from the effects of an industrialized global food system. Now more than ever, Indigenous communities are suffering the effects of food insecurity, a byproduct of a colonialist state which has limited their access to traditional resources and knowledge that have been cultivated for thousands of years. Increased access to quality food, self-determination, and food sovereignty for these communities has never been more important and Hope's Harvest RI is committed to showing up in partnership with indigenous leaders who are taking a stand today, as they always have, for the earth and their traditional relationship with the land and the abundance it provides.</p>
Slide 3	<p>Introductions</p> <p>Meet the Staff for 2021 Season!</p> <p>We'd like to introduce you to the members of our 2021 Hope's Harvest Staff so you know everyone's faces and names when you join us out in the field. We have two permanent, full time, year round staff - Eva, the program Director, and Mollie Rose, our Operations Manager. Many of you are familiar with Merl, our outstanding Americorps VISTA - they will be staying with us through December this year, and we're also happy to welcome our new Americorps Direct Service member Sarra Sundstrom who will be with us through December as well. DeAnn is new and as well and will be with us from June - August as a Summer Americorps. We'll also be hiring one additional team member to serve as our full year VISTA and will make sure to share out their information when we bring them on. Our team works tirelessly in all conditions, heat, wind, rain, and snow to get healthy food into the hand of our neighbors and we're so grateful to them for the HUGE difference they make in their community.</p>
Slide 4	<p>Our Challenges: Hunger in RI</p> <p>Okay, so let's get into it! We at Hope's Harvest believe it's important to provide a primer for everyone who works with us on why we do what we do. As volunteers, we want you to know the broader context of the issues we're working to address, and how you fit into that bigger picture when you come out and glean with us. Some of you may have already seen this information in other presentations, but we invite you to revisit it as there's always more to learn, and we've added some additional information for this orientation. So let's start by talking about hunger in Rhode Island.</p> <p>In a 2020 STATUS REPORT conducted by the RI Community Food Bank on Hunger in Rhode Island and published in November 2020, it was found that 1 in 4 households in RI lack access to adequate food, the highest level of food insecurity recorded in Rhode Island in twenty years."</p> <p>Hunger in RI has always been an issue, but has been exacerbated by COVID-19...</p>
Slide 5	<p>Our Challenges: COVID and Increased Need</p> <p>Here you'll see the potential for increased need due to COVID-19. People who will be hit the hardest are those who are already struggling due to unemployment and poverty as well as children and seniors. This research also found that many people likely to see increased food insecurity are service workers, and people working care professions like childcare. While we are starting to see improvements, a setback like the one we've had over the past year will have effects on people's food security for years to come.</p>
Slide 6	<p>Our Challenges: Food Insecurity and Racism</p> <p>Food insecurity also disproportionately affects BIPOC, non-white individuals due to systemic and structural racism, which encompasses a host of issues including unequal access to jobs and housing, discrimination by banks or government agencies, underfunded public schools, racist policing fueling the incarceration crisis, lack of voting rights or access in black and brown communities, and on and on.</p> <p>You can see the stark contrast in how many white vs non-white people are food insecure in this diagram published by Feeding America's Food Insecurity and Poverty in the US 2020 &amp; 2021 Impact Report, published March 2021. So, when we're thinking about addressing food insecurity, we're stepping into a space where many people's basic needs are not being met, and taking on one small piece of that.</p>
Slide 7	<p>Our Challenges: Food Waste on Farms</p> <p>At the same time that millions of people across the country are going without healthy, fresh food, we're also seeing research that shows a huge amount of produce going to waste on farms. You can see here that food wasted on farms accounts for about 20% of the total food waste in the US, 17 million tons, and about \$14Billion in lost revenue for farmers. So why does this happen? Well, farmers aren't doing anything wrong - they're often growing more than they need to make sure they have enough for their markets in the case of bad weather, pests or disease pressure, and to account for "ugly" produce or produce that's too big or too small for packaging. And farmers run on tight margins and often can't afford to pay their workers to harvest food that isn't going to be sold. Again, nothing wrong with that, but rather than see edible food on farms getting brought to the compost pile or fed to farm animals, we want to make sure that it's going to its highest and best use and if it can feed people, we're able to get it there.</p>
Slide 8	<p>Hope's Harvest RI Mission</p> <p>Our mission is to...</p> <p>How do we do this? By...</p>
Slide 9	<p>Hope's Harvest RI's Strategy</p> <p>...rescuing surplus food from hard working farmers and delivering it to hunger relief agencies across Rhode Island - bringing high quality fruits and vegetables to children, seniors, and working families in our communities who lack the access to nutritious foods.</p> <p>This process is not a new model, but has been happening for thousands of years. Farm-based food recovery, also known as "Gleaning", is the ancient practice of collecting unharvested produce from farmer's fields and distributing it to people in need.</p> <p>So, the farmer lets us know when they have product available in the field, we recruit and manage volunteers to go out and harvest it, and then we bring it to hunger relief agencies across RI to distribute it to people in need.</p>
Slide 10	<p>Hope's Harvest RI Partners: Farmers</p> <p>We have three major stakeholder groups. First, we work very closely with farmers across Rhode Island and also MA. This list includes all of the farms we have worked with in the past, many of whom we'll be partnering with again this season. Most of these farms are in MA, but we also work with some farmers in MA.</p>

Slide 11	<p><b>Hope's Harvest RI Partners: Hunger Relief Agencies</b></p> <p>These are some of the hunger relief agencies that we work with, ranging from Olneyville Food Center right next door to us in Providence down to Johnnycake Peacedale and University of Rhode Island and Jonnycake Westerly down in th southern parts of the state. We attempt to geographically spread out the gleaned bounty to as many hunger relief organizations that we can and this year we're hoping to serve a broad range of agency types doing truly heroic work keeping their communities healthy and well fed.</p>
Slide 12	<p><b>YOU Make This Work Possible! (Volunteers)</b></p> <p>Last, but certainly not least, YOU, our volunteers! You all are essential in making sure that this project works and that we can increase the value of all of our time and effort by coming together to harvest food. Every volunteer really dramatically increases the amount of food that we're able to recover and distribute - making a huge difference! We've been blessed to have a lot of steady and consistent volunteers who have worked with us for years, and new recruits every year who joining us and fall in love with the sunshine, the earth, and the good we're able to do out in the fields.</p>
Slide 13	<p><b>Support and Funding</b></p> <p>People often ask where we get our funding and support. We are fiscally sponsored by Farm Fresh RI and operate out of their brand new food hub in the Valley neighborhood of Providence. We also receive private grants from foundations including the RI Foundation, we contract with the RI COmmunity Food Bank, and also have some business sponsors. We also get individual donations from our supporters, so if you're not able to volunteer with us (or even if you are) know that there are many ways to give to this work to ensure we have the resources we need to keep putting trucks on the road and delivering food.</p>
Slide 14	<p><b>Accomplishments So Far</b></p> <p>So far we have been able to recruit over 600 volunteers who have collectively spent over 2800 hours harvesting 330,000 lbs of fresh fruits and vegetables from about 25 different farms, distributing that produce to over 20 hunger relief agencies and serving approximately 10,000 people per month. We've recovered exponentially more food from year to year since 2018, starting at 36,000 lbs, then 80,000 in 2019, and 275,000 lbs last year. We obviously couldn't have done that, again, without all the hard work of our farm and agency partners, and volunteers like yourself. So thank you!</p>
Slide 15	<p><b>Gleaner Benefits</b></p> <p>So that's enough about us, let's talk about being a gleaner with Hope's Harvest RI.</p> <p>We get so much positive feedback from volunteers about how much they love gleaning with us out in the fields. Fresh air, being in nature, getting exercise, meeting other volunteers, learning about agriculture and the different farms, and most importantly MAKING A DIFFERENCE FOR PEOPLE IN NEED. You're already here, so you probably already know about these benefits, but we want you to know that we see ourselves as an organization that provides a great experience, and great value to our volunteers and we're here to make sure you get everything you want out of your time with us.</p>
Slide 16	<p><b>Process for Gleaners</b></p> <p>Let's get into the details of how it works. Gleaning with Hope's Harvest RI is a two-part process: first is registering as a volunteer, and second is signing up for trips</p> <p>All registration forms and requirements are available on our website on our Volunteer Page</p> <p>First thing you need to do is watch the Orientation Video (yes, this one) which is available on our Volunteer Page.</p>
Slide 17	<p><b>Step 1: Watch Orientation Video</b></p> <p>Congratulations! You're already completing step one.</p>
Slide 18	<p><b>Step 2: Post Orientation Quiz</b></p> <p>Next step is to take the Post Orientation Quiz, also available on our Volunteer Page. You'll be asked questions based on this video you're watching, so be sure to watch thoroughly. You need a 75% (6/8 questions correct) or higher to be an approved volunteer. You can access both the video and the slides on our Volunteer Page for you to reference.</p>
Slide 19	<p><b>Step 3: Read the waivers</b></p> <p>Read the media waiver, liability waiver, Volunteer Agreement, AND COVID-19 waivers, all available on our Volunteer page. Our media and liability waivers and the volunteer agreement have not changed this year, so if you've already read them, you're good to go. Please re-read the COVID-19 waiver to review our updated policies and make sure to check ALL the boxes for these in the registration form.</p>
Slide 20	<p><b>Step 4: Complete the registration form at the bottom of our Volunteer Page</b></p> <p>This step confirms your agreement to the media, liability, volunteer agreement, and COVID-19 waivers</p> <p>You will be automatically signed up to receive weekly email notifications of upcoming trips</p> <p>If you've already completed this form, you should do it again to make sure you're re-newing your agreement to our updated covid policies. It's also a good way to update your information in our system if your address, email address, phone, etc. have changed. Note that the only REQUIRED questions on this form are the first name, last name, and email address, so if everything else is the same, feel free to skip those questions and just complete the top three fields and the checkboxes at the bottom.</p> <p>Congratulations! If you passed the quiz with a 75% or higher, and have read and agreed to all of the waivers, you are now a registered and approved volunteer!</p>
Slide 21	<p><b>Part Two: Sign Up for Trips</b></p> <p>So now we'll go into how to sign up for trips once you've registered.</p> <p>Event invitations are sent out to our email list on a weekly basis.</p> <p>Volunteers click on the link to sign up for specific trips based on availability</p> <p>Basic Information is collected such as Name, Email, Phone number (to contact during trips)</p> <p>For every trip, you must sign that you agree to the Volunteer Agreement, COVID-19 Agreement, Media Waiver, Liability Waiver, and confirm that you have watched the Orientation Video and completed the Post-Orientation Quiz</p> <p>You will receive information about farm location in trip confirmation after signing up for an individual trip on Eventbrite, where you will then join HHRl and other volunteers on that trip at that farm for 1-3 hours. HHRl staff provide safety and harvest training (10 mins b4 the start of each trip).</p>

Slide 22	<p><b>Step 1: Select trip in Weekly Newsletter</b></p> <p>Event invitations are sent out via email on a weekly basis (sometimes more during the peak season). Usually between Friday afternoon and Saturday morning. We don't know exactly when these will go out because we're often finalizing trip details right up until we send out the invitations. Trips can fill up fast. We're working on various options to address this, including having more trips, and potentially offering trips just for new volunteers, so don't give up and keep checking back!</p> <p>Volunteers click on the link to sign up for specific trips based on YOUR availability</p>
Slide 23	<p><b>Step 2: Register on Eventbrite</b></p> <p>When you click the link in our email, you will be sent to sign up for your trip on eventbrite. Basic Information is collected such as Name, Email, Phone number (to contact during trips)</p> <p>For every trip, you must sign that you agree to the Volunteer Agreement, COVID-19 Agreement, Media Waiver, Liability Waiver, and confirm that you have watched the Orientation Video and completed the Post-Orientation Quiz</p>
Slide 24	<p><b>Step 3: Confirmation Email</b></p> <p>You will receive information about the farm location, directions, any special equipment or trip details, in an emailed trip confirmation after signing up for an individual trip on Eventbrite. Sometimes these go to your spam box, and sometimes the trip directions get cut off at the bottom of the email - click on the three dots at the bottom of your email if this happens to see the full trip information.</p> <p>Please DO NOT bring friends unless they have already signed up using the above process. We promise farmers that we won't put them at risk of liability, and the sign up process is how we protect them and keep our relationships with the farms so they keep working with us!</p>
Slide 25	<p><b>Step 4: Glean!</b></p> <p>join HHRI and other volunteers on your gleaning trip! Arrive at the designated start time and location to meet our staff - they will be identifiable by a bright orange bandana or HHRI hat.</p> <p>HHRI staff provide safety and harvest training (10 mins b4 the start of each trip).</p> <p>We do have handwashing stations, and you will be required to wash your hands before you begin gleaning, but we cannot guarantee accessible restrooms, so please consider that in advance.</p> <p>NEW - this year we are requesting all volunteers wear a bright orange HHRI bandana so our farm partners can identify our volunteers easily from a distance. You can bring your own, or we will have them available on trips. We just ask that if we've provided you with one, you hold onto it and remember to bring it with you on trips.</p>
Slide 26	<p><b>Navigating COVID-19 in 2021</b></p> <p>Hope's Harvest RI is dedicated to providing for our friends, families, and neighbors in need and we take our responsibility to the people we serve very seriously - that includes the farmers and their staff, agencies and everyone who receives our food, and you, our volunteers.</p> <p>For that reason, we are complying with the CDC guidelines around mask wearing and COVID-19 guidelines.</p> <p>Moving forward, for the 2021 gleaning season, you must be masked unless you are:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>A child under 2</li> <li>Consuming food or beverage</li> <li>Developmentally unable</li> <li>Fully vaccinated</li> <li>Indoors and able to maintain 3 ft distance</li> <li>Outdoors and able to maintain 3 ft distance</li> </ul> <p>There are some caveats to these guidelines. We are still asking that you keep your mask on your person and available during a gleaning trip at all times, even if you are not wearing it in case the need arises for us to mask up to meet the safety or policy needs of any of our partners. Although we are changing our guidelines at HHRI, the farms and businesses that we visit may ask us to comply with their guidelines.</p>
Slide 27	<p><b>Navigating COVID-19 in 2021</b></p> <p>Additionally, Screening requirements are still in effect (you cannot attend if you are experiencing symptoms, quarantining, etc.). These screening requirements, detailed in our COVID Safety agreement, are for the health and safety of our team members, volunteers, and those who receive food from Hope's Harvest. All INDOOR trips - sorting/packing are mask-required, and Volunteers are still not allowed in the truck</p> <p>We are also taking requests for masked trips. If you know that you want to glean with us but can't attend a trip with unmasked people for whatever reason, you can request a masked trip and remain anonymous. We will make sure that everyone signing up and attending that trip knows it's a mask-required trip. Email Mollie Rose at mollirose@hopesharvest.org if you're interested in this option.</p> <p>Thank you for your understanding - if we need to update policies over the course of the season, we will make sure to keep all volunteers informed of changes.</p>
Slide 28	<p><b>Screening Requirements</b></p> <p>We want to review the COVID-19 screening requirements.</p> <p>In the last 10 days, have you...</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Traveled outside the United States (US) and US territories or traveled to a hot spot within the US and US territories</li> <li>Been in close contact with someone who tested positive for COVID-19 (you've been within 6 feet of someone with COVID-19 for a total of 15 minutes or more in a 24-hour period)</li> <li>Currently experiencing COVID-19 symptoms and/or have in the past 14 days</li> </ul> <p>Please keep these in mind and answer honestly when considering attending a gleaning trip, for the safety of your fellow gleaners, Hope's Harvest RI staff, our farm and agency stakeholders, and most importantly the people in need who are receiving the produce we glean.</p>
Slide 29	<p><b>Gleaners: COVID Protocol</b></p> <p>In summary, here are the precautions we're requiring from our volunteers this season. registering to be a volunteer by watching this Volunteer Orientation Video, completing the Post-Orientation Quiz, agreeing to the COVID-19 Volunteer Agreement.</p> <p>Additionally, we ask that you go through our pre-screening questions during trip sign ups &amp; monitor for symptoms on-site. At this time, volunteers must be 16 years old or older to sign up.</p> <p>We ask that you ALWAYS bring a personal Face Mask (fully covering nose and mouth) to the trip, as well as water bottle/personal supplies (gloves, hand sanitizer, sunscreen, etc.) because we are still not providing water due to COVID-19.</p>

	<p>While on site, we require following our on-site guidelines for volunteers, which includes:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Safety procedures review at beginning of each trip</li> <li>Hand-washing required and station provided</li> <li>Social distancing of 3ft in field &amp; loading the truck (staff will manage and monitor)</li> <li>No volunteers in HHRI vehicles (or other gleaners' vehicles)</li> <li>No sharing equipment</li> <li>Packing and bunching will be done in the field, NOT in the truck</li> <li>Volunteers may be asked to leave if they are not following proper safety protocol</li> </ul>
	<p>As always, you can find an extensive list of what to bring on a trip on our Volunteer Information page: <a href="https://hopesharvest.org/info/volunteers/info/">https://hopesharvest.org/info/volunteers/info/</a></p>
	<p>In closing, We know our volunteers are dedicated, community-minded, and thoughtful individuals who also care deeply about the health and well-being of our fellow gleaners, and so we expect and require that everyone who attends will follow our policies for the season. If you're not able to for any reason, please know that we value your contributions, and look forward to gleaning with you again when you're able to join us out in the fields.</p>
Slide 30	<p>Questions?</p> <p>If you have any questions about this video, registration, or sign up process, we will be having a live Q &amp; A session on June 9th from 6-7PM to answer all of your questions! You can fill out our Q &amp; A Google Form before coming if you so choose, but you can also feel free to just show up during that time. If you would prefer an email response, fill out the form with your email and we will get back to you sooner.</p>
Slide 31	<p>Thank you!</p>