Nomination period open now

The Foodlink Career Fellowship is a unique, 12-month job-training, apprenticeship and anti-poverty program designed for people 18+ who face barriers to sustainable employment — and who are passionate about having a career in the regional culinary arts and food-service industry.

This yearlong training includes nine months of a paid apprenticeship; combining classroom and on-the-job learning with an externship at a local employer. Graduating Fellows are prepared for middle-skills positions in the food industry with essential cooking techniques, industry credentials as well as the hard skills needed in large-scale food production.

The dynamic learning environment also helps Fellows develop the soft skills essential to successful careers in fast-paced environments. Fellows learn from a combination of online training and daily assignments in the state-of-the-art, commercial kitchen at Foodlink. They also enjoy field trips, guest speakers and demonstrations and receive family-style class meals, a knife kit, culinary uniforms and intensive one-on-one coaching.

Participants must be nominated by community-based organizations

Foodlink’s community partners are critical to the success of the Career Fellowship program. Community-based organizations or Community Mentors help us recruit participants who are motivated and ready to learn, in spite of past challenges related to living and/or working in poverty. Once a nomination package is completed, interviews and job shadows will take place, and participants will be selected for the upcoming Fellowship class.

Do you know an eligible potential candidate?

- Ready to commit to a year-long full time intensive training program.
- Must have strong desire and dedication to establish a career in food service and the culinary arts
- Is 18 or older and facing significant barriers to middle-skill, sustainable employment

For more information please contact Foodlink’s Career Empowerment Initiatives team at fcfellowship@foodlinkny.org

For more than 40 years, Foodlink has leveraged the power of food to end hunger and build healthier communities in a 10-county region around Rochester and the Finger Lakes. Through good stewardship, innovation and collaboration, Foodlink mobilizes a diverse network of community partners to address both the symptoms and root causes of food insecurity.