

# Food Justice and Beyond at the Mary Mitchell Center

## 1. Project Description

From the months of May to August, I will volunteer regularly at the Mary Mitchell Center, located in the Crotona neighborhood of the Bronx, NY. This will include helping with the Center's After School and Summer Enrichment Programs, Food Justice Club, Nutrition and Fitness Program, Heidi's Healthy Canasta, and community garden. My hours and days will be tailored to the Center's needs, but I hope to work at least three days a week for at least five hours each day.

Beyond contributing to the fight for healthy food for all and to the many other efforts of the Mary Mitchell Center, I hope that my work there will help me to foster deeper relationships with people living in the Bronx community. I believe that change rarely comes about in the absence of community and solidarity. Thus, finding hope in an increasingly fragmented and isolated world seems impossible. It is only through fostering interpersonal relationships, learning to do the work of compromise and consensus, and finding solidarity in the struggle for justice, that we can ever hope to bring about substantive change. It is my hope that through working in my own community, I will be able to build such relationships and continue to do work well beyond the summer of 2022.

## 2. Organization

The Mary Mitchell Center is a community-run center in the Bronx, NY. Their mission is to "improve the lives of families and youth in the Crotona section of the Bronx through programs that expand opportunities, develop leadership and building community."

## 3. Expenses

If provided, the Siedelman Grant would assist me to support myself as I will be working at the Mary Mitchell Center For Free. Expenses include:

1. Housing and utilities – \$500
2. Food – \$350
3. Transportation – \$150