

**Christina Barkel**  
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## **Professional Experience**

**Food Equity Specialist**, September 2019-present

**Groundwork Center for Resilient Communities - Traverse City, MI**

- Manages the Local Food Relief Fund and Farm 2 Neighbor program purchasing, which leverages over \$190,000 funds raised to date to purchase locally-grown produce to be distributed to area food pantries and meal sites
- Assists community partners in making sustainable changes to their food pantries and meal sites that result in increased access to healthy, fresh food
- Supports key food access areas of Groundwork's Food and Farming programming, including resource development, grant writing and systems-change advocacy

**Farm Manager** May 2018-December 2020

**Interlochen Center for the Arts - Interlochen, MI**

- Planned, maintained and harvested a diverse school garden with emphasis on vegetable production, permaculture demonstration and student and community education
- Co-taught and developed curriculum for an agricultural science class for students attending Interlochen
- Expanded outreach programs through community-based gardening classes and food donation program
- Managed various teams of students, volunteers, staff and interns on site projects

**Field Hand, Farm Manager**, May 2014-December 2018

**Birch Point Farm – Traverse City, MI**

- Planted, maintained and harvested several diverse, organic vegetable gardens using organic and sustainable growing practices
- Developed youth programming for weekly YMCA camp field trips to the farm
- Participated in the management of a 40-member CSA program and market stall at the Traverse City Farmers Market

**Farmer in the Classroom Program Coordinator** August 2011 – May 2014

**The Agrarian Adventure - Ann Arbor, MI**

- Facilitated communication between Ann Arbor Public School teachers and area farmers to coordinate farmer in the classroom visits for over 700 students during a typical school year
- Developed training and curriculum models to assist farmers during their classroom visits

**Youth and Schools Coordinator, Americorps VISTA**, November 2010 – November 2012

**Growing Hope - Ypsilanti, MI**

- Coordinated 10 week after-school cooking and gardening program at Ypsilanti Middle School in both spring and fall
- Developed and executed summer youth garden-based nutrition programming at 3 community sites for over 100 youth
- Developed unique and dynamic garden-based nutrition curriculum for elementary and middle-school aged youth
- Assisted in the development and execution of a summer youth employment program for high school aged youth

## **Education**

**University of Michigan, Ann Arbor**

**School for Environment and Sustainability**

Bachelor of Arts, Program in the Environment, May 2009

With a specialization in Environmental Justice