POSITION DESCRIPTION:

Official Title: Extension Regional Specialist, rank E-2 (equivalent to Assistant Professor).
Working Title: Washington State University (WSU) Family and Consumer Sciences Faculty: Food, Nutrition and Access Specialist. This is a full-time, tenure-track faculty position.

JOB DUTIES AND RESPONSIBILITIES:

This regional position will be located in Skagit County and will function as an integral part of the WSU Skagit/Whatcom County Extension team to provide innovative educational programming on community food systems/access, nutrition, wellness and food preservation.

Responsibilities
May include any or all of the following:

1. General Responsibilities
   a. Provide leadership in developing and conducting an education program.
   b. Plan, implement and evaluate research-based and experience-based educational programs related to a food system that includes safe, adequate and healthy food for consumers at both ends of the income distribution. Special emphasis will be placed on increasing wellness.
   c. Acquire both financial and human resources through grants, contracts, and gifts to support the development and delivery of programs.
   d. Conduct comprehensive evaluation of program outcomes and impacts.
   e. Conduct innovative programs that result in measurable outcomes and lead to peer-reviewed extension scholarship for advancement in rank and tenure.
   f. Act as a liaison between WSU Skagit County and WSU Whatcom County Extension Family and Consumer Sciences programs and apply specialty emphasis as needed.

2. Program Development
   a. Conduct informal and formal need/program opportunity assessments. A program opportunity is defined as the recognition or creation of a situation in which: constituents are willing to work toward
EMPOWERED             MOTIVATED             DIVERSE             ADAPTABLE             ENTREPRENEURIAL

a. Write and manage grants, contracts and other extramural funds that will support special emphasis programming.

b. Solicit private and public support from individuals, organizations, and agencies for Extension programs and WSU Extension.

c. Ensure program outreach that includes diverse and under-served youth and their families.

d. Participate in the development of initiatives designed to enhance programming on both Community Food Systems and Food Security in Skagit and Whatcom Counties.

e. Collaborate with university faculty on evaluation and applied research projects related to nutrition, food safety and preservation, and food systems.

f. Develop innovative educational materials and design effective methods of delivery that reach the diverse audiences. Develop partnerships with community agencies and organizations including departments of health, school districts, youth organizations, child care workers and organizations working with families.

g. Design and conduct evaluation of educational strategies and activities to guide program modification as well as determine and report results.

3. Outreach, Community, and Volunteers.

a. Develop innovative educational materials and design effective methods of delivery that reach the diverse audiences of Skagit and Whatcom Counties.

b. Provide leadership in developing flexible program methods designed to enhance leadership skills, effective communication skills and sound decision-making ability, with the overall goal of empowering people and building community capacity.

c. Provide leadership to staff and volunteers who manage the Supplemental Nutrition Assistance Program-Education (SNAP-Ed) in Skagit and Whatcom Counties including the Ideas for Living and Food Sense programs.

4. Marketing and Public Relations

a. Advocate for WSU and Extension in the community. Contribute to an accurate, consistent, and positive message about Extension to funding partners, participants, and the wider community.

b. Network and cooperate with WSU subject matter specialists to facilitate curriculum development and implementation with appropriate faculty and staff.

c. Partner with regional agencies, government officials, city planners, public health agencies, community groups and non-profits to support infrastructure development for growing, purchasing, processing and distributing food, nutrition education and food literacy, and communication.

d. Use social media and other e-learning approaches to deliver educational programming.

Line of Responsibility:
This position reports to the WSU Extension Youth and Families Program Director.

REQUIRED QUALIFICATIONS:

1. Master’s degree in health and nutrition, exercise science, health education, health, or a closely related discipline.

2. Experience in developing and implementing community-based education programs.

3. Evidence of using technology for teaching, communication, information-gathering, program delivery, and/or reporting.
PREFERRED QUALIFICATIONS:

1. PhD in health, nutrition or closely related discipline.
2. Proven ability to apply and integrate research-based knowledge into program development, delivery, and evaluation.
3. Knowledge and experience with community food systems and/or community food networks.
4. Experience in conducting applied research in areas of nutrition, health, or social sciences.
5. Documented record of scholarship in subject matter closely aligned with the position.
6. Demonstrated personnel supervision and participatory management skills.
7. Academic training or experience that will ensure a strong connection to academic departments within Extension’s College of Agricultural, Human, and Natural Resource Sciences, the College of Pharmacy, and the College of Nursing.
8. Demonstrated capacity, willingness, and experience in engaging diverse constituents in education programs (dimensions of diversity could include gender, culture, age, sexual orientation, religion, education, and income).
9. Experience with resource development, including evidence of securing and administering grants and contracts.
10. Ability to communicate in another language spoken in the counties (preferably Spanish).

JOB EXPECTATIONS:

1. Ability to travel year-round using own reliable transportation (mileage reimbursed) is required. While using a private vehicle for official business, the successful candidate must obtain current automobile liability insurance (meeting the requirements described in RCW 46.30.020, and RCW 46.09.090) and possess a valid driver's license.
2. Understand and carry out the principles and specific requirements of the Civil Rights Act of 1964, the Americans with Disabilities Act, the Affirmative Action Plan, and all pertinent rules and regulations.
3. The successful candidate will be required to work flexible hours that include some evenings and weekends as needed. There is an expectation that the candidate will need to drive to various locations around the county and region. Some overnight travel is required throughout the year.
4. Extension faculty are hired into the organization, not into a specific geographic location. It is possible that future circumstances may require relocation.

RELATIONSHIPS:

1. Participate as a member of the WSU Extension teams in Skagit, Whatcom and other counties as appropriate. Work with faculty and other staff on interdisciplinary and multi-disciplinary programs as appropriate to the audience and issue requirements. Collaborate with colleagues at the local, program unit and state levels.
2. Network and collaborate with agencies, organizations, universities, industry, and individuals to develop "cutting edge" opportunities, effective educational programs, and improved funding support for youth and family programming.
3. Partner and collaborate with local stakeholders for program development, implementation and evaluation.

SALARY:

Salary is commensurate with the candidate's academic and professional qualifications and available funding, including history of program management and successful extramural fund development. State of Washington benefits and enrollment in TIAA-CREF are included. For more information on benefits at WSU, go to: http://www.hrs.wsu.edu/benefits.
LOCATION:

This position will be located at WSU Extension in Skagit County. The office is located at 11768 Westar Lane, Suite A, in Burlington, WA 98233. Skagit and Whatcom Counties make up the extreme northwestern mainland corner of Washington. The Skagit County office has approximately 10 faculty and staff members, up-to-date technology and a team approach to programming. The Whatcom County Office has approximately 11 faculty and staff members. Although Burlington and Mt. Vernon have very diverse populations, the Skagit County demographics are composed of two percent American Indian, two percent Asian, and seventeen percent Latino populations. Whatcom County demographics are composed of five percent Asian and seven percent Latino populations. An extension office is located in each of the county seats.