

Application Form

Profile

If you have any questions or difficulty submitting this application, please reach out to Alex Guzhnay at aguzhnay@newhavenct.gov or call 203-946-7670.

Blaise

First Name

N

Middle Initial

Berglund

Last Name

blaise@cityseed.org

Email Address

725 Orange Street

Home Address

Suite or Apt

New Haven

City

CT

State

06511

Postal Code

What ward do you live in (optional - please select ward if you know)?

Ward 9

Home: (860) 304-1383

Primary Phone

Alternate Phone

Are any of the above number a cell phone number?

Yes No

If so, which? Also, is it okay to send a text message?

Are you currently employed by the City of New Haven or the New Haven Public School System?

Yes No

CitySeed

Employer

Agriculture Programs
Manager

Job Title

To see our list of Boards and Commissions please click here: <https://newhaven-ct.granicus.com/boards/w/976a34cad711af7c/boards>

Which Boards would you like to apply for?

New Haven Food Policy Council: Submitted

Is this an appointment or reappointment request? *

Appointment

Interests & Experiences

Please tell us about yourself and why you want to serve. Please attach any of the follow:

Resume, Curriculum Vitae (CV), Professional Bio, or a Statement of Interest.

[Blaise_Berglund_resume.pdf](#)

Upload a Resume

If not submitting a Resume or CV, please submit a ~150 word Statement of Interest as to why you are interested in serving on your selected boards/commissions. If you have uploaded a resume OR you are seeking reappointment, you can write n/a.

n/a

Why are you interested in serving on a board or commission?

I am interested in representing CitySeed as a key partner in the revival of the New Haven Food Policy Council. As a food justice advocate and 6+ year resident of New Haven, I care deeply about supporting the City to make informed decisions about ways to support local growers and increasing food accessibility.

Why do you believe you would be a good fit for your selected board and commission(s)?

I have managed the farmers markets in New Haven for 4+ years and have developed a deeper understanding of the needs of some of the food insecure residents in New Haven and accessibility to fresh, locally grown food. I am most recently managing CitySeed's farm to institution program, which connects Connecticut farms to food businesses, clinics, schools, and universities to create a more thriving food system.

Do you have any time commitments that would prevent you from participating in board/commission meetings? Meeting times can be found by visiting newhavenct.gov/boards, but most are usually once a month for 1-2 hours.

None

Demographics

Some boards and commissions require membership to be politically proportionate, per State Statute on minority party representation (CGS § 9-167a). What is your political affiliation on your voter registration (i.e Democrat, Republican, Unaffiliated, Independent, etc)?

Democrat

In order to stay compliant with our city's charter, are you registered to vote in New Haven?

Yes No

We strive to maintain diversity in all of our Boards and Commissions. These questions are optional and if you volunteer the information we will only use it to ensure that our boards and commissions are diverse.

Ethnicity

Caucasian/Non-Hispanic

Gender

Female

How did you hear about serving on our Boards & Commissions?

Alder Miller

Blaise Berglund

New Haven, Connecticut, 860-304-1383, blaiseberglund@gmail.com

EDUCATION

May 2021 Bachelor's of Arts in Geography, Minor in Psychology, Southern Connecticut State University

EMPLOYMENT HISTORY

Apr 2021 — Present CitySeed New Haven, CT

Agricultural Programs Manager - Oct 2025 - Present

- Oversee CitySeed's CT Grown aggregation program to increase local procurement in New Haven restaurants and institutions, connecting local area chefs and food service managers to Connecticut farmers.
- Strengthen program operations and participant satisfaction by identifying areas for improvement and optimizing resources for greater impact.
- Oversee the day-to-day functioning of on-site Farmers Market programming.
- Support evaluation of all Farmers Market plans, programs, activities and procedures with regard to their purpose, inclusivity, sustainability and impact on the organization and community.

Farmers Market Manager - Sept 2022 - Oct 2025

- Manage 1-3 thriving weekly events of 1,000+ attendees made up of vendors, volunteers, customers, and community members.
- Manage 70+ vendor profiles and maintain organized digital records of W-9s, COIs, food permits and licenses, crop plans, and additional relevant documents.
- Manage billing and accounting of \$1.49+ million in annual vendor sales.
- Execute efficient financial processes to ensure vendors are reimbursed promptly and organizational fees are collected in a timely manner.
- Manage and maintain nutrition program systems and processes including communicating with partners, setting up contracts and agreements, and tracking and reporting \$100,000+ annually.
- Recruit and train 100+ volunteers annually to advance the organization's mission and community programs.
- Maintain and digitally organize compliance of city, state, and program regulations, policies, and guidelines.
- Oversee the care and maintain inventory of all program equipment and physical infrastructure.
- Work with program director to maintain intentional, diverse, and collaborative relationships with community organizations and partners to enhance events and promote the work of partners.

Development Assistant - Nov 2024 - May 2025

- Tracked \$150,000+ in donations, sponsorships, and grants.
- Assigned and mailed corresponding acknowledgment letters in a timely manner.
- Maintained development dashboard in collaboration with development director.
- Weekly check ins with development director to communicate about donor stewardship and event planning.

Sales Coordinator at Sanctuary Kitchen - 2021 - 2022

- Generated over \$2,000 in prepared food sales per event.
- Fostered meaningful connections with customers to share the organization's mission and available programs.
- Familiarity with allergens, preparation techniques, and serving suggestions.

Assistant Farmers Market Manager - 2021 - 2022

- Managed 1 weekly event of 350+ attendees.
- Collected and input vendor transaction data and nutrition incentive program data for creation of reports in a regular, accurate, and timely fashion.

Nov 2024 — Jun 2025

Server, Zinc

New Haven, CT

- Exuded a professional, friendly attitude and appearance at all times, resulting in repeat customers and positive feedback from management.
- Excellent multitasking abilities, managing a high-volume of orders and customer service tasks during peak hours.
- Possess a comprehensive knowledge of menu items and specials, allowing for more accurate and efficient order taking.
- Ensure food safety and sanitation standards are met at all times, resulting in a clean and safe dining environment.

Jul 2020 — Nov 2024

Server, Shell & Bones Oyster Bar and Grill

New Haven, CT

- Delivered excellent customer service to upwards of 700+ covers daily with front-of-house team members.
- Demonstrated a high level of attention to detail by ensuring all orders were accurate and complete.
- Demonstrated excellent problem-solving skills by resolving customer disputes in a timely and professional manner.

COURSES

- 2025 200 HR Certified Yoga Teacher, Breathing Room Yoga Center / Yoga Alliance
- 2025 Community Organizing for Social Justice, University of Michigan
- 2024 Connected Leadership, Yale University

SKILLS

- | | |
|---|----------------------------------|
| Team Leadership & Coordination | Clear Communication |
| Sense of Humor | Data Analysis and Reporting |
| Scheduling and Resource Allocation | Organizational & Time Management |
| Event Planning and Logistics | Mindfulness |
| Fast Learner | Adaptability and Flexibility |
| Relationship Building | Vendor Management |
| Process Improvement & Workflow Optimization | |

HOBBIES

- Ceramics
- Yoga
- Hiking
- Spending time with my Pug, Mango