



Friends of the ATC Solidarity Network

Friends of the ATC announces 2019 internships in Nicaragua

Friends of the ATC is a solidarity network with the *Asociación de Trabajadores del Campo* (ATC, or Rural Workers Association), an organization of struggle that defends the rural workers and peoples of Nicaragua. We organize at local and international levels to spread awareness, build solidarity, and facilitate support for the struggles and initiatives of the ATC and the international movement La Vía Campesina. In the spirit of internationalism, we believe in the necessity of supporting ongoing struggles for justice in our own communities and around the world.

In 2019, the Friends of the ATC, in collaboration with the ATC, is pleased to announce an internship program for a cohort of committed students, organizers and internationalists to learn through the lens of the ATC and its base about peasant movements, life in the countryside, and revolutionary Nicaragua.

The bulk of the internship will be spent in the community of Marlon Alvarado, located in Santa Teresa, Carazo on the Pacific Coast of Nicaragua. The community has organized with the ATC since the insurrection in the 1970s, before the triumph of the Sandinista Revolution. Many families in the community received parcels of land through the revolution's agrarian reform and today grow their own corn, beans, rice, sorghum, along with a variety of tropical fruits and garden vegetables. Most of the internship will consist of what Friends of the ATC believes is one of the best ways to learn: living and working alongside families of the community to complete the daily tasks of living in the countryside. There will also be regular group activities in Marlon Alvarado with ATC department-level leadership as part of the community's interest in transitioning toward agroecological models of food production.

In addition to life and work in the Marlon Alvarado community, interns will have the opportunity to visit and exchange with other branches of the ATC and Nicaraguan society during the internship. Interns will join up with internationalists participating in the July Friends of the ATC delegation,¹ which coincides with the 40th anniversary of the Sandinista Revolution, in addition to having a handful of other excursions outside of the community.

This internship is part of a larger process of constructing and strengthening solidarity with the ATC, Nicaragua and movements for liberation through the Friends of the ATC solidarity network. Thus, we also expect interns to participate in solidarity network activities (specific agreements organized on a case-by-case basis).

Interested in applying for this internship? Please email erikatakeo.atc@gmail.com for an internship application today. We will receive and review applications on a rolling basis until April 15th, 2019.

¹ Pending delegation confirmation. Proposed dates are July 12th – 21st, 2019.

Key internship information:

Minimum internship requirements:

- Commitment to international solidarity and social justice
- Comfortable & openness to living and working in rural environments
- Commitment to working in a collective / good team player
- Patience & flexibility especially in intercultural contexts
- Conversational Spanish

Application Deadline: April 15th, 2019

Internship Dates: Wednesday June 12th – Wednesday August 21st (10 weeks)

Internship Costs: Internships are unpaid. We ask interns to pay a \$1000 solidarity donation that covers the basic costs of food and lodging while in the Marlon Alvarado community, the July 2019 delegation fee at a scholarship rate, basic internship accompaniment, and a small donation to the ATC. This fee does not include food & lodging costs for when interns leave the Marlon Alvarado community (except for during the July 2019 delegation), nor does it include transportation costs (both international & internal). In the past, interns have had great success finding funds from their universities or by fundraising in their communities to cover all of the costs of the internships. If you have concerns about internship costs, please do not hesitate to let us know.

How do I apply? Email erikatakeo.atc@gmail.com for an internship application.