

South Lansing Community Development Association

AmeriCorps Farmers Market and S.L.U.G Volunteer Coordinator

Position Overview

Coordinate volunteers to establish a sustainable community-based food system in South Lansing through Farmers Market, youth gardens, community gardens, and nutrition education.

Responsibilities

- Coordinate volunteers to assist with Farmers Market activities (Saturdays, June-September).
- Coordinate volunteers to assist with youth garden programs.
- Distribute seeds and plant starts among local gardeners.
- Provide technical and organizational support to existing and potential gardeners.
- Collaborate with other organizations to provide nutrition, garden, and physical education workshops for community members.
- Present information at community meetings, classes and events (e.g. neighborhoods, schools, churches, Farmers Markets) about the connection between access to healthy food/recreation and positive health outcomes.
- Collaborate with local youth and other community service organizations to build garden boxes, container gardens, and raised beds.
- Recruit neighborhood-based garden mentors and Learn While You Burn leaders.
- Assess needs and generate interest in community gardens (perform outreach through surveys, interviews, flyers, emails, newsletters).
- Develop newsletter articles and updates about the garden program.
- Report contacts, activities, and progress made.

Qualifications

- Knowledge of horticulture (food production), dietetics, and fitness
- Physical ability to perform hands-on tasks associated with gardening (bending, lifting, kneeling)
- Ability to work well with a diverse socio-economic and ethnic population
- Ability to take initiative, work independently, and manage time effectively
- Ability to manage multiple tasks without compromising organization or attention to detail
- Comfortable working at multiple sites
- Ability to thrive in a small, fast-paced non-profit environment that values collaboration, creativity, and strong work ethic
- Public speaking skills
- Ability to work nights and weekends as needed
- Competent in Microsoft Word, Excel, Access, Publisher, and PowerPoint
- Reliable transportation

Other Skills/Abilities Preferred

- Financial and in-kind resource development
- Knowledge of South Lansing community

Summer-only AmeriCorps members will be required to complete 450 service hours from June 6 through August 26. They must also attend a mandatory AmeriCorps orientation at the Ingham County Health Department on June 6, 8, and 9.

Compensation: Members will be provided extensive training (on and off site), a \$3,125 living allowance, a \$1,415 educational award at the successful completion of the service term, and loan forbearance for qualified student loans.

For more information about AmeriCorps, visit www.americorps.gov. Contact Katie Ellero, AmeriCorps Program Coordinator, to apply. (kt.ellero@gmail.com, 517-887-4596)