

CAC AMERICORPS SERVICE POSITION ANNOUNCEMENT at CAC Beardsley Community Farm

Last updated: 1/3/18

Service Position Title: AmeriCorps Member

Immediate Supervisor: Farm Manager and Urban Agriculture Director

About CAC Beardsley Community Farm:

CAC Beardsley Community Farm is an urban community farm that promotes food security and sustainable agriculture. Since 1998, Beardsley Farm has worked to increase access to fresh produce in Knoxville's food deserts through produce donations, educational programs, and community gardening. With the help of over 2,000 volunteers a year, Beardsley Farm grows over 70 different types of fruits and vegetables on about four acres of productive land.

Terms: Full-time; Pay is \$12,100 for a 10.5-month term; Must complete 1,700 total service hours. Includes health insurance and education award of \$5,550 at end of service year.

Service Position Summary:

CAC Beardsley Community Farm seeks a motivated AmeriCorps member for a 10.5-month term to serve between August 2018 and July 2019. Under the direction of the Farm Manager, Urban Agriculture Director and Assistant Urban Agriculture Director, this full-time service position will help tend to four acres of productive land.

Responsibilities of this Position:

- Work in all aspects of an urban community farm including cultivating vegetables and fruits, volunteer recruitment, develop and implement educational programming for all ages, and event planning
- Maintain vegetable crops through planting, weeding, harvesting, irrigation, crop-rotation, maintaining and building soil health, and disease and pest management
- Work with and direct individual volunteers and volunteer groups to maintain vegetable gardens
- Tend to flock of hens daily
- Harvest honey and maintain health of bee-hives
- Lead field trips with students of all ages. Lead farm tours
- Assist with planning and teaching gardening workshops and K-12 school field trips
- Assist in organizing annual farm events and fundraisers
- Maintain accurate and consistent records and reports
- Help foster a safe, enjoyable place for volunteers, school groups, and the general

public

- Maintain an attractive landscape through mowing, mulching, weeding, and weed-eating
- Effectively communicate with the public including written communication via email, social media, answering office and farm phones, presentations, and leading farm tours
- There may be additional duties depending on the needs of the farm
- Administrative tasks will be assigned as necessary

Required Knowledge, Skills and Abilities:

- Able to work independently and collaboratively
- Capable of working with people from diverse backgrounds
- Solid organization and leadership skills
- Commitment to honesty, excellence and professionalism
- Paid or unpaid experience with sustainable agriculture
- Able to motivate others to change habits and behaviors
- Proficiency with Microsoft Office
- Strong interest in environmental education
- Must provide own transportation
- Maintain working knowledge of sustainable agriculture; maintain working knowledge of nutrition trends and issues relating to food security at the national and local level
- Ability to multi-task in fast-paced environment with many weekly scheduled events such as community work-days, field trips, fundraisers for farm, workshops, etc. Comfortable making decisions in the moment
- Enthusiasm for learning and engaging with new communities
- Ability to adapt in an ever-changing work environment

Desired Knowledge, Skills and Abilities:

- Experience with community organizing
- Experience with website design and social networking tools (Facebook, Instagram, and Twitter)
- Artistic skills such as photography, drawing, and painting
- Paid or unpaid experience with environmental education and/or sustainable agriculture

Service Conditions:

During the growing season (February-early December) AmeriCorps members will primarily work outdoors in all weather conditions (sun, rain, heat, cold, etc.) Occasional evening/weekend hours may be necessary. There will also be daily work in temperature-controlled office environment.

Physical Demands:

- Able to lift 50 pounds, able to team lift 100 pounds.
- Kneeling
- Pushing a loaded wheelbarrow up hill

Equipment/Tools/Software Used:*Computer:*

- Documents, spreadsheets, presentations: (Microsoft Office, in particular Word, Excel and Powerpoint)
- Website content management
- Social networking tools

Farm equipment:

- Lawn Mower
- Tiller
- Weed-eater
- Drill
- Circular saw
- Skill saw

All of the above functions may be completed with or without accommodations. This above description lists the minimum duty requirements. Individuals may be required to perform additional position duties as requested by their supervisor.