

Teen Garden & Nutrition (BEETS) Educator

Job Description



About Us

CommunityGrows (CG) co-cultivates healthy youth through growing gardens in low-income, diverse communities. Through outdoor, environmental and nutrition education, we support children and youth, especially those living in public housing in San Francisco, develop the confidence, skills and experience to live a healthy life and become leaders in their communities. Each year we engage over 1,300 kids 5-19 through our garden, cooking and workforce readiness programs.

We are a grassroots organization that has served the community for the last 24 years. Cultivation of healthy youth takes time and we continue to build support and solidarity with deep relationships amongst our community partners. CommunityGrows is committed to diversity and equity. Our values include: co-powerment, restorative justice, social justice, food justice, active listening, leadership building, love, compassion, respect, nature, community, resiliency, and peace. (Learn more about [our tenets and values here.](#))

The Band of Environmentally Educated and Employable Teens, or [BEETS](#), is a youth development program for teens (14-19 years old) to develop life and job skills through caring for our local gardens and positively contributing to the community. BEETS learn how to maintain gardens, grow & eat healthy food, work with a diverse group of peers, and positively impact the community.

Description

Reporting to the Executive Director (ED), the Teen Garden and Nutrition Educator teaches and leads our BEETS (Band of Environmentally-Educated and Employable Teens) Program. The BEETS Educator plans for and carries out an environmental education, food justice and job readiness curriculum. The BEETS Educator is responsible for the life cycle of the program including recruitment, hiring, training, delivering curriculum and evaluation. The BEETS Educator cultivates and maintains relationships with partner organizations within the Bay Area. This position may also teach 1-2 elementary or middle school classes a week.

Successful candidates will have a demonstrable track record of working effectively with youth of color in low-income communities, experience in youth development programs and passion for food, social and environmental justice. The best candidate will have a true love for working with young people and be excited about supporting their growth and learning.

Responsibilities

Program Implementation & Evaluation (75%)

- Lead the BEETS Program, including teaching environmental education and nutrition education, coordinating job readiness curriculum and facilitating workshops
- Ensure that youth development principles are incorporated into all aspects of programming
- Provide basic case management for all BEETS interns including educational attainment, employment and career counseling, safety and harm reduction, housing, and mental health services

- Implement ongoing monitoring and evaluation of the BEETS Program through pre- and post- surveys, and interviews to ensure program outcomes and objectives are met
- Participate in Youth Program Quality Assessment (YPQA) process to ensure high program quality
- Assist in the management of Koshland Garden and other sites where needed.

Supervision (10%)

- Meet weekly with ED and communicate regularly with all CG staff, providing BEETS updates at the weekly staff meeting
- Recruit, hire and retain BEETS participants
- Train, supervise and promote leadership development for all BEETS participants
- Train and supervise BEETS Program volunteers and interns

Partnership Development and Collaboration (8%)

- Establish collaborative relationships within the community and provide outreach to community based partners, local government, high schools, community colleges, universities, and other agencies throughout the San Francisco Bay Area to set up projects, workshops, field trips and recruitment for the BEETS Program
- Serve as an effective spokesperson for CG representing the programs' values to all partners and the general public

Administration (7%)

- Track and report BEETS hours and assist the ED with payment and timesheet issues
- Assist in maintaining HR documentation, records and reports, as requested by the ED
- Assist with background checks for all BEETS interns and volunteers
- Assist CG in grant fulfillment, reporting and budget tracking
- Establish a social media presence with BEETS in conjunction with the social media coordinator and ED

Required Qualifications

- At least one year experience teaching or mentoring youth ages 14-19 and working with diverse populations, or equivalent
- Experience in urban agriculture or gardening or food education
- Organization and facilitation skills in line with youth development best practices
- Knowledge of restorative justice and environmental and social justice principles
- Flexibility and adaptability
- Excellent organizational skills and the ability to work independently and take initiative
- Strong collaboration, mediation, and team-building skills
- Ability to work at approximately two Saturdays per month during BEETS session
- Strong writing skills and computer proficiency
- Pass a background check and a TB test prior to start date

Desired Qualifications

- At least two years of experience in youth development, garden based education or social justice programming
- At least one year experience coaching and mentoring young adults
- At least one year experience supervising employees, interns, and volunteers
- Bilingual, or equivalent fluency, in Spanish

- Experience living and/or working in the Western Addition.
- BA or higher or equivalent experience, in relevant field (environmental studies, science, urban agriculture, sociology, etc.)
- Possess a valid CA driver's license
- First Aid and CPR Certification

Physical Demands

- Able to navigate multiple sets of steps
- Bend, stoop, kneel, sit and/or stand for extended periods of time
- Able to lift up to 50 lbs.
- Able to sit in front of a computer for up to five hours per day, inputting data/answering e-mails, etc.

Work Environment

- Must be able to navigate local travel
- Must be able to work outdoors in different and sometimes inclement weather conditions
- Must be able to teach in a garden setting, which may be dusty or dirty, or have slippery surfaces

Commitment to Diversity

CommunityGrows, a project of Tides Center, is an equal opportunity employer. We are committed to diversity in our organization because we believe that having a diverse team will make us stronger and more successful in achieving our vision and goals. We strongly encourage and seek applications from women, people of color, including bilingual and bicultural individuals, as well as members of the lesbian, gay, bisexual, and transgender communities. Applicants shall not be discriminated against because of race, religion, sex, national origin, ethnicity, age, disability, political affiliation, sexual orientation, gender identity, color, marital status, medical condition (cancer-related) or conditions Acquired Immune Deficiency Syndrome (AIDS) and AIDS-related conditions (ARC). Reasonable accommodation will be made so that qualified disabled applicants may participate in the application process. Please advise in writing of special needs, if any, at the time of application.

Hours, Benefits and Compensation:

This is a full-time position. We offer full benefits, including medical, dental, vision and life insurance; 10 holidays per year, paid vacation and sick leave.

Hourly rate, \$21-\$24 an hour, DOE (\$43,000-\$50,000 a year)

Start Date

August 1, 2019

To apply, please send resume and cover letter to:

info@communitygrows.org.