

Garden & Nutrition Educator, part-time

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.](#))

Our Seed to Mouth environmental and nutrition education program educates students to high academic and social-emotional learning standards. We use hands-on science curriculum and exploration to foster knowledge of, and respect for, the environment, inspire a sense of wonder about the natural world, and encourage healthy eating habits to help young people reach their goals. We integrate our school curriculum into grade-level science standards and support the teachers' classroom curriculum. Our after-school and summer programming is designed in light of out-of-school (OST) time best practices and in consultation with community partners to best meet their learning objectives.

Description

The Garden Educator teaches 6-8 garden-based classes a week. The ideal candidate will have a degree in early childhood education, a minimum of 1-year teaching experience, and 1- year managing a farm or garden. We are seeking staff members that have a real love of teaching, gardening, healthy eating and want to work creatively as a part of a passionate team.

Successful candidates will also have a demonstrable track record of working effectively in diverse, low-income communities.

Responsibilities

Teaching and Mentoring

- Prepare for and teach 6-8 classes during the school year and 2-3 classes during the summer, focusing on Next Generation Science Standards and OST best practices
- Collaborate with teachers and partners to create dynamic curriculum that suits different age groups
- Provide a safe, secure space for students to share, learn and grow
- Work with teachers and community partners to set up garden class schedules
- Keep accurate attendance records and evaluations of classes and curriculum taught and share results with teachers
- Supervise volunteers and [BEETS](#) (Band of Environmentally Educated and Employable Teens) who assist you in teaching classes and with garden maintenance
- Model positive and proactive attitudes, behaviors and language with students

Partnership Development and Collaboration

- Serve as an effective spokesperson for CG representing the programs' values to all partners and the general public.
- Maintain positive relationships with parents, families, students and school faculty/staff.

Required Qualifications

- At least one (1) year teaching experience, especially with youth ages 5-12.
- At least one (1) year experience managing a farm or garden.
- Excellent classroom management skills.
- Significant experience working in multicultural communities of color.
- Strong organizational skills and the ability to work independently and take initiative.
- Good writing skills and computer proficiency.
- Strong collaboration, mediation, and team-building skills.
- Familiarity with theories of environmental justice; knowledge of environmental principles and issues.

Desired Qualifications

- BA in Early Childhood K-5 Education or similar field
- Demonstrated experience in curriculum development
- Experience living and/or working in the Western Addition.
- Experience supervising and managing volunteers/interns
- Program or project management experience

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.

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

Hours and Compensation:

This is a part-time position, approximately 20 hours a week.

Hourly rate, \$22-\$28 an hour to start, DOE.

Start Date

August 1, 2019

Commitment to Diversity

CommunityGrows, a project of Tides Center, is an equal opportunity employer. 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.

To apply, please send resume and cover letter to:

info@communitygrows.org