

## Position: Garden & Nutrition Educator, Part-Time

### Overview:

#### **About Us**

CommunityGrows is a relationship-based organization, taking root in the communities we serve and forming partnerships with other neighborhood organizations to provide hands-on, outdoor learning opportunities for youth to practice environmental stewardship, leadership, and essential, healthy life skills. Through hands-on, project-based lessons in gardening and cooking, children gain the knowledge and skills necessary to increase their physical, emotional, and social health. Each year we engage over 1,400 kids aged 5-25 through our garden, cooking and workforce readiness programs.

Our mission is to cultivate healthy youth through growing gardens in low-income, diverse communities. Our vision is that all youth are able to benefit from the joy and healing of nature-based outdoor education, and develop the tools, confidence and resources to navigate and challenge structural injustices. You can learn more about our tenets and values, and the history of our organization, [here](#).

#### **Position Summary**

The Garden & Nutrition Educator oversees CommunityGrows' Seed to Mouth cooking and nutrition program, teaches informal garden and nutrition education classes for elementary-aged students in San Francisco, and maintains two CommunityGrows garden sites. The Garden & Nutrition Educator is responsible for planning and teaching 1-2 after-school cooking classes, holding regular open recess garden hours at Rosa Parks Elementary, engaging Rosa Parks teachers and students in garden care, and maintaining the Rosa Parks Lower Garden and Koshland Garden, located in the Western Addition neighborhood of San Francisco.

We are seeking staff members that have a real love of teaching and healthy eating and who 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. The ideal candidate does not need to have everything listed in this job description, but they are excited and willing to collaborate and learn.

This is a part-time position, 20 hours per week with the possibility for increased hours.

### **Essential Duties and Responsibilities:**

#### **Seed to Mouth and Environmental Education Program Delivery--75%**

- Teach and develop Seed to Mouth curriculum, including the basics of food and kitchen safety; food preparation; making healthy choices that are right for you, and cultivating joy and self-expression in the kitchen.
- During the academic year, teach 1-2 garden, cooking, and/or nutrition classes each

week. During the summer, teach 3-4 classes a week.

- Lead age-appropriate garden maintenance or garden-related activities with each grade three times a week during recess at Rosa Parks Elementary School.
- Supervise self-directed activities and free play within the garden area during recess.
- Coordinate with each Rosa Parks classroom teacher to tend their plots
- In collaboration with the Rosa Parks PTA, organize and coordinate two schoolwide gardening activities per academic year
- Build relationships with teachers and school community
- Keep accurate attendance records and evaluations of classes and curriculum taught
- Support CommunityGrows general activities and operations, such as garden workdays and community events

**Garden Maintenance-- 25%**

- Oversee and perform garden maintenance at Rosa Parks Elementary (Lower Garden)
- Oversee and collaborate on regular garden maintenance at Koshland Garden
- Coordinate and oversee volunteers
- Assist with garden maintenance at other CommunityGrows sites as assigned

**Qualifications:**

**Required:**

- At least (1) year teaching experience with elementary-aged youth
- Strong knowledge of food preparation using fresh, seasonal, local ingredients
- Strong knowledge of organic gardening practices
- Excellent classroom management skills
- Experience supervising and managing volunteers/interns
- 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
- Pass a background check, TB test, and provide proof of COVID vaccination prior to start date

**Desired Qualifications:**

- BA or equivalent experience in nutrition/nutrition or environmental education, health, culinary arts degree or two years equivalent experience
- BA or equivalent experience in early childhood K-5 education, urban agriculture, science, nutrition and health or similar field
- Knowledge and practice of restorative justice principles
- Demonstrated experience in curriculum development, ideally nutrition-based

- Experience living and/or working in the Western Addition
- Experience supervising and managing volunteers/interns
- Possess a valid CA driver's license
- First aid and CPR certification

### **Hours, Benefits and Compensation**

This is a part-time, hourly position, beginning at 20 hours per week with the possibility for increased hours. Part-time employees receive 10 holidays per year and generous paid vacation and sick leave.

Rate is \$21.70/hour.

### **Application Instructions and Start Date**

To apply, please send a resume and cover letter to [info@communitygrows.org](mailto:info@communitygrows.org).

### **Organizational Relationships**

Incumbent will interact on a daily basis with CG staff, contractors, volunteers and interns. Will have significant interaction with school personnel, including principals, teachers and staff. Will also be working episodically with partners and friends of CG, potential and current funders and donors, politicians, audiences at advocacy events, housing development residents and staff, neighbors in the communities we serve and members of the CG Advisory Board.

### **Physical Demands**

Able to sit in front of a computer for up to five hours per day  
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

### **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 accommodations 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.