



Food & Nutrition Project Lead



VYCC FOOD & FARM PROGRAM OVERVIEW

Vermont Youth Conservation Corps' Food and Farm Program is a dynamic youth development, diversified agriculture and food security initiative. At VYCC, we believe in the power that food has to connect us to the land, our community, and each other. We engage young people in organic farming and culinary education on our historic 400-acre campus in Richmond, Vermont. In 2020, the program produced 64,865 pounds of organically certified vegetables and 800 pasture raised chickens which were distributed to more than 400 families through our nationally recognized Health Care Share project. The Health Care Share is a public health initiative that connects Vermont families who experience barriers to accessing locally grown produce or have a diet-related disease with a weekly vegetable share they pick up at partnering medical centers. We also raise laying hens for eggs, pigs for meat, and additional vegetables, flowers, and herbs that we sell through our vibrant, on-site farm stand. Each year the program provides approximately 65 employment opportunities to youth and young adults from Vermont and around the country who are essential to the daily operations of the farm. In addition to farming, the program has a strong food culture which seeks to deepen the connection between the work we do in the field and the food on our plates. In addition to preparing a lunch together from the farm every work day, we also gather as a larger community to cook and share celebratory meals sourced from our farm. All members work together to support the Food and Farm Program's impactful role within Vermont's thriving agriculture and food community.

FOOD & NUTRITION PROJECT LEAD

The AmeriCorps Project Lead position plays a key role in the Food and Farm Program. As a part of a six-member cohort, this nine-month residential position is an immersive experience in diversified agriculture, public health, food systems, and youth development. Each member of the Project Lead group is responsible for a specific area of focus – vegetable production, community health, cooking and nutrition, post-harvest or community engagement. Together, their service results in a collaborative effort to mentor youth and young adults while increasing the health and well-being of Vermont communities.

The Food and Nutrition position is responsible for particular food production, food security and youth development activities, with an emphasis on teaching VYCC's youth and young adult participants the basics of cooking and nutrition, assisting with planning and cooking for community dinners and processing of surplus vegetables.



POSITION OVERVIEW

- Design, teach, and oversee hands-on culinary education (cooking and nutrition) programming to youth and young adult participants with farm staff support
- Lead program participants in the preparation of farm team snacks, lunches, crew and community dinners with farm staff support
- Support the development and production of minimally-processed vegetables, prepared meals, and other value-added products from the farm to be distributed through the Health Care Share or the farm stand
- Assist in the development and teaching of food and nutrition-based workshops
- Responsible for programming logistics support including, but not limited to purchasing groceries and preparing ingredients
- Maintain a clean, safe, supportive and welcoming kitchen space

COMPENSATION:

- Weekly living stipend of \$375 a week (approximately \$1500 a month)
- Segal Education Award of \$6,195 upon AmeriCorps service completion
- Shared on-site housing included on our gorgeous 400-acre campus surrounded by mountains and swimming holes, just a 20-minute drive from Burlington
- Incredibly fresh vegetables, eggs, and meat from the farm
- Allotted Days Off

SERVICE TERM: March 1 through November 12, 2021

APPLICATION INSTRUCTIONS: Complete our [online application](#) where we will ask you to attach a cover letter, resume and three (3) references.

Should you have questions, please contact Andrew (andrew.whitehead@vycc.org).