
Production 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.

PRODUCTION PROJECT LEADS

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 two Production positions are responsible for supporting food production, food security and youth development activities, with an emphasis on assisting vegetable production, livestock management, maintaining records, and supporting the VYCC Newport project operations.



POSITION OVERVIEW

- Support the implementation and refinement of the Food and Farm program's crop plans (Richmond & Newport)
- Support all aspects of vegetable production operations, including but not limited to, seeding, transplanting, irrigation, pest and disease management, upkeep and improvement of infrastructure and equipment, harvest, and post-harvest needs
- Support all aspects of livestock production operations including but not limited to chores, processing, and upkeep and improvement of infrastructure and equipment.
- Support, teach, and oversee program participants and groups of volunteers in growing, harvesting, preparing, and distributing farm products for the Health Care Share, farm stand, and wholesale
- Lead production in the Market Garden space with support from the Farm Production Manager
- Maintain detailed production and farm maintenance records
- Operate tractors, mowers, and other farm equipment safely and responsibly
- Support the creation of daily and weekly work plans and priorities for the farm
- Research and contribute to the implementation of refined farm systems
- Support other projects contributing to the success of farm production and programming as needed

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).