

**WE ARE LOOKING FOR GREAT LEADERS LIKE YOU.**



**Vermont Youth Conservation Corps | 1949 East Main St. Richmond, VT 05477 | 802-434-3969 | Info@VYCC.org |**

## **VYCC Food and Farm Program AmeriCorps Assistant Crew Leader**

### **Food and Farm Program Overview**

The Vermont Youth Conservation Corps' Food and Farm Program is a dynamic youth development, diversified agriculture and food security initiative. 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 where we grow organically certified vegetables and pasture-raised chickens that are distributed to more than 400 families through our nationally recognized Health Care Share project.

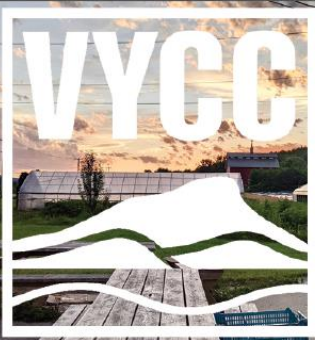
The Health Care Share is a public health initiative that connects Vermont families who experience barriers to accessing locally grown produce or have a diet-related disease with a weekly vegetable share they pick up at partnering medical centers.

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 service 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 component which seeks to deepen the connection between the work we do in the field and the food on our plates. These projects are made possible through VYCC's partnership with AmeriCorps (A\*C) and SerVermont.

### **Position Summary**

VYCC is seeking Assistant Crew Leaders who want to get their hands in the dirt while inspiring young people to do the same. Along with a Crew Leader, Assistant Crew Leaders help lead a youth crew made up of 6-7 youth (ages 15-19) in the daily work of food production and livestock care. Assistant Crew Leaders will support Crew Members in successfully growing produce for the Health Care Share project and learning how to cook with the foods they harvest.



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Assistant Crew Leaders are responsible for fostering an inclusive crew community, helping Crew Members navigate challenges and celebrate successes, and modeling high quality work in the field. They are also an active and engaged member of the Assistant Crew Leaders cohort.

### **Essential Functions**

#### *Crew Community Building & Supervision*

- Co-lead crew with Crew Leader in daily farm activities
- Instruct Crew Members on topics like tool use and proper harvest techniques
- Follow and uphold VYCC policies and procedures to maintain a safe service site
- Foster a crew culture that prioritizes physical and emotional safety
- Encourage teamwork among Crew Members, lead by example, and mentor Crew Members as they navigate challenges and successes
- Learn and demonstrate technical farm skills
- Lead and be part of a team made up of diverse individuals
- Engage with personal and crew goals through goal setting, reflection and feedback processes

#### *Project Accomplishment*

- Collaborate with Crew Leader and Farm Team to fulfill the Health Care Share Project objectives
- Alongside Crew Leader, ensure consistency and quality of crew outcomes
- Willingness to work in all types of weather and environments, motivating members to do the same

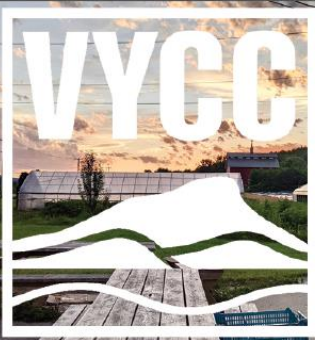
#### *Education and Training*

- Participate in VYCC and AmeriCorps Orientation and scheduled trainings throughout term of service
- Engage in learning opportunities across all parts of the Food and Farm Program
- Attend SerVermont events

#### *Communication*

- Complete bi-weekly timesheets in timely manner
- Maintain regular, effective communication with Crew Leader, Crew Members and Farm





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## Team

### Required Qualifications

- Be at least 19 years of age
- Be a U.S. citizen, a national, or legal permanent resident non-citizen of the U.S.
- Be willing to undergo a National Service Criminal History Check, including VT Agency of Human Services check and have not been convicted of murder or sexual assault. The member will have access to vulnerable populations.
- Be a high school graduate or have a GED certificate, or be willing to work towards GED as part of their service-year successful completion requirement
- Commitment to VYCC's mission, including the Health Care Share project
- Commitment to the mission of AmeriCorps and SerVermont

### Preferred Qualifications

- Experience working with high school aged young adults in some capacity

### Weekly Schedule

- Assistant Crew Leaders will serve an average of 40 hours/week, Monday-Friday. Hours will occur between 7:45-4:30pm. Possibility for occasional weekend commitments during season.

### About The Vermont Youth Conservation Corps (VYCC)

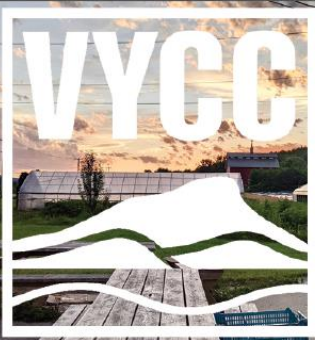
The VYCC is a 501c3 nonprofit that provides valuable work and learning opportunities to youth and young adults from across the country and throughout Vermont. Our model is simple and effective: young people, working together, in the outdoors, on conservation and agriculture projects that have a high impact.

### Excellence and Equal Opportunity at VYCC

VYCC has a deep commitment to excellence. We believe we are strongest when our team includes members with a broad range of life experiences. We strive to achieve this at all levels of our organization, and actively encourage and recruit, develop, and retain the most talented people from a diverse applicant pool. VYCC is proud to be an equal opportunity employer.

### Work Environment

Corps Members spend most of their time outdoors, serving with their crew while also interacting with project sponsors, community members, and VYCC staff.



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**Prohibited Activities**

In accordance with 45CFR 2520.65, AmeriCorps members may not perform prohibited service activities directly or indirectly while in service. The prohibited activities are outlined in one’s Member Service Agreement.

**Compensation & Benefits**

- AmeriCorps Living Allowance paid biweekly:
  - \$437.5/week
- Eligible for Segal Education Award upon completion of service: \$1678.57
- Access to fresh produce from the farm and daily lunches
- Opportunity for personal and professional learning, collaboration, and networking with other programs through SerVermont events
- Organizational dedication to on-going professional development
- Potential eligibility for student loan forbearance and interest payment

**Terms of Service and Dates of Service:**

450 Hour (Quarter-Time) term From May 23<sup>rd</sup>, 2022 – August 19<sup>th</sup>, 2022

**Printed Member Name:**

**Member Signature**

**Date:**

**Program Director:**

**Program Director Signature:**

**Date:**

**Food & Farm Program applicants:**

Katie Robertson, Program Manager

[Katie.Robertson@vycc.org](mailto:Katie.Robertson@vycc.org)

1949 East Main Street

Richmond, VT 05477



**AmeriCorps**