



## Food & Farm: AmeriCorps Post-Harvest Leader

**Location:** Richmond, Vermont

**Dates:** March 16, 2026 – October 23, 2026

**Weekly compensation (housing included):** \$565

**Weekly compensation (housing not included):** \$685

**Education Award:** \$5,176.50

**Age requirement:** 20+

### Who We Are

VYCC is a mission-driven organization where we strive to take action and build community by working and learning together with the land. VYCC's Food & Farm Program is a youth and workforce development initiative that provides hands-on agriculture training while advancing food security and food-as-medicine programming to improve the health and resilience of Vermont communities. We believe in the power that food has to connect us with the land, our community, and each other.

On the farm, young people take part in the daily work of organic vegetable production, gaining hands-on experience in every aspect of growing food. The produce they cultivate is distributed to more than 400 families through the Health Care Share – a public health initiative that connects Vermont families to locally grown food through their medical providers. Patients experiencing diet-related illnesses or barriers to accessing fresh produce receive a free weekly share of vegetables, supporting both individual and community health. In addition to vegetables, the farm raises laying hens for eggs, chickens for meat, and grows flowers and herbs, which are sold through our on-site farm stand.

Beyond their time in the fields, Corps Members also spend time in the kitchen learning essential cooking skills. Using the ingredients they've helped grow, they experiment with recipes and prepare daily lunches served to all farm crews – creating a meaningful connection between the work they do on the farm and the food that nourishes them each day.

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AmeriCorps Member Initial

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These projects are made possible through VYCC's partnership with AmeriCorps and The Corps Network.

### **Who We're Looking For**

A successful Post-Harvest Leader is a motivated, adaptable individual who approaches challenges with a positive attitude and a commitment to personal and professional growth. They are passionate about food access, sustainable agriculture, and public service. The ideal candidate is organized, detail-oriented, and comfortable working with numbers, and can work independently with minimal supervision as well as collaboratively with others. They are eager to grow their leadership skills while contributing to a mission-driven program.

### **What You Can Expect**

The VYCC farming season starts in March. Leaders operate as a cohort that collaborates closely throughout the spring, building hands-on skills and knowledge of VYCC farm systems. Prior to the start of summer season, Leaders develop their management skills by leading volunteer groups through farm tasks.

During the Spring season, the Post-Harvest Leader will be heavily involved in plant propagation and greenhouse work. Summer season starts at the end of May. At this time, the Post-Harvest Leader oversees the wash-pack station. They will ensure that crops coming out of the field are high quality, clean, and ready for distribution. With support from Farm Staff, they also help lead the weekly packing of the Health Care Shares and help deliver those shares across Vermont. In the fall, the Post-Harvest Leader works alongside the Leader cohort and volunteer groups in handling storage crops, harvesting for the Health Care Share, and preparing the farm for winter.

Leaders serve an average of 40–45 hours per week, Monday through Friday. Every day includes a half-hour lunch break that is not counted toward AmeriCorps service hours. The exact schedule varies with the season, including early morning starts during the peak summer months. The Post-Harvest Leader schedule typically runs Monday–Tuesday from 6:30AM–3:30PM, Wednesday–Thursday from 7:45AM–4:45PM, and Friday from 8:00AM–

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3:00PM. Occasional evening and weekend hours are required for chores, Health Care Share deliveries, or campus events. Leaders spend most of their time outdoors, working with their team while also engaging with community members and VYCC staff. The Post-Harvest Leader is supervised by the Community Health Manager and serves daily at VYCC's farm in Richmond, Vermont.

By engaging them in every step of the food-to-table process, the Post Harvest Leader leaves our program with new career aspirations to work in community health, food security, and agriculture. They gain a wide range of career skills that prepare them for future success in agriculture, food systems, and beyond. They develop hands-on expertise in sustainable farming practices – from soil health and crop production to harvest management and post-harvest processing – while also strengthening their abilities in teamwork, leadership, and problem-solving. Leaders learn to manage time effectively, adapt to changing conditions, and communicate clearly in a fast-paced, collaborative environment. By working to deliver Health Care Shares, they also gain valuable insight into community food systems and the social impact of their work. Together, these skills equip VYCC members with the knowledge, confidence, and professional experience to pursue meaningful careers in agriculture, environmental stewardship, and community development.

## **What We'll Expect from You**

### *Post-Harvest Responsibilities*

- Oversee all post-harvest activities, including washing, packing, quality control, food safety, inventory management, and record keeping
- Teach, lead and oversee program participants and groups of volunteers in post-harvest activities and Health Care Share packing
- Maintain organized and safe post-harvest facilities, tools, and equipment
- Maintain detailed records and inventory for Health Care Share, food program, farm stand, wholesale, and produce donation
- Work with local gleaning partners to facilitate weekly pickups

### *Farm Responsibilities*

- Work hard in all types of weather and environments, motivating Members to do the same
  - Follow and uphold VYCC principles and practices to maintain a safe service site
  - Participate in all aspects of farm work including:
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- Seeding, transplanting, weeding, harvesting
- Washing and packing produce for distribution
- Caring for livestock

#### *Crew Support*

- Create crew culture that prioritizes physical and emotional safety
- Foster teamwork among Crew Members, lead by example, and support Crew Members as they navigate challenges and successes

#### *Communication, Reporting, & Training*

- Communicate effectively with members of the Farm Team, including using Microsoft Teams and Outlook
- Complete forms related to their service including timesheets due biweekly on Fridays
- Engage with VYCC staff on setting goals and chartering personal and professional progress through mid-term and end-term performance evaluations with supervisor
- Participate in a variety of trainings, including VYCC and AmeriCorps Orientations and additional enrichment activities. These training hours will not exceed 20% of the total number of member hours

#### **Required Qualifications**

- Be 20 years of age or older
- Be a U.S. citizen, a national, or legal permanent resident non-citizen of the U.S.
- Have not been convicted of murder or sexual assault and be willing to undergo a National Service Criminal History Check and a VT Agency of Human Services check. 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
- Valid driver's license with good driving record for at least three years (preferred)

#### **Compensation & Benefits**

- AmeriCorps Living Allowance paid biweekly:
  - Residential members living in on-site housing: \$565/week
  - Non-residential members living off-site: \$685/week
- Segal Education Award upon completion of service: \$5,176.50
- Access to fresh produce from the farm and daily lunch during the summer

- Potential for shared housing for the duration of service
- Organizational dedication to professional development
- Career pathways support during and after the VYCC experience provided by the Community Engagement Manager
- Potential eligibility for student loan forbearance and interest payment
- Potential to earn up to [12 free college credits](#)
- Receive Basic First Aid and CPR certification through American Safety and Health Institute

**Have questions about the position? Feel free to reach out to...**

Katie Colatch, Food & Farm Program Manager

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Phone: 802.434.3969 ext: 128

**Equal Opportunity at VYCC**

Are you concerned that you don't meet all the requirements of this position? Please apply anyway. VYCC is dedicated to building an inclusive, diverse, equitable, and accessible work environment that fosters a sense of belonging – so if you're excited about this role but your experience doesn't align perfectly with everything in this job description, we encourage you to apply anyway. You may be just the right candidate for this role or another one of our openings!

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

1200 Hour (three-quarter-time) term from March 23– October 23, 2026

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| Name:      | Date: |
| Signature: |       |

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