



Part-Time, Seasonal Position with Growing Hope GARDEN EDUCATION COORDINATOR

About Growing Hope

Growing Hope is a 16-year-old non-profit organization rooted in Ypsilanti, Michigan, whose mission is to foster an equitable and sustainable local food system that empowers all people to grow, buy, sell, prepare, and eat nourishing food. We envision a community where all people--particularly those with barriers due to race, class, culture, language, ability, and mobility--have access to nourishing local food that is culturally appropriate and affordable. People can grow and prepare their own harvests, and may earn a living as a food grower, producer, or entrepreneur.

Our areas of work include Youth & Schools, Farm & Garden, Farmers Markets, and Food Entrepreneurship. This position will work out of the Growing Hope Urban Farm in Ypsilanti. The Urban Farm is a multi-purpose space used for organically grown vegetable production, garden demonstration, and youth and adult education and events.

Organizational Culture and Values

Our culture is rooted in our values: Transformation, Education, Justice & Equity, Placemaking, and Integrity. We commit to upholding inclusive practices and policies while creating space for courageous conversations as a staff and within our community. Instead of simply providing services, we aim to leverage the vast resources already within our community in order to empower and partner with participants and customers. We believe that community members have the ability to make their own decisions about their health and wellness goals and that Growing Hope acts as a resource to increase access and opportunities to meet these goals.

About the Position

The Garden Education Coordinator will work directly with adults and youth to implement vegetable gardening in home and community settings. This person will bring Growing Hope's vision closer to a reality through: 1) supporting Ypsilanti-area residents to start and maintain their own home vegetable gardens, 2) supporting garden development and maintenance on our Urban Farm, and 3) facilitating volunteer days on our Urban Farm.

Garden Education Coordinator Responsibilities

Home Vegetable Garden Program

- Recruit and communicate with garden program participants and garden mentors.
- Organize and facilitate installing raised garden beds. This includes ordering supplies, building wood beds, shoveling compost and planting.
- Provide garden orientations and garden and food justice workshops for program participants and larger community. Coordinate external facilitators to lead workshops.
- Provide gardening support to participants throughout the season.
- Collect and enter participant data and evaluations.

Growing Hope Urban Farm

- Assist in maintaining our demonstration gardens, including planting, weeding, and assisting with signage.
- Support maintenance of overall site (including care for decorative gardens, rain garden, hoop houses, etc.) to be welcoming to all visitors.

Volunteer Days

- Facilitate two Saturday volunteer days a month for adults and youth on our urban farm.
- Track farm volunteers in volunteer portal

Garden Education Coordinator Qualifications

Growing Hope is seeking someone who is passionate about building an equitable and sustainable local food system through garden-based education.

- Understanding of socio-economic and racial issues our community faces and be motivated to address them through gardening education.
- Passion for and experience with gardening using organic practices.
- Experience organizing and facilitating groups of all ages in an outdoor setting.
- Able to work collaboratively with people from diverse backgrounds in terms of race, ethnicity, class, religion, sexual orientation, and gender.
- Able to lift 40 lbs.
- Comfortable doing physical labor in various weather conditions such as rain, heat, humidity, or wind.
- Valid Michigan driver's license, with a good record.

Qualities that will enhance your application:

- Participated in Growing Hope as a volunteer or program participant.
- Experience constructing raised bed gardens and other small construction skills.
- Knowledge of the food system and the local food justice movement.
- Understanding of and experience talking about racism and social justice work.
- Experience driving a trailer, or willingness to learn quickly.
- Strong connection to Ypsilanti with a commitment to long-term relationship building

Hours & Compensation: This position is paid hourly at \$15.00 per hour. This position is scheduled to begin March, 2020 and run through September, 2020. 25 hours/week March-May, then 15 hours/week June-September. The weekly schedule will be determined by programming and availability, but person must be available some weekend and evening hours during garden installations and two Saturdays/month June-September. Benefits are not included. In addition to monetary compensation, staff are welcome to take home extra produce and flowers from the Growing Hope Urban Farm.

To Apply: Submit resume or description of relevant experience. Please include a cover letter detailing your interest and why you are qualified for this position. Include at least two references (professional or personal) to apply@growinghope.net. Applications accepted until Friday, February 7th at 5:00 pm. No formal education is required for this position.

Growing Hope encourages people of color and individuals who possess an in-depth understanding of poverty or economic hardship to apply. We welcome a diverse pool of applicants and make employment decisions on the basis of merit. We do not discriminate potential employees based on race, creed, age, physical ability, national origin, sex, gender identity, sexual orientation or marital status. Accommodations will be made so that the application process and position is made accessible for qualified applicants.