



Position Title: Community Development Coordinator, AmeriCorps VISTA

Position Reports to: Common Earth Gardens Program Manager

Employment Status: Full Time AmeriCorps VISTA

Position Start/End Date: May 13, 2019 – May 11, 2020

About Common Earth Gardens:

Common Earth Gardens (CEG), a program of Catholic Charities of Louisville, is dedicated to the empowerment and improved quality of life of refugee families and Louisville communities through agricultural opportunities. This is accomplished through supporting community gardens with multilingual trainings and leadership development, facilitating the Incubator Farm Business Training Program, and connecting growers to land opportunities in the Louisville, KY region. These opportunities contribute to improved mental and physical health, community integration, access to healthy food, and increased family income through farm sales.

Summary of the Position:

The Community Development Coordinator is responsible for identifying needs & developing programming around improving mental, physical, and community health through agriculture access within the refugee community in Louisville, KY. The job involves working with community leaders to identify barriers to food access and interests within different cultural communities for additional food and nutrition resources.

In order to determine the implementation of techniques taught during training sessions, the Community Development Coordinator will coordinate data collection and entry into the Client Track database for community gardens and farms. This information will be compiled and used to determine ways to improve educational content, trauma informed care, cultural relevance, and facilitation styles.

Common Earth Gardens, Catholic Charities of Louisville, Inc.

2222 West Market Street, Louisville, KY 40212 | 502-837-2566 ext. 154 | rbrunner@archlou.org



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This position is responsible for assisting in the planning of community events that will bring awareness to the Common Earth Gardens program. This involves outreach to refugees, residents, community partners, and local legislators. Additionally, the Community Development Coordinator will support CEG staff in volunteer management, garden and farm program development, supporting new local food markets, and building collaborative partnerships within the Food In Neighborhoods Community Coalition to identify resources to share with CEG participants.

Qualifications & Skills:

- Significant experience with community organizing and community outreach required
- Demonstrated ability to engage with individuals of many demographics and histories i.e. youth, elders, refugees, trauma survivors, economically diverse, etc.
- Ability to work independently and also cooperate as part of a team
- The ability to manage several task lists at once and adapt to changing conditions (weather, volunteer cancellations)
- Excellent planning and organizational skills, including the ability to plan events and organize volunteers
- Ability to teach gardening concepts to a variety of learners
- Experience growing food
- Excellent written and oral communication skills, including public speaking
- Some experience in carpentry and/or landscaping
- Ability to work outdoors in all weather (heat, humidity, rain and cold) and do manual labor
- Regular access to a reliable vehicle to visit gardens and farms – please note: this position requires substantial driving
- Positive attitude; engaging personality
- An understanding of and commitment to food justice and Common Earth Gardens’ mission
- Historical understanding of Louisville agriculture & social movements is a plus
- Experience with Google Drive, MS Word, Powerpoint, Excel and willingness to learn other computer-based programs and skills
- Fluency in a language other than English is a plus (preferred languages include: Somali, Nepali, Chin, Karen, Swahili, Kinyarwanda, Kirundi, French).

Additional Requirements:

- College Graduate
- 18 years of age or older
- Ability to lift 50 lbs
- Available to work Saturdays and weekday evenings

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Compensation:

- AmeriCorps VISTA stipend. For more information on the living allowance rate, please visit: <https://www.vistacampus.gov/resources/living-allowance-rates-county-1>

Benefits:

- AmeriCorps Relocation Allowance
- For details about AmeriCorps VISTA healthcare benefits, please visit: <http://www.vistacampus.gov/healthcare>
- 12 holidays according to the Catholic Charities holiday calendar
- 10 personal days
- 10 sick days
- No cost Health Coverage Benefit
- Choice of a \$6,095 education award or \$1,800 cash stipend upon successful completion of service year.

To Apply:

Qualified applicants should complete the application for “Common Earth Gardens Community Development VISTA” on the AmeriCorps website no later than **5:00 pm on April 8, 2019**. <https://my.americorps.gov/mp/listing/viewListing.do?id=86754>

Contact Rachel Brunner, Common Earth Gardens Program Manager, with any questions at rbrunner@archlou.org.

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