

POSITION DESCRIPTION

CONFLUENCE AMERICORPS PROGRAM

The Confluence AmeriCorps Program advances environmental equity through innovative partnerships with local organizations in the Portland metropolitan area. We offer life changing service opportunities that engage Members at the intersection of environmentalism and social justice while promoting individual leadership and development. This position is a dynamic combination of serving with a Project Partner on a dedicated project (80%) and engaging in professional and leadership development opportunities, alongside a 20 Member cohort (20%). www.confluencecenter.org

EQUITY & INCLUSION

Confluence does not discriminate against any person or group on the basis of race, age, creed, color, religion, national origin or ancestry, gender identity, ability, sexual orientation, expression, pregnancy, parents/guardians with children, or veteran status. Confluence is committed to a diverse workplace, and to supporting our Members and staff with ongoing equity trainings and career development opportunities. Confluence, like many environmental programs, is a predominantly white space, and in an effort to decolonize dominant structures of oppression, we encourage people of color to apply.

Confluence provides reasonable accommodations to applicants and employees. Applicants with disabilities may request a reasonable accommodation and/or alternative formats at any point in the employment process.

DATES OF SERVICE

September 8, 2021 – July 29, 2022 (11 months – 1700 hours)

POSITION TITLE

Community Gardens and Food Security Coordinator

PROJECT PARTNER

Housing Authority of Clackamas County, Resident Support Services
www.clackamas.us/housingauthority



POSITION SUMMARY

This position is in partnership between the Confluence Environmental Center, AmeriCorps Program, and the Housing Authority of Clackamas County. The goal of the Community Gardens and Food Security Coordinator is to address issues of food insecurity and healthy food access in low-income Public Housing communities in Clackamas County.

The Member's time will be split between engaging housing residents in gardening activities in two community gardens located in the public housing neighborhoods of Hillside and Clackamas Heights in Oregon City and in coordinating gardening and other health and wellness education with community partners for the entire community (50%).

To understand the underlying components of food insecurity, the Member will spend time assessing access to food systems as they currently exist and work to strengthen collaborations with our local partners who are focused on these same issues. Some of these partners include the Oregon Food Bank Seed to Supper and Free Food Market programs, OSU Extension Food Resource Management Services, Providence Milwaukie Hospital Teaching Kitchen, Clackamas County Public Health,

and area food pantries. The Member will also be assisting in the coordination of a monthly food distribution program (30%).

The Member will also participate in Confluence led professional development activities which include: Leadership Development Training Series, completing a Change Agent Project (CAP), team meetings, National Service events and other self-directed development opportunities (20%).

ESSENTIAL FUNCTIONS (to include, but not limited to):

- Run weekly Community Garden check-ins to support gardeners at both community gardens in propagation, planting, maintenance and harvesting activities throughout the growing season.
- Coordinate garden work parties and other community events to maintain the gardens and collaborate on community projects.
- Coordinate with community partners that focus on food insecurity and health and wellness initiatives to provide garden and health workshops in public housing neighborhoods.
- Design and create outreach materials to engage public housing residents in community garden.
- Recruit a diverse community of public housing gardeners to become leaders and change agents on food insecurity and other important issues in their communities.
- Manage, coordinate, and track ongoing data related to volunteer and community gardener hours and attendance.
- Complete and submit all necessary Confluence/AmeriCorps/Summer Lunch Program paperwork and reports in a timely manner.
- Comply with HACC, Confluence/AmeriCorps program policies.
- Attend and complete all HACC/Confluence/AmeriCorps training and service requirements including orientation, trainings, team meetings and national service days.
- Wear Confluence uniform and/or appropriate identifiers and required safety gear while performing service or attending official events.

POSITION REQUIREMENTS

- Strong organizational skills and the ability to serve independently; enjoys working with diverse groups of people both in the office and outside (rain or shine).
- Ability and willingness to communicate in a positive and professional manner to a wide range of stakeholders, including community gardeners, HACC staff and partner organizations.
- Joyfully work in inclement weather, ability to dig, kneel and lift 50 pounds.
- Willingness/openness to learn about and discuss racial equity and social justice issues.
- Ability to serve as part of a diverse team.
- Regular and reliable attendance and dependability.
- AmeriCorps Members must be: 18 years of age or older at beginning of service term; U.S. citizen, national or lawful permanent resident; in possession of a high school diploma or equivalent, or commit to earning one prior to receiving award able to commit to the full term of service; able to successfully pass a fingerprint criminal history background check and satisfactory report from the National Sex Offender Public Website (NSOPW) prior to the start of the position.

PREFERRED QUALIFICATIONS

- An Associate's or Bachelor's degree is preferred.
- Hands on experience growing food in medium-scale garden environment.
- Experience working with issues of food insecurity, diverse cultural populations, people of color, immigrant or refugee populations, or those with limited economic means.
- Knowledge of/interest in sustainability & permaculture models of landscaping & agriculture production.
- Skills as a garden and social justice educator.

MEMBER BENEFITS INCLUDE

- \$15,100 living allowance paid over the 11-month term of service (approx. \$1,372 monthly, before taxes).
- \$6,345 education award (qualified student loans and/or education expenses)

- Loan Forbearance
- Health Care Insurance
- Child Care Reimbursement
- \$125 Training Fund
- Professional Leadership Certificate, Trainings and Networking opportunities.
- May be eligible for Supplemental Nutrition Assistance Program (SNAP).

PROJECT LOCATION & TRANSPORTATION INFORMATION

- Main Office (Resident Services Office): 509 A Street, Oregon City, OR 97045 (garden is .25 miles f/office)
- Hillside Office: 2889 SE Hillside Court, Milwaukie, OR 97222 (garden is located on-site)
- Admin Office: 13930 S. Gain Street, Oregon City, OR 97045
- Both Housing neighborhoods are accessible by Tri-Met bus services. At the Oregon City location, however, bus service times are somewhat limited. A personal Vehicle is recommended, but not required.
- Mileage reimbursement during work hours will be provided for AmeriCorps Members who have their own vehicle.
- HACC Staff are working on site with COVID safety protocols in place in office spaces and when meeting with community members.

HOW TO APPLY

STEP 1: Apply to Confluence:

- Complete [AmeriCorps Application](#)

STEP 2: Apply to Project Supervisor: *(Conducts first round interviews and recommends top candidates to Confluence)*

Email the following items to: Elizabeth Miller at emiller@clackamas.us (503) 655-8279; and Jemila Hart at jemilahar@clackamas.us (503) 702-1587:

- **Résumé**
- **Cover letter (1 page)**
- **Contact information for three references (name, title, relationship, email & phone)**

QUESTIONS ABOUT CONFLUENCE OR AMERICORPS?

Ashlie Tainer | Operations Coordinator | 503-349-0935 | atainer@confluencecenter.org