



WCG Community Educator

Organization and Program Description:

Wasatch Community Gardens (WCG) is a community-based, nonprofit organization dedicated to empowering people to grow and eat healthy, organic, local food. Since 1989, we have provided children, adults, and families in Salt Lake County with access to land and education for growing and eating fresh produce, while building and nurturing community connections through gardening and healthy food. We accomplish this through four main programs: Community Garden, Community Education, Youth and School Gardens, and Job Training.

Overview:

The Community Educator reports to the Community Education Program (CEP) Director and is responsible for developing and teaching organic gardening curriculum to adult community members and supporting the educational aims of WCG's organizational events. This position requires substantial organic gardening knowledge and skills, teaching experience coupled with a passion for sharing knowledge with others, and the ability to build relationships with students, garden visitors, event attendees, and other stakeholders. This position also works closely with the Youth and School Program (YSP) team and the Campus Garden Coordinator to coordinate use of the teaching garden and indoor classroom spaces.

Primary Responsibilities:

Education 65% (~22 hours/week, more in Feb-Apr, less in July-Aug)

- Facilitate 40 or more Community Education workshops annually in the WCG teaching gardens, greenhouse, polytunnel, and Education Cottage
 - Teach workshops within areas of expertise, and work with guest expert community educators when appropriate
 - Teach using existing written curriculum, but adapt the class materials as needed to incorporate new hands-on activities to best utilize WCG's newly-installed teaching gardens
 - Help identify new workshop topics and develop curriculum for those topics for review by CEP Director and/or identify community members with expertise and facilitate workshops by these guest experts.
 - Incorporate the new specialty zones at WCG Campus (e.g., insectary strips, polytunnel structure, edible perennial and fruit tree zones, commercial kitchen) into new and existing curriculum
 - Coordinate with YSP Program team and Campus Garden Coordinator to ensure that teaching garden spaces are properly prepped for upcoming adult classes
 - Implement the offering of healthy snacks into as many workshops as possible to utilize WCG's new commercial kitchen and emphasize the "eat" part of our mission
 - Ensure sanitary kitchen and cooking practices
- Provide administrative and in-class support to CEP Director and guest instructors

- Assist CEP Director with Facebook Live Garden Coaching sessions during growing season
- Maintain/improve organization of workshop supplies in all storage areas

Valley Plaza "Farm Fresh Program" Support (5%, (~4 hours/week)

- Coordinate the Farm Fresh Program (a partnership with Valley Behavioral Health) and implement its programming, which may include hosting tours and/or food-based gatherings at Valley Plaza or at WCG's Campus or farm, developing curriculum for and teaching mini-workshops, and collecting program impact data.

Gardening (15%, ~ 6 hours/week, more in July/Aug)

- Work with CEP and YSP Directors to develop and implement garden planting plan for teaching gardens
- Assist with seed ordering and with obtaining gardening supplies
- Under direction of CEP Director, implement organic pest management strategies in coordination with Campus Garden Coordinator
- Work with Campus Garden Coordinator as needed in the teaching gardens on garden bed prep, sowing, transplanting, and organic fertilizer applications in support of adult programming

Additional Responsibilities (15%, ~6 hours/week)

- Learn CiviCRM database and manage data for all adult classes
- Administer and manage program impact surveys
- Track and report on demographic data for workshop attendees and other CEP participants
- Attend and actively participate in staff meetings, team meetings, staff workdays, and trainings
- Track harvest totals of crops
- Engage in continuing education in organic gardening to increase knowledge and develop new skills
- Learn *Joomla!* web platform to assist CEP Director with website calendaring, course offerings, and online registration pages
- Provide support at WCG's Spring and Fall Plant Sales and other organizational events as needed

Qualifications:

Strong candidates will offer the following skills and experiences:

- Bachelor's degree in agriculture, horticulture, environmental studies, education, or related field preferred; demonstrated experience in horticulture coupled with Bachelor's degree in other fields also considered
- At least five years of vegetable gardening using organic practices
- At least three years of teaching experience

Preferred Qualifications/Experience:

- Advanced knowledge of plants, organic gardening techniques, soil management, composting, organic fertilizing, organic weed/pest management, planting and transplanting methods, direct seeding, year-round growing, harvesting, growing microgreens and sprouts, and food preservation techniques
- Passion for experiential teaching
- Strong verbal and written communication skills
- Ability to lift and move 50 pounds, stand and kneel for extended periods of time, walk 2 miles

- Commitment to learning about and practicing anti-racism, inclusion, and equity in food justice
- Positive and flexible attitude, ability to solve problems creatively, willingness to ask for help
- Valid drivers' license
- Proficiency in Microsoft Office Suite, Gmail and Google Drive/Docs/Sheets/Calendar, and Power Point, or willingness to learn
- Experience following food safety protocols or willingness to learn

Hours:

This position is full-time (40 hours per week), and the schedule varies throughout the season. This position requires up to 35 Saturdays and up to 30 weekday evenings.

Salary and Benefits:

Compensation will be commensurate with qualifications and experience with a range of \$36,000-\$40,000. Includes health insurance, Simple IRA, HSA, paid holidays, sick and vacation leave, and access to garden produce.

To Apply:

Please email the following materials to openings@wasatchgardens.org:

- Resume
- Names, titles, and phone numbers of three professional references
- Short response (one page total) to the following items:
 1. Why are you interested in this position?
 2. What strengths will you bring to our team and this position?

Please put "Community Educator" in the subject line of your email. Applications will be accepted until 5pm, Monday, January 3, 2022. **Applications without references and responses to the questions above will not be considered.**

Applicant must submit to and clear a background check.

People of color, people with disabilities, veterans, and LGBTQ candidates are strongly encouraged to apply. WCG is committed to providing equal employment opportunities for all employees and applicants for employment based on individual qualifications and without regard to race, religion, gender, age, national origin, mental or physical disabilities, sexual orientation, or any other similarly protected status. It is our policy to comply with all applicable laws governing employment practices and not to discriminate on the basis of any unlawful criteria. WCG values the diverse backgrounds of its employees and works to create an open atmosphere of trust, honesty, and respect. WCG is an equal opportunity employer and does not discriminate in its employment decisions.