



FOR YOUTH DEVELOPMENT
FOR HEALTHY LIVING
FOR SOCIAL RESPONSIBILITY

METROWEST YMCA

April 2024

FARM TO SCHOOL COMMUNITY GARDENER

POSITION SUMMARY:

The **part time Farm to School Community Gardener** is responsible for leading our Farm to School efforts, creating innovative farming strategies to integrate agriculture into our food programs. **The individual will need to drive and work at 3 Metro West YMCA sites – 2 in Framingham and 1 in Hopkinton.** This position will play a key role in community and member relationships and will work closely with the nutrition department to support menus which highlight local and in-season produce. **Pay \$20.00 - \$25.00 per hour based upon experience!** Equal opportunity Employer.

ESSENTIAL FUNCTIONS:

- Lead all agricultural efforts across the association to create Farm to School initiatives. Engage in continued education for best farming practices, recipe and menu development, reducing food waste, and increasing access for YMCA food programs and community members to healthy, local produce. Responsible for the planning, management, and harvesting of gardens.
- Responsible for all areas of farm work including but not limited to composting, building hoop houses and low tunnels, pruning and weeding, planting and maintaining garden beds, maintaining irrigation, troubleshooting, harvesting, produce storage and distribution
- Track farm operations and data, including crop plans, harvest log, planting schedule, pounds of food harvested and distributed and more
- Work in collaboration with the nutrition department to create taste tests, classroom and gardening education for preschool and afterschool students.
- Assist with recipe development, food preparation, packaging, and delivery to support all nutrition programs as needed.
- Provides leadership and support to the annual fundraising campaign and volunteer committees/ boards as assigned. Develops and maintains effective working relationships within the community.
- Serve as a Healthy Eating and Physical Activity (HEPA) champion to implement these standards across Association and greater community.

- Works cooperatively with the Building and Grounds Director to ensure the cleanliness and safety of all program and facility areas.
- Maintains all certifications and training hours necessary for the position to include First Aid, CPR and O2 training, and ServSafe.

QUALIFICATIONS:

- Bachelor's degree or working towards a degree in agriculture or horticulture
- At least one year of experience managing a garden or farm
- Must be self-motivated and responsible
- Have the ability to handle multiple tasks at the same time.
- Ability to establish and maintain collaborations with community organizations.
- Must have driver's license, clean driving record, and access to vehicle
- ServSafe, CPR, O2, First Aid certifications are required
- Must be physically capable to set up program equipment and have the ability to hear and see activities and problems as they occur

Qualified and interested applicants please submit a cover letter and resume to Employment@metrowestymca.org or apply online.

TO APPLY, CLICK HERE TO FILL OUT THE APPLICATION. THEN, SAVE YOUR APPLICATION AND EMAIL IT TO EMPLOYMENT@METROWESTYMCA.ORG