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Youth Program Educator

About New Haven Farms/New Haven Land Trust:

This newly merged organization unites two nonprofits that have been leaders and innovators of New Haven's urban environmental movement. The New Haven Land Trust (NHLT), Connecticut's first urban land trust, has served the community for nearly 40 years by acquiring and stewarding over 80 acres of nature preserves city-wide and by supporting 55 community gardens throughout New Haven's diverse neighborhoods. NHLT has grown significantly over the last five years to include programs for young environmental entrepreneurs and a marine and coastal exploration summer camp on Long Island Sound. New Haven Farms (NHF) burst onto the scene seven years ago with its innovative **Farm-Based Wellness Program (FBWP)** that partners with medical centers to engage people with diet-related chronic disease risk factors in learning about nutrition and gardening at two of their seven urban farms across New Haven.

Both organizations have a growing commitment to racial equity and community leadership and have taken strides in cultivating community ownership among its stakeholders. A large part of both organizations' work, especially New Haven Farms, takes place in bi-lingual settings, with Spanish as the predominant language. The merged organization synergizes closely aligned missions, values, programming, and diverse support networks into a powerhouse leader for advancing engagement and stewardship of urban nature as a resource for healthy people and communities.

Our **Youth Farm-Based Wellness Program** allows the children and youth of our adult participants, to explore, play, and learn about the environment, food, and nutrition through an experiential education model and on-farm activities. Our programming runs from late May to early October on Tuesday and Thursday evenings (5:30 pm - 7:30 pm) and Saturday mornings (10:00 am - 12:00 pm).

Position Description

The *Youth Program Educator* will develop and lead the **Youth Farm-Based Wellness Program** on Tuesday and Thursday evenings and occasional Saturday mornings in the Fair Haven and Hill neighborhoods of New Haven, Connecticut. The *Youth Program Educator* is responsible for creating and delivering weekly curriculum for a group of children and youth. The *Youth Program Educator* will work directly with the Wellness Programs Manager, Assistant Youth Program Educator, Farm Manager, program staff, and volunteers.

Position Responsibilities

- Lead the **Youth Farm-Based Wellness Program** on Tuesday and Thursday evenings from 5:30 pm - 7:30 pm and occasional Saturday mornings from 10:00 am - 12:00 pm to a diverse age range of children and youth.
- Collaborate with Assistant Youth Program Educator to create weekly *environmentally-focused* lesson

plans, games, activities, and nutritious recipes while maintaining excellent communication with the Wellness Programs Manager.

- Organize and obtain all materials necessary to deliver the **Youth Farm-Based Wellness Program** (i.e. arts and craft supplies, gardening tools, recipe ingredients, cooking equipment).
- Manage the youth garden at the Phoenix Press & Ward Street Farms.
- Keep organized records of lesson plans and attendance.
- Effectively manage group behavior during the program and ensure group safety.
- Build strong, trusting relationships with children's parents/guardians.
- Assist with general program set up and breakdown.
- Attend monthly program staff meetings and report on the **Youth Farm-Based Wellness Program**.

Qualifications & Experience

- At least a high school diploma with an invested interest in child education, environmental education, gardening, cooking, nutrition and dietetics, or public health.
- At least 1-3 years of experience working with children and delivering educational programming, especially in an outdoor environment.
- At least 1 year of experience leading and supervising group activities.
- Excellent verbal and written communication skills.
- Ability to stay organized and to multitask in an outdoor environment.
- Ability to speak Spanish is preferred.
- Knowledge of and experience in the New Haven community is preferred.

Compensation

\$15-\$17/hour, commensurate with experience. This is a seasonal, part-time position.

The *Youth Program Educator* will be expected to work approximately 9-12 hours per week for a total of 22 weeks starting in May and ending in October, *with the exception of 4-6 hours weekly in May and October*.

Each week, a few work hours will be allotted for lesson preparation and obtaining any necessary supplies. All remaining hours will be spent on setting up and delivering the **Youth Farm-Based Wellness Program** on Tuesdays, Thursdays, and occasional Saturdays.

Overtime is not available for this position. There are no explicit employment benefits associated with this position, though access to fresh produce to bring home will be available during the growing season. Workers compensation insurance is fully covered by New Haven Farms & New Haven Land Trust. Part-time employees are not entitled to any paid holidays.

Our Hiring Process & Timeline

To apply, please email your resume and cover letter to Genesis Vicente, Wellness Programs Manager, at genesis@newhavenfarmsct.org. Please include the title of the position, **Youth Program Educator**, in the subject line of your email. **Applications will be accepted until Wednesday, April 1st, 2020.**

- We will review applications on a rolling basis.
- Initial screenings will begin in early April as we plan to hire a **Youth Program Educator** by early May.