

Environmental Educator

Gather New Haven, New Haven, CT
(www.gathernewhaven.org)



Position Purpose: The Environmental Educator is an essential part of Gather New Haven's focus on delivering impact to our neighbors, increasing their connections to urban ecology, and the social value of nature as an integral component of community development. This role's primary responsibility is to plan, implement, manage and coordinate all environmental education and enrichment focused programs and projects occurring across Gather New Haven's programs and properties, including its six nature preserves totaling 80 acres, its 45 active community gardens, and four active urban farms.

The Environmental Educator will have primary responsibility for delivering educational components of the Cultivating Long Island Sound Stewards Program, recently funded by the Long Island Sound Futures Fund of the National Fish and Wildlife Foundation, and for the delivery of environmental education components of other Gather New Haven programs in collaboration with program staff.

The Environmental Educator reports to the Director of Environmental Education and Engagement. The Environmental Educator oversees activities and interactions related to environmental education and community outreach and engagement.

Employment Details:

Start Date: January 2023

Employment Type: Full Time Exempt

Salary: \$45,000 - \$50,000 annually

Generous benefits, including farm food share

Description of Responsibilities:

Core Responsibilities:

- Collaborate with the Director of Environmental Education and Engagement, Program Staff, and Program Committee Members to set priorities, develop and implement sub-strategies, and manage a portfolio of projects and properties.
- Develop and implement environmental education programs for elementary, middle, and high school students using STEAM-based curriculums that are focused on environmental science, environmental justice, social justice, stewardship and social-emotional development. Facilitate student-driven projects, implemented to inspire, equip and mobilize the next generation of environmental leaders. Program delivery may occur on-site in schools or in the field or virtually.
- Plan and facilitate environmental education to the Schooner Summer Camp program and provide training to Schooner staff members.
- Develop collaborative relationships and communicate effectively with various stakeholders, including K-12 teachers, college professors and students, other environmental education nonprofits, and parents/guardians.
- Organize and facilitate urban ecology and marine ecology field trips that incorporate the liberal arts and guest speakers to enhance the experience.
- Ensure that seasonal production and management targets are met across all programs, projects, and properties in collaboration with relevant staff members.
- Continue building a culture of community inclusion and equity through researching and establishing a portfolio of certified minority or women-owned vendors and suppliers who are preferably located or providing services in New Haven.

- Support the management of volunteer recruitment, engagement, and stewardship.
- Assist in devising social media strategy and campaigns as needed.
- Author and prepare reports and presentations for the Executive Director, funders, and the Board of Directors.
- Contribute to program and organization level strategic planning initiatives.
- Support fundraising and development activities, including acting as a liaison with grant funders, major donors, and partnering organizations.
- Contribute meaningful and relevant insights and information to inform the development of the annual budget.
- Monitor expenses and ensure that expenses are attributed to the appropriate funding source.
- Create, foster and sustain a physically and emotionally safe work environment.
- Support and promote the organization's position on racial equity, environmental justice, and food justice.

General Responsibilities:

General administrative work, including office management, vendor and supplier relations, and assessing opportunities to improve processes and workflow execution. Ensure optimal performance and maintenance of supplies, tools, and equipment in collaboration with program staff, program committee members, and work in support of the Director of Environmental Education and Engagement.

Other duties as assigned.

Required Skills and Experience

- Bachelor's in environmental sciences, or education, project management, or equivalent experience.
- Familiarity with urban ecology, marine ecology, aquaculture, and conservation.
- Proficiency in word processors, spreadsheets, slide presentations, CRM systems and project management software, online forms.
- Excellent interpersonal, listening, and written and verbal communication skills.
- Strong moral character, high level of emotional intelligence, high motivation, self-discipline, and organization.
- Skill and passion to develop deep, trusting relationships with diverse populations.
- Legacy/sustainability oriented; strong documentation and record-keeping skills.
- Valid Driver's License, First Aid and CPR certified, or willing to obtain after hire.
- Experience working with school and family communities in an informal setting, and demonstrate cultural competency to work with diverse audiences.
- Experience working or leading summer camp activities and out-of-school time activities (after school, holidays, and weekend programs).
- Experience in leadership and/or management of an environmental education-focused, social-impact based organization, with an understanding of the challenges faced by leaders of small grassroots organizations.
- Program management experience including financial management and operations, staff and volunteer management, and team building.
- Experience with workshop planning and facilitation.

How to Apply

Email a cover letter and resume saved as a single PDF document to:

gnhexecutivedirector@gathernewhaven.org Your cover letter should include references to all relevant paid and unpaid life experience and address why you are interested in the position, what professional strengths you bring to the position, and your personal goals.

About Gather New Haven. Gather New Haven is a non-profit, 501(c)3 organization located in New Haven, CT, committed to social and environmental justice. Gather New Haven promotes health, equity and justice for people and the environment by cultivating connections and access to our lands and waters and by inspiring us to care for our wellbeing, our shared community, and our environment. <https://gathernewhaven.org/>

About Cultivating Long Island Sound Stewards. The program which begins in 2023 and lasts two years will provide 11 months of science, conservation, exploration, and advocacy programs to low-income New Haven 7th and 8th graders: weekly educational workshops and field trips (Jan.-June); Schooner Camp (summer); and advocacy and outreach workshops and presentations (Sept.-Dec.). The project will serve 60 youth (30/year) who will exit with improved environmental literacy, and an understanding of LIS ecosystems and the relationship between their communities and the Sound, and outreach skills.

Benefits. Benefits include sick days, vacation, and holidays (federally recognized holidays as well as three floating holidays for non-federally recognized days of observance). Gather New Haven helps employees pay for medical expenses or health insurance premiums up to \$6,000 through a Qualified Small Employer Health Reimbursement Arrangement (QSEHRA) and workers compensation insurance is also provided. Staff are entitled to a share of farm-grown produce during the farming season.

Employment Disclosures and Legal Statements. The physical demands described here are representative of those that must be met by an employee to successfully perform the essential functions of this position. Reasonable accommodations may be made to enable individuals with disabilities to perform the functions. While performing the duties of this position, the employee is regularly required to talk or hear. The employee frequently is required to use hands or fingers, handle, or feel objects, tools or controls. The employee is occasionally required to stand; walk; sit; reach with hands and arms; climb or balance; and stoop, kneel, crouch, or crawl. The employee must occasionally lift and/or move up to 50 pounds. Specific vision abilities required by this position include close vision, distance vision, color vision, peripheral vision, and the ability to adjust focus. The noise level in the work environment is usually moderate. This position involves remote work and socially distanced in-person work related activities under strict adherence to public health practices to minimize the likelihood of contracting the novel coronavirus (2019-nCoV)/COVID-19.

Gather New Haven is an Equal Opportunity Employer. We recruit, hire, upgrade, train, and promote for all positions and job classifications without regard to race, color, religion, creed, gender, national origin, age, physical or mental disability, marital, veteran or disabled veteran status, sexual orientation, or any other status as a member of any other legally protected group or activity.

Candidate is expected to support and promote the organization's position on racial equity, environmental justice, and food justice issues which can include messaging and actions that are in opposition to discriminatory practices that produce inequities associated with the organization's mission.

This job description in no way states or implies that these are the only duties to be performed by the employee(s) incumbent in this position. Employees will be required to follow any other job-related instructions and to perform any other job-related duties requested by any person authorized to give instructions or assignments. All duties and responsibilities are essential functions and requirements and are subject to possible modification to reasonably accommodate individuals with disabilities. To perform this job successfully, the incumbents will possess the skills, aptitudes, and abilities to perform each duty proficiently. Some requirements may exclude individuals who pose a direct threat or significant risk to the health or safety of themselves or others. The requirements listed in this document are the minimum levels of knowledge, skills, or abilities. This document does not create an employment contract, implied or otherwise, other than an "at will" relationship.

Gather New Haven strictly maintains a drug free workplace, and complies with ADA regulations as applicable.

