



KEEP GROWING DETROIT

Urban Garden Development Associate with focus on Early Childhood Gardens

Location: 76 E. Forest, Detroit, Michigan

Salary: \$13-\$17 per hour, based on experience

Schedule: Hourly employee, 25 hours per week, including some evenings and weekends

Date: Seasonal position, April through October 2017

Area of Focus: Food Systems, Urban Agriculture, Community Organizing, and Education

Organizational Description:

Keep Growing Detroit (KGD) exists to promote a food sovereign city where the majority of fruits and vegetables consumed by Detroiters are grown by residents within the city's limits. Our strategic approach to achieving our mission includes work that fosters relationships to food, grows the knowledge of food and farming, builds leadership skills and capacity within Detroit's urban agriculture community, and changes the value of food while developing community assets. To these ends, our organization operates a number of nationally recognized programs including the Garden Resource Program (GRP), which supports a network of 1,445 urban gardens and farms and Grown in Detroit (GID), which provides more than 60 urban gardeners with opportunities to sell the fruits and vegetables they grow at local market outlets. Our staff also operates the Plum Street Market Garden, a 1.75-acre urban farm and teaching facility located in the heart of downtown Detroit.

Position Description:

Keep Growing Detroit is seeking a seasonal Urban Garden Development Associate. The Associate will work with KGD's garden development team to assist residents and community groups that participate in the Garden Resource Program with technical assistance to establish and maintain vegetable gardens in the city. The Associate's focus will be in supporting gardens at Early Childhood Centers working with children birth to five, assisting with garden development and activity support. The Urban Garden Development Associate works closely with and reports to the Co-Director of Basic Programs.

Duties and Responsibilities:

- Assist with new garden development support and requests for technical assistance, in particular with early childhood centers, including seasonal field support such as site visits, soil tests and new garden organizing and building support.
- Assist participating early childhood center gardens with basic gardening support, including planning guidance and hands-on technical assistance.
- Assist early childhood garden sites with curriculum and activity support, including training parents and teachers on age-appropriate garden activities.
- Assist with Keep Growing Detroit outreach activities, assisting with material distribution to community partners and attending community fairs and meetings.
- Provide support for other KGD staff for tasks related to the Garden Resource Program, including seed and transplant distributions, and citywide events. Coordinate outreach and

engagement activities to early childhood centers connecting them to the resources and support available through the Garden Resource Program.

Qualifications:

- Qualified candidates MUST have reliable transportation. Work-related mileage will be reimbursed.
- The ideal candidate will have 2-5 years of community organizing, agriculture or education work.
- Experience with growing vegetable gardens, ideally in a community or school garden setting.
- Experience working children ages birth to five.
- Experience with providing technical assistance for garden development, including training and support for garden leaders.
- Interest and familiarity with issues relating to the City of Detroit, local food, food access, and sustainable agriculture, and a genuine appreciation of the urban environment.
- Strong organizational and written/verbal communication skills.
- Experience supervising staff, volunteers and working with diverse communities.
- Ability to work independently and as part of a team.
- Ability to lift 40 pounds.
- Proficiency in MS Word and Excel required.

How to Apply:

Please send email of your resume and cover letter to Lindsay Pielack at keepgrowingdetroit@gmail.com or mail to 76 E. Forest, Detroit, MI 48201. Use the job title as the subject line. Only potential interviewees will be contacted. For more information, please visit our website at detroitagriculture.net or call 313-757-2635.

Keep Growing Detroit is an Equal Opportunity Employer.