

Urban Farmer/Educator Job Announcement

The Center for Environmental Transformation (CFET) is an environmental retreat center with an urban farm located in Camden, NJ that engages, educates and inspires people of all backgrounds to practice a more environmentally responsible way of living on the planet. Founded out of a faith community, rooted in the Roman Catholic tradition of social and environmental justice, CFET works to create a sustainable and healthy source of fresh food for the local community with a focus on youth job and leadership training.

Position Overview

The Urban Farmer/Educator (UFE) is responsible for managing all aspects related to the farming operations at CFET, managing the youth programs, facilitating farm to school programs, an initiative in partnership with FoodCorps NJ, managing the seasonal Farmer's Market, working with the Executive Director to support value-added product development, coordinating volunteer efforts in the gardens, providing, with other staff members, educational sessions on topics related to environmental and food justice and preparing monthly reports at the direction of the Executive Director for the regular board of trustees meetings. The Urban Farmer/Educator reports directly to the Executive Director.

High Priority Responsibilities for the Urban Farmer/Educator

- Farm Production Management** – Continue the development of robust chemical-free growing operations (fruit, vegetables, and honey)
- Youth Programming** – Maintain a vibrant and effective set of programming opportunities for the youth of Camden
- Community Outreach** – In collaboration with other staff, developing and implementing a strategy for opportunities to engage the Waterfront South community in CFET programming

Essential Duties

- Oversees all aspects of farm management (soil/bed prep, soil remediation, planting and transplanting, irrigating, pest control, weed management, composting, harvesting, post-harvest handling/storage)
- Responsible for greenhouse operations (ordering, scheduling, seeding, fertilizing, watering, pest management)
- Maintain a high standard of aesthetic for the farm
- Prepare and implement a growing plan that produces a consistent supply of desirable produce for sale
- Determine types of crops to be raised, according to market demand, soil conditions, pest pressures, etc.
- Pricing, Marketing, Sales, Distribution- Prepare harvest for youth-run farm stand, weekly downtown market, community outreach events, customer sales, and soup kitchen donations.
- Keep financial, operational and volunteer records for the farm. Maintain detailed records related to production, harvest and sales of farm products.
- Management of small fruit tree orchard (pruning, irrigation, fertilization, harvesting, pest management)
- Holistic management of three bee hives. Oversee the extraction and bottling of honey harvest.
- Coordinate and supervise volunteers
- Lead volunteers and retreat groups on environmental justice themed tours of the Waterfront South neighborhood of Camden
- Speak publicly on behalf of the organization

- Oversee all aspects of youth programming (ages 14-19), including recruitment, training, support, and evaluation of youth's work and behavioral performance and professional/personal growth. Supervision of youth with attention to safety.
- Develop and facilitate workshop curriculum for high school and college aged youth.
- Support FoodCorps Service Member along with the Executive Director, with garden technical support and provision of gardening materials (seeds, soil, plants).
- In collaboration with the Executive Director, support value-added product development of honey and hot sauce.

Ideal Qualifications

- Passionate commitment to environmental, social and economic justice issues related to urban cities and ability to integrate into workshop curriculum for youth.
- Interest and familiarity with issues relating to local food, food justice/access, and sustainable agriculture
- Passion for farming and educating and empowering at-risk youth through food and gardening.
- Experience living and working in communities of color, fluency in Black and/or Latino culture
- Personal attributes such as the ability to relate with people of all ages, develop trust and engender collaboration, communicate confidently and effectively, and strive for excellence.
- A genuine appreciation of the urban environment.

Required Qualifications

- Bachelor's degree or equivalent in pertinent training or experience
- 3-5 years of farming experience, preferably at an organic or chemical free farm. At least 1 full season serving in a managerial role.
- Proven educator of young people (children and teens) in farm based education
- Excellent relationship-building, written and oral communication skills with an ability to prioritize, negotiate, and work with a variety of internal and external stakeholders.
- Proven ability to implement projects and adhere to established timelines. Must be able to manage multiple projects independently and prioritize tasks.
- Commitment to volunteer development programs that maximize individual and organizational goals.
- Personal qualities of integrity, credibility, and dedication to the mission

Other necessary characteristics

- A Tuesday – Saturday work week
- Salary range \$33,000-\$35,000, plus medical benefits, two weeks vacation

Send resume, cover letter in which you outline your fit for this position, and the names and contact information for three references, including two professional references. Send this material via email to Teresa Niedda at director@cfet.org or send via US Mail to the attention of Teresa Niedda, CFET, 1729 Ferry Ave., Camden, NJ 08104.