AmeriCorps Position Description for Friends of Guadalupe River Park and Gardens

What is the Silicon Valley HealthCorps?
In an innovative new partnership, The Health Trust has joined together with AmeriCorps and nine local organizations to form the Silicon Valley HealthCorps. The goal of this collaboration is to use gardens, farm to school programs and the work of 46 AmeriCorps members to bring fresh fruits, vegetables and education to residents of Santa Clara and San Mateo counties. The program seeks to engage the community as active participants in promoting and sustaining community and school gardens, and to provide a coordinated, county-wide approach to expanding garden based learning. The program will also increase access to fresh produce through the development of new school and community gardens, low-cost farm stands, and by utilizing a farm-to-school model to increase the amount of fresh and local produce served in school lunches.

What is Friends of Guadalupe River Park & Gardens?
Friends of Guadalupe River Park & Gardens was formed in 1995 through the merger of two existing non-profit corporations. Our mission is to provide community leadership for the development and active use of the park through education, advocacy and stewardship. In addition to providing a citizen perspective on development issues, the Friends promote community awareness and participation by providing educational programs, volunteer opportunities and environmental outreach programs. Over 3,000 students yearly participate in Environmental science Field trips. Additionally we offer gardening classes and hands on workshops for adults. Guadalupe Community Garden, a one acre area with 33 plots including a Master Gardener Demo plot opened in December.

Describe the position/Member Duties:
The AmeriCorps member will work directly with the Education Coordinator to develop and implement educational programs. He/she will have a genuine interest in environmental education and a talent for working with children and teens. Some garden experience desired, preferably organic gardening. The member must be able to work independently and as a member of a team, in a fast-paced office environment characterized by frequent deadlines and constant interruptions. Field trips programs are held outside, year round and ramp up starting early 2010. He/she will be teaching, recruiting and training new teaching assistants to build program capacity and developing a monthly schedule of gardening classes. Bilingual (Spanish/ English) is a plus.

Program Benefits: $4,000 stipend distributed monthly
$1,415 post service education award

Please direct inquiries to Katie Smith at katies@healthtrust.org or (408) 961-9899.
Or visit www.healthtrust.or/svhealthcorps for more information.