



### **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 Veggielution?**

Veggielution has a 1 acre farm at Emma Prusch Farm Park in San Jose. We empower youth and adults from diverse backgrounds to create a sustainable food system in San Jose. Our urban farm engages the community by providing access to healthy and local food, creating youth leadership opportunities, and developing creative solutions to social and environmental justice issues. The food we grow is donated, taken home by volunteers, sold at our Farmstand at an affordable cost, and sold to restaurants. Most of the farm work gets done during our volunteer workdays which are held at least twice per week and are completely open to the community.

### **Full Time Member: VeggieYouth Coordinator (1)**

You will facilitate an afterschool and a summer program for high school youth, ensuring that participants have a positive experience as they learn about teamwork, diversity, agriculture, and social justice and environmental issues. You will also help facilitate workdays and with daily farm duties. This will require that you become familiar with the basic operations of the farm. Other duties will include administrative record keeping and some community outreach. More of your time will be spent on VeggieYouth than farming.

Duties will include:

- Plan and facilitate VeggieYouth programs for high school students, including outreach, curriculum planning, and record keeping:
- Fall Leadership Program
- Spring Afterschool Program
- Summer Program
- Youth program data tracking consisting of surveys and attendance logs
- Blog about youth program (1 or 2 blogs per month)
- Help lead small groups of volunteers at one workday per week except when youth program conflicts

- Help with tabling and events as needed
- Attend staff meetings and other meetings relevant to your duties

The ideal candidate for this position has:

- Experience working with high school youth
- Knowledge of current issues around food, health, and sustainable agriculture
- Articulate oral and written communication skills
- Comfort in talking to groups of people
- Enthusiasm and passion for Veggielution's mission
- Spanish language skills

### **Full Time Member: Farm Crew/VeggieYouth (1)**

This position is closely involved with running both the farm and VeggieYouth. You will work closely with the Farm Manager to help with all aspects of running the farm, including facilitating volunteer workdays, food distribution, and taking the lead on some farm projects. You will also work closely with the Youth Program Coordinator as you help facilitate all youth programs and lead the farm work aspect of the program.

Duties will include:

- Help facilitate all VeggieYouth programs, including coordinating all farm work for the youth
- Help manage and run the farmstand and other food distribution efforts to low-income residents
- Work closely with the Farm Manager and be involved in all aspects of running the farm
- Workday data entry such as sign in sheets and harvest logs
- Coordinate daily chicken maintenance and egg harvest
- Blog about farm happenings (about 2 blogs per month)
- Help lead small groups of volunteers at most workdays except when youth program conflicts
- Coordinate worm bin maintenance
- Attend staff meetings and other meetings relevant to your duties

The ideal candidate for this position has:

- Experience working with high school youth
- Knowledge of current issues around food, health, and sustainable agriculture
- Articulate oral and written communication skills
- Comfort in talking to groups of people
- Experience with sustainable farming techniques
- Enthusiasm and passion for Veggielution's mission
- Spanish language skills

### **Community Education Quarter Time Members (2)**

This position is focused primarily on educating the community. You will schedule and help facilitate workshops for community members on various cooking and gardening topics. You will also help set up and run the weekly Farmstand on site. You will recruit and retain new

volunteers through our website, email, Facebook, flyer distribution, and tabling. Since there will be 2 people with this position, these duties will be shared and/or split.

Duties will include:

- Coordinate tabling
- Coordinate and participate in one or more volunteer committees – current committees include Family Day, Community Engagement, and special committees for events such as volunteer appreciation
- Coordinate free gardening and cooking workshops
- Help coordinate Operation Frontline cooking classes for low-income families and adults
- Blog about your community education efforts (about one blog per month)
- Send out monthly newsletter
- Update our Facebook and Myspace pages
- Participate in one volunteer workday per week
- Attend staff meetings and other meetings relevant to your duties

The ideal candidate for this position has:

- Knowledge of current issues around food, health, and sustainable agriculture
- Articulate oral and written communication skills
- Comfort in talking to groups of people
- Experience planning events
- Enthusiasm and passion for Veggielution's mission
- Spanish language skills

This position has a 6 month term starting on Sept. 25th 2010 and ending on March 25th, 2011, with the possibility of continuing for another 6 month term. You will be expected to complete 18-20 hours per week. Quarter time Silicon Valley HealthCorps Members receive a living stipend and an education award for completing 450 hours.

**Program Benefits:**

Living Allowance: \$16,000 stipend for full-time members, \$4,000 for quarter-time (distributed bi-weekly)

Education Award: \$5,350 for full-time members, \$1,415 for quarter-time awarded after completion of service

Health Insurance: For full-time members only

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