

AMERICORPS SERVICE OPPORTUNITY

Position Title: Youth Program Coordinator

Field of Service: Agriculture, Farm to School

Service Site: Highwater Farm

Address: 7001 Co Rd 346, Silt, CO

Site Supervisor's Name: Sara Tymczynsyn, Executive Director, Highwater Farm

Slot Type: Three Quarter Term

Start Date: March 15th

Minimum # of hours to complete term: 1200

End Date: October 31st

Healthy Futures Program Overview

Localizing our food system is one of the most impactful and actionable steps we can take to solve many of our global problems. Across the central Rocky Mountains and southwestern Colorado, AmeriCorps service with Mountain Roots Healthy Futures Program builds social, economic, and environmental health for rural communities. We work with ten organizations throughout the region who are leaders in their fields, activating community-driven initiatives including Farm to School, Regenerative Agriculture & Community Gardens, Hunger Solutions (Community Food Security), and other programs in public health, conservation, and the environment. Join us for anywhere from one season to up to two years of mentored service, where you'll build a bridge from college to career while building and sustaining healthy communities, healthy people, and a healthy environment.

Highwater Farm Overview

Highwater Farm is growing food, empowering youth, and fueling community on 5 acres in Silt, Colorado. Using sustainable agricultural practices, we steward public land, increase access to healthy local food and engage teens in meaningful work.

Service Description

The Highwater Farm Youth Program Coordinator will be responsible for providing the primary leadership of the youth programs, including the hiring, onboarding and supervision of Highwater Farm youth crew workers in the 8-week Summer Youth Program and subsequent Fall Youth Program. As a key member of the Highwater Farm team, the Youth Program Coordinator will work closely with the Executive Director to plan, prepare, and facilitate crew worker experiences while also supporting other farm and program activities.

Outside of the Summer Youth Program, this position will be dedicated to leading volunteers through field work in the spring and fall and to hosting on-farm community events. Additionally, they will work on the farm under the direction of the Farm Manager as needed to plant, manage plants and weeds, harvest, process, and package produce for delivery. This position will require additional responsibilities that are shared among staff (weekend chores, irrigation, etc.)

Highwater Farm's CSA program support community members who receive federal benefits. The Youth Program Coordinator will support important anti-hunger work by facilitating on farm SNAP, DUFB & WIC* transactions and assisting with organizational reporting for these programs.

**SNAP - Supplemental Nutritional Assistance Program; DUFB - Double Up Food Bucks; WIC - Women Infants & Children.*



AmeriCorps Member Duties

- Facilitate the hiring and onboarding processes for Highwater youth programs.
- Work closely with the Executive Director to coordinate and facilitate summer program daily and weekly logistics, including: work hours, morning meeting, on-site workshops, off-site cooking classes and farm tours, service opportunities and farmers market participation.
- Uphold and train youth in work standards, mentorship, feedback strategies (Real Talk) and basic agricultural work practices.
- Lead select workshops, games and activities focused on building introductory knowledge of social justice and food justice issues; communication skills; and relationship building across social barriers.
- Provide on-site supervision of youth and volunteers, ensuring all participants are safe and experience positive personal growth. This includes working alongside crews to model behavior and check-in.
- Coordinate at least two on-farm Community Lunch events during the summer season that incorporate Highwater Farm produce and youth program participants.
- Coordinate on-farm Fall Movie Night.
- Share social media management and provide community with storytelling about volunteer and youth programs.
- Facilitate and further develop pre and post surveys with program participants.
- Participate in program/season review upon completion of program to inform and guide subsequent programs.
- Lead volunteers through farm work in the spring and fall.
- Participate in farm tasks throughout the season, including but not limited to: seeding, bed prep, irrigating fields, trellising, weeding and maintaining crops, harvesting, processing and packaging produce.

Location and Service Conditions:

This position is based at Highwater Farm, 7001 Co Rd 346, Silt, CO 81652. Position will involve frequent days of service outdoors and/or in a school or community building.

Qualifications:

- 1-2 years of experience working directly with youth in a teaching, organizing, and/or facilitative capacity.
- One season of farming experience or equivalent outdoor exposure.
- Demonstrated skills in youth development, including creating safe spaces and responding effectively to interpersonal issues as they arise.
- Demonstrated experience working with diverse groups of people.
- Capacity to uphold high standards set by the organization, and ability to motivate a group of young people while fostering their potential.
- Experience or demonstrated interest in curriculum design including ability to make complex information accessible to adolescent learners and understanding of how to adapt content to learning exceptionalities.
- Strong interest in working with youth as partners and supporting the youth-led aspects of the work.
- Excellent organizational skills, dependability, flexibility, and capacity to manage time effectively both independently and on group projects.
- Demonstrated flexibility to work with shifting timelines and schedules.
- Ability work under pressure in a fast-paced environment
- Ability to work outside in extreme weather conditions and maintain a positive attitude.
- Able to lift 50+lbs.
- Valid driver's license and ability to drive large vehicles.
- Spanish language skills a plus.



AmeriCorps Required Qualifications:

- At least 18 years old at start of service
- Must be a high school graduate, GED recipient, or working toward attaining a high school diploma or GED during the term of service. Members must obtain either a diploma or GED before using an education award.
- Be a citizen, national, or lawful permanent resident of the United States
- Able to pass a National Service Criminal History Check (state, FBI, and National Sex Offender Public Website checks) per 45 CFR 2540.202

Healthy Futures AmeriCorps Program Benefits

- \$13,552.00 Living Allowance - AmeriCorps Member(s) will receive a total stipend paid out bi-weekly at \$797.18 over the course of the term.
- \$4,826.50 Education Award / Tuition Assistance - AmeriCorps Member(s) can receive an Education Award upon successful completion of service. This can be used to pay back student loans, or to further your education.
- Eligible AmeriCorps Members can receive childcare assistance.
- All Members receive professional development and training, plus covered travel costs for attendance at state or regional conferences.
- All members may be eligible for Federal program assistance (SNAP, Medicaid, etc.)
- All members may qualify for student loan forbearance (postponing the payment of loans) while in service.
- Alumni benefits may include priority hiring with organizations that are part of Employers of National Service and the Public Service Loan Forgiveness Program to eliminate educational debt.
- Housing stipend provided to all serving members directly by Highwater Farm

About the Living Allowance

An AmeriCorps Living Allowance is not a wage, salary, or hourly pay. You are enrolling in a SERVICE position, not a job. The Living Allowance is a stipend designed to support the basic necessities of the individual while in service, such as room and board, utilities, and transportation. Carefully consider this when applying.

Place an "X" beside all that apply.

EDUCATION PREFERRED FOR THIS POSITION <i>(select all that apply)</i>	
X	High School Diploma or equivalent
X	Technical / Vocational School or Apprenticeship
X	Some College or AA Degree
X	Bachelor's Degree
	Master's Degree

ESSENTIAL SKILLS			
X	Youth Education / Teaching	X	Communications
	Environment / Conservation		Community Organizing
	Social Services / Health & Human Services	X	Teamwork
X	Agriculture, Farming, & Gardening	X	Outreach & Engagement
	Animal Husbandry	X	Working with vulnerable populations
	Trade / Construction		Language <i>(specify)</i>
	Cooking		Other <i>(specify)</i>

OTHER	
X	Car Recommended
X	Permits attendance at school during off hours



	Permits working at another job during off hours
X	Typical schedule, Monday-Friday
X	Flexible hours are required, including some weekends or evenings
	Remote / teleservice is allowed

