



**What is the Silicon Valley HealthCorps?**

In an innovative 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 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 healthy food resources such as community and school gardens, farmers markets, and community supported agriculture programs.

**What is the BUG Program?**

Santa Clara University, founded in 1851, is California's oldest operating institution of higher learning. The University's mission is to educate men and women to be leaders of competence, conscience, and compassion. By combining teaching and scholarship of high quality, an integrated education in the Jesuit tradition, and a commitment to students as persons, we prepare them for professional excellence, responsible citizenship, and service to society, especially on behalf of those in greatest need.

The Bronco Urban Garden (BUG) Program is a new environmental justice initiative lead by SCU's Environmental Studies Institute. BUG increases community food security, sustainability, and environmental literacy in Santa Clara County through the co-creation and technical support of urban gardens and garden education programs. The BUG Program is building a new education and training garden at SCU and is working with several community partners and schools in the Gardner, Washington, and Alma neighborhoods of San Jose.

<b>Position Title:</b>	BUG School Garden Coordinator
<b>Position Status:</b>	Quarter Time (3 Positions)
<b>Position Location:</b>	Gardner Academy, San Jose, CA
<b>Service Position Summary:</b>	<p>The BUG School Garden Program Coordinator will enhance ecological literacy and community health through garden, food, and nutrition based education and training programs serving children, teachers, and families in marginalized communities.</p> <p>The School Garden Program Coordinator will be based at Gardner Academy in San Jose, CA. The primary tasks of this position will be to maintain and manage a working school garden, foster community within the school and Gardner neighborhood through the garden, and teach garden-based education curriculum for grades K-5 that meet California state content standards.</p>
<b>Position Specific Duties:</b>	<p><b>Maintain a working garden at Gardner Elementary to be used as an educational as well as community garden.</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>o <u>General Maintenance:</u> Day to day garden tasks will be prioritized, completed and delegated by Garden Coordinator. Tasks include weeding, watering, planting, establishing irrigation systems, etc.</li> <li>o <u>Garden Workdays:</u> Large garden tasks will be completed during regular garden workdays, including family garden days, classes, leadership programs and afterschool programs. These garden workdays are to be initiated and coordinated by the garden coordinator or delegated to member of Core Garden Group.</li> <li>o <u>Materials/Infrastructure:</u> Purchase or find materials and infrastructure needed to support a working garden.</li> </ul> <p><b>Foster community within the school and Gardner neighborhood through gardening.</b>          Providing a space and place for people to come together in community is very important function of school and community gardens. Through events, meetings</p>

	<p>and social activities the school garden coordinator will help foster community through gardening. Garden educator will work together with other community organizations to connect the garden to larger community building projects and efforts through:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>○ <u>Family Garden Workdays</u>: In collaboration with Hablemos (the parent group), the Parent Coordinator, teachers and Gardner Community Center establish plan and host regular Family Garden Meetings and Workdays.</li> <li>○ <u>Community Meetings</u>: Attend Hablemos, PTA, Gardner Neighborhood Association, Community Center and Gardner staff meetings to solicit input and interest in the garden as often as possible.</li> <li>○ <u>Manage Arrupe Students</u>: Garden educator will be responsible for incorporating Santa Clara University Arrupe student volunteers and interns into the garden education programs.</li> </ul> <p><b>Increase environmental literacy in the Gardner neighborhood and elementary school through garden and nutrition education.</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>○ <u>Garden Education in the Classroom</u>: Teach at least twelve, 8-week classes throughout the year. The garden educator will work in coordination with teachers and staff to teach garden education classes in grades 1-5.</li> <li>○ <u>Garden Lunch Club</u>: Establish and facilitate a Garden Lunch Club at Gardner Elementary. This group would be a self-selected group of students interested in learning more about gardening. Group will meet 1 day/week at lunch.</li> <li>○ <u>Afterschool Program</u>: In collaboration with the daycare/afterschool program, La Estrella, the garden coordinator will coordinate an afterschool garden education program. The garden educator and Arrupe intern for La Estrella will work together to plan garden activities for 20 students once per week.</li> </ul> <p><b>Support a network of other school gardens and nutrition programs in the area.</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>○ <u>Garden Education Resources</u>: Share garden education resources (how to start a garden, lessons, etc) that can be available to other garden educators.</li> <li>○ <u>Resource Shares</u>: Hold garden education resource shares for garden educators in the area.</li> <li>○ <u>School Garden fieldtrips</u>: Coordinate school garden fieldtrips for interested garden educators.</li> </ul>
<b>Required Qualifications:</b>	Applicant must be at least 17 years of age with a high school diploma or equivalent, and be a citizen of the United States, or a lawful permanent resident. Applicant must also submit to and clear a background check.
<b>Knowledge, Skills, and Abilities:</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>○ Experience working with children ages 6-12.</li> <li>○ Strong knowledge of organic gardening.</li> <li>○ Strong oral communication, interpersonal, organization and teaching skills.</li> <li>○ Strong interest in working with kids and in outdoor education.</li> <li>○ Spanish language skills are very helpful.</li> <li>○ Comfortable working with people from diverse socioeconomic backgrounds</li> </ul>
<b>Commitment Required:</b>	This is an 8 month position requiring a minimum of 450 hours. The positions begin on February 1, 2012 and end on August 31, 2012.
<b>Training:</b>	A minimum number of training hours are required. Trainings topics will include sustainable farming techniques, food security, school garden education, composting, nutrition, and more.
<b>Benefits:</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>○ Living allowance stipend in the amount of \$4,000 (distributed bi-weekly)</li> <li>○ Post-Service Education Award of \$1,510</li> </ul>

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.