



Position Description for Rocketship Si Se Puede Elementary

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.

Member Duties:

The garden will be built this fall. The AmeriCorps member will help coordinate the workday to build the garden, by planning the day with Susan Stansbury from Getting Going Growing and recruiting volunteers from within the school community.

Once the garden is built, the member will develop a garden-based and nutrition education enrichment program with the aid of existing curriculum. The goal will be to develop a program that can be continued by the school after the member's service, and to have a measurable impact on the students' knowledge, attitudes and behavior towards eating fresh fruits and vegetables.

All of the 422 students will participate in garden-based education several times over the course of the year. The member will coordinate a schedule within the school's existing enrichment program, with the help and direction of the principal, Melissa McGonegle and offer hands-on experiences for the students on Fridays. The schedule for planning and preparing for Fridays' activities are flexible.

Before the end of the school year, the member will coordinate the parent team with the help of the Academic Dean to maintain the garden over the summer.

During and after summer the member will document their experience and train lead parents and teachers on how to continue the program.

Program Details:

Program Location: San Jose, CA

Program Start/End Date: October 2010 – September 2011

Number of Open Positions: 1

Program Requirements:

Work Schedule: Quarter-Time

Skill Requirements: Basic gardening, working with children, lesson planning, documentation

Education Req: College level, graduate or undergraduate students interested in garden-based education

Language Req: English and proficiency in Spanish

Program Benefits:

Living Allowance: \$4,000 stipend (distributed bi-weekly)

Education Award: \$1,415 awarded after completion of service

Please direct inquiries to Katie Smith at katiep@healthtrust.org or (408) 961-9899.

Or visit www.healthtrust.org/svhealthcorps for more information.