



Do you:

- Support building an anti-hunger movement in Colorado?
- Take initiative to make sure things are done well?
- Communicate and collaborate well with a team?
- Problem-solve and work independently?
- Value community-driven, local food systems?
- Approach your work with a racial equity lens?

Metro Caring, one of Colorado's leading anti-hunger organizations, is accepting applications for our Seasonal Gardening Apprentice role. Give a quick explanation of how the job relates to Metro Caring—is it a new position? Established? What team will this position be working with?

REQUIRED QUALIFICATIONS/SKILLS/ABILITIES

While training and onboarding will be provided, we are interested in applicants who have some of the following skills, abilities, and experience:

- Experience in organic and/or natural farming practices
- Experience in or willingness to learn about fungiculture, vermicomposting, and permaculture practices
- Ability to coordinate and motivate volunteers (individuals and groups)
- Experience in community education or community-building
- Ability to work with a wide variety of people with diverse backgrounds and skillsets
- Comfort with and ability to do manual labor and clean-up biohazard messes when needed
- Ability to work well independently, highly motivated, and a self-starter
- Use of Microsoft programs including Teams, Excel, Forms, and Word
- Bilingual in Spanish and English is encouraged but not required

Note: Research suggests that women and BIPOC individuals may self-select out of opportunities if they don't meet 100% of the job requirements. We encourage anyone who believes they have the skills and the drive necessary to succeed here to apply for this role.

To apply, please submit a resume and cover letter to our Urban Agriculture Coordinator, Eve Hemingway, at ehemingway@metrocar.org with "Metro Caring Seasonal Gardening Apprentice" in the subject line, and title your documents "First Name_Last Name_SGA".

Please use your cover letter to communicate why you are excited to work to help build an anti-hunger movement in Colorado, share any background you have in farming or agriculture, and highlight any of the above skills, abilities, and experience above that you have. This position will be filled on an ongoing basis. Applications will be accepted until positions are filled; however, priority will be given to those applicants who submit their materials before 5:00 PM MT on Monday, February 12th, 2024.

Incomplete applications will not be considered.

POSITION TITLE: Seasonal Gardening Apprentice

REPORTS TO: Urban Agriculture Coordinator

CLASSIFICATION: Contractor

COMPENSATION: \$25 per hour, 20 hours a week. Benefits package and PTO not included.

LOCATION: Metro Caring office (1100 E 18th Ave) and outdoor gardens (including 1729 Humboldt St and Black American West Museum)

START DATE: No earlier than February 26th, 2024

EMPLOYMENT TERM: Start date through July 26th, 2024 with potential for extension through November, 2024

APPLICATION DEADLINE: February 12th, 2024, preferred. Applications will be accepted until position is filled.

The Metro Caring Seasonal Gardening Apprentice's duties include:

Maintain Growing Spaces

- Water all plants in greenhouse and check for signs of pests and disease twice a week
- Water and weed all on-site growing spaces and community garden plot twice a week
- Harvest food from greenhouse and on-site growing spaces
- Plant new seedlings for distribution to community in Fresh Foods Market and Urban Ag classes
- Maintain fungiculture (mushroom production) in greenhouse
- Track and record data for seedlings and harvest (number of seeds planted, pounds of crop harvested)
- Complete greenhouse maintenance tasks (cleaning, repairs, climate-controls, vermicomposting, etc)

Class and Workshop Support

- Design *Lettuce Be Kids* class series and workshop with Urban Agriculture Coordinator
- Co-facilitate *Lettuce Be Kids* class series with the Urban Agriculture Coordinator
- Facilitate *Lettuce Be Kids* workshops for school and summer camp groups
- Participate in monthly Community Garden workshops and meetings

Volunteer Management

- Lead volunteers in garden management tasks (planting, weeding, watering, harvesting) in the greenhouse and on-site growing spaces
- Train volunteers on seedling and seed distribution in the Fresh Foods Market as needed
- Train volunteers on greenhouse daily operations – plant care, mushroom care, and vermicomposting
- Support, and occasionally lead, monthly community garden workdays with volunteers and gardeners

Culture of Engagement

- Participate in applicable team meetings
- Attending and complete two volunteer shifts within first week of employment
- Complete a quarterly shift in another program or department
- Join volunteer gatherings (brief, twice daily meetings for shift volunteers) at least weekly

Please note this job description is not designed to cover or contain a comprehensive listing of all activities, duties or responsibilities that are required of the employee for this job. There may be other duties needed to drive our mission, meet or strategic goals and abide by our organizational values.

Applicants must have reliable transportation. Relocation costs are not covered by Metro Caring.

Metro Caring is an equal opportunity employer. The organization is dedicated to the goal of building a diverse staff and we encourage applications from qualified individuals of all backgrounds. Black, Indigenous, and people of color (BIPOC), veterans, women, first generation Americans, and those that identify as LGBTQ are strongly encouraged to apply.

Note: Only those who have been selected for an interview will be contacted following submission of application materials.