

872 Main Street • Willimantic, CT 06226

(860) 423-4534 x312 phone • (860) 423 -2601



www.growwindham.org

# **AVAILABLE POSITION:** *Part-Time Community Farmer*

GROW Windham, Willimantic, CT

Applications will be accepted on a rolling basis. Target start date is March 26th, 2024.

Position is open until filled.

\*We highly encourage applications from local candidates who reflect and are familiar with the Windham

Community. This is a great position for a beginning farmer.\*

**GROW** Windham is seeking a passionate and wholehearted *Community Farmer*, to work as part of our team to cultivate food, youth empowerment, and community development in Willimantic, CT. The community farmer is supervised by the co-director of programs and works alongside our youth development coordinator and youth staff members, as well as other program staff.

<u>About GROW Windham:</u> GROW Windham cultivates relationships and creates space for youth, community members, and food system partners to work together to build a stronger community and local food system. We do this by:

- **J** Building youth power, through our Windham Youth CORE program and collaborations with school- and community-based youth programs.
- Cultivating resources, in local community gardens, such as our Thread City Family Garden in Lauter Park.
- Jesus Strengthening relationships in our local food system, through backbone support of the Windham Community Food Network.

### **About the Position:**

**Hours:** Average of 15 hours/week. Hours vary depending on the season, peaking at 30 hours per week during our summer program (July 1st 2024-October 31, 2024). Hours and responsibilities may be increased depending on skills and interest of the candidate, and pending available funding. \*To support a smooth transition, the Community Farmer will be offered guidance from our past community farmer to ensure they are set up to succeed\*

**Salary:** \$18-24/hour depending on experience. This is a staff position with partial benefits.

Special Requirements: Must be 18 or older (no maximum age), and eligible to work in the U.S.

**Education Level**: No minimum required.

**Deadline to apply:** We are interviewing applicants on a rolling basis. The position will remain open until filled. Target start date is March 26th, 2024. .

**TO APPLY:** Submit a letter of interest and resume by email to <a href="mailto:vania.growwindham@gmail.com">vania.growwindham@gmail.com</a> or apply on indeed on our job posting.



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# **Job Responsibilities**

### **Cultivate and sustain the Thread City Family Garden by:**

Coordinating the development of the Thread City Family Garden alongside youth, community members and other staff to,

- Cultivate annual and perennial fruits and vegetables
- Develop planting and crop rotation plans
- Research and implement best practices for sustainable, no-spray agriculture, pest management
- Implement Good Agricultural Practices (GAP) to ensure harvest and worker safety
- Maintain harvest records

### Cultivate youth leadership within the garden and local food system by:

Supporting the co-facilitation of the Windham Youth CORE Summer Program, with the youth development coordinator and youth staff, which includes,

- Supporting the planning and facilitating of youth and community workshops and workdays
- Mentoring Windham Youth CORE members to develop garden and food system projects
- Help with the steering of our garden development

#### Build and nurture our regional growing community to further strengthen our local food system by:

- Recruiting and Hosting volunteers and interns from the community, local schools and youth programs, and universities, to support our gardens development.
- Nurturing and developing partnerships to co-create and host workshops for local students and community groups, around diverse themes, such as sustainable growing practices, food justice, and food system and community development.
- Participating in and cultivating local and regional community growing networks
- Building partnerships that promote local food justice and community development

#### Participate in GROW Windham program development:

- Participate in regular staff meetings, with youth and adult staff
- Support grant development, fundraising, evaluation and project development for our programs.
- Actively participate in personal and professional development around food justice, anti-racism, critical consciousness, food system and community development, and sustainable agriculture



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**Ideal Qualifications.** The ideal candidate has, or is committed to cultivating, the following:

# Skills and Knowledge.

- Knowledge and experience growing organic/no-spray vegetables and produce in New England
- Experience building relationships in diverse communities
- Clear written and verbal communication skills
- Experience facilitating groups and recruiting and managing volunteers, including promoting cooperation, team-building, problem-solving, and shared leadership
- Experience working with youth in formal and/or informal educational settings
- Experience or eagerness to learn about social justice advocacy/community organizing
- Experience or eagerness to learn about planning and managing projects
- Proficiency with Microsoft Office, Google Drive Applications, and social media
- Highly-desired experience includes:
  - Bilingual (Spanish and English) and
  - Knowledge of and connections to the Windham community

## Characteristics.

- Self-starter: able to work independently with minimal supervision
- Self-awareness: ability to step back, create space for other voices, and center youth and community voices
- Strong organizational skills, including an ability to multi-task and work through multiple priorities
- Creative, flexible, and patient
- Effective problem-solver
- Rich interpersonal skills
- Demonstrated cultural competency, and dedication to promoting anti-racism, equity, and inclusivity
- Passion for food justice and community development.

# Other Requirements.

- Drivers' License
- Personal transportation/vehicle is important but not essential
- Physical ability to walk, lift, bend and carry up to 50 pounds
- Flexible schedule: Ability to work weekends and evenings throughout the year