



# The Environmental Center

## **City**

Bend

## **Organization Description**

The Environmental Center is on a mission to embed sustainability into daily lives in Central Oregon. We do that through a variety of programs that work with youth, residents and businesses to think global and act local, recognizing that big changes come from small everyday actions. We work with youth through our classroom presentations in schools, on outdoor schools days, community field trips and here in our Learning Garden. We also run programs to assist residents on reducing energy consumption and waste, assist our city with policy that guides our community towards sustainability and livability, and celebrate and showcase our connection and stewardship of the natural world through many community events.

## **Community Description**

Our Food Corps member may be serving up to 3 distinctly different communities in Central Oregon, from suburban to rural. All sites are located in Deschutes County Oregon, and will be based in Bend. Bend is an outdoor recreation destination, and attracts residents and tourists for its outdoor opportunities like skiing, climbing, whitewater sports, biking etc. Surrounding communities are smaller sized and serve a

more rural population. Central Oregon is a high desert climate, with hot summer days and cool nights, contributing to our challenging short growing season. Despite our local challenges, school gardens and farms exist and even thrive.

### **Service Activities Description**

During the course of the year, a FC member will work with: -Amity Creek ES and our Kansas Ave Learning Garden- Goal is to increase classroom participation in the garden (currently only 4th grade actively participates) and connect nutrition in the cafeteria to the garden experience. -Bear Creek ES - a Title 1 school with a garden space currently not utilized. Goal is to assist with garden initial infrastructure needs and connect to classroom use. -Sisters ES - Continue working on goals set forth by current FC member and school/district needs. -Bend LaPine School District - work with BLPD Sustainability Coordinator research current challenges and opportunities at the admin/district level to determine best practices and policies that help us get a garden for every school.

### **Skills, Interest, Knowledge Preferences**

Someone with a passion for food, gardens, nature and the outdoors would do well here in Central Oregon. We have a culture of enjoying all that our area has to offer. A self-directed person, who has experience working with youth and adults alike, would be suited to this position, as activities will require working with youth in both an already established garden, and helping to build and get a garden off the ground, as well as working with nutritional staff, principals, teachers and district department heads.

### **Helpful Languages**

Spanish

### **Community Type**

Rural

### **Service Members Need Car**

Required

# KairosPDX

## **City**

Portland

## **Organization Description**

KairosPDX was founded in 2012 by a group of educators and policy-makers with 75 years of collective experience who saw that Portland's schools were not equitably serving students of color. We began as a resource for early education providers and families with pre-school age children. With tremendous support from families, neighbors, and educators, we have grown rapidly into an inclusive culturally-responsive focused school and hub for our community. The mission of KairosPDX is to eliminate racial achievement and opportunity gaps by cultivating confident, creative, compassionate, leaders. Our vision is to engage and empower under-served children ages 0-10 and their families. We support them in pursuing their own goals and dreams and envisioning themselves as leaders, entrepreneurs and change-makers in the community. KairosPDX takes a multi-generational, multi-cultural approach to supporting children to be their best selves. Our goal is to provide a model of high-quality trauma-informed education that specifically targets historically under-served children, while also affecting change through education policy and advocacy to better address the needs of ALL children and families. Our beginnings as a grassroots education organization have helped establish KairosPDX as not only a school, but also a versatile community resource.

## **Community Description**

KairosPDX is located in the Humboldt neighborhood in North Portland, the historic heart of Portland's African American community. We are the first organization to reside in a school which, throughout its tenure from 1960-2012 served predominantly African American students. The school was shuttered in 2012 and we are the first school to open its doors back to the community it has always served. Our organization is intentionally diverse. KairosPDX works diligently to ensure its staff members mirror its student population and the community. The

community is changing rapidly through gentrification and KairosPDX is honored to anchor the remaining African American community.

### **Service Activities Description**

The FoodCorps service member will work within the KairosPDX Learning Academy and Family Connections Programming. The FoodCorps service member will assist with our school garden in planning, curriculum development and implementation of experiential learning drawing from NGSS and STEM best practices to highlight the cycle of planting, growing, caring for, harvesting and preparing food for market and for meals. The service member will familiarize themselves with the ODE Child Nutrition Programs School Garden Food Safety Training Manual in order to assure students can safely participate in the growing, harvesting and processing food they will then consume in daily nutrition breaks, school meals, tastings and cooking classes. The service member will assist in facilitating a small farm stand at the school as well as assisting in nutrition programming for our family engagement and early learning events. The service member will work with staff to organize and deliver quality field experiences with our partner farm Mudbone Grown as well as working to arrange experiences at other sites when needed. The service member will engage with families and the community through our Family Engagement and Early Learning Network Events.

### **Skills, Interest, Knowledge Preferences**

We prefer a FoodCorps service member with knowledge of social justice and the historically under-served population we work with. The service member should be interested in offering culturally specific services surrounding healthy food initiatives. We prefer a service member with experience serving in a fast paced organization and willing to be a part of the community.

### **Community Type**

Urban

### **Service Members Need Car**

Helpful

# Corvallis Environmental Center

## **City**

Corvallis

## **Organization Description**

The mission of the Corvallis Environmental Center (CEC) is to educate, engage, and inspire people to create a healthy, sustainable community. The Edible Corvallis Initiative (ECI) is one of the three programs of the CEC, which has 20 full and part time staff. The ECI has a staff of 5-6 team members who mobilize the community to make fresh, local, healthy food available to all. We have been providing programs and services to the Corvallis School District for the past 8 years. Our FoodCorps service member serves as a key part of the ECI's farm to school team.

## **Community Description**

Located about 85 miles southwest of Portland, Corvallis is a small university town surrounded by farms. It has two thriving farmers markets, eight active community gardens, and a large community of folks interested in gardening and food security. It is centrally located and less than two hours from a lot of things--the coast, the mountains, and the big city. Home to Oregon State University and a variety of nonprofits working on food systems issues, Corvallis has strong community support for local food and agriculture. A car is required for service at this site.

## **Service Activities Description**

The FoodCorps service member will be serving primarily at Wilson and Garfield Elementary Schools. Both schools are Title I schools: at Wilson Elementary School 49.7% of students utilize the free and reduced lunch program; and at Garfield 64.2% of students utilize free or reduced lunch. The service member will support efforts to impact the whole school food environment by teaching monthly food and cooking classes at each grade level, assisting with monthly tasting tables, modifying and developing lessons to support teachers efforts to incorporate food

and nutrition into classroom curricula, and engaging parents and volunteers in school-wide efforts.

**Skills, Interest, Knowledge Preferences**

While not unique to our site, the following skills would be preferred:

Experience teaching children, particularly in a school setting.

Experience with standards-based lesson planning. Proficient in Spanish (Garfield is a dual-immersion school).

**Helpful Languages**

Spanish

**Community Type**

Suburban

**Service Members Need Car**

Required

# Food Roots

## City

Tillamook

## Organization Description

Food Roots' mission is to grow a more robust food system on the North Oregon Coast by engaging our community, supporting farmers and entrepreneurs, and improving access to local food. Our vision of a robust food system is one in which everyone in Tillamook County will be able to eat good, local food every day. Many residents will grow their own food, have a greater understanding of their roles in the local food system, and will have the resources to make more empowered decisions. Our four key programs include: Farm to School, Access to Local Food, Farm and Food Business Support, and Community Education and Engagement.

## Community Description

We are located in Tillamook County, a geographically large, rural county on the Northwest Coast of Oregon with just over 25,000 residents. The region has historically been a region with natural resource-based economies of timber, fisheries, and dairy production. Now, seasonal tourism is a large part of Tillamook County's economy, and most of the living wage jobs are gone. Yet the county is still rich in natural resources; agriculture and food production holds promise for our future. The town of Tillamook (population 4,400) is minutes from the Pacific Ocean. Outdoor activities abound: hiking, fishing, hunting, kayaking, surfing, and foraging. We are 76 miles due west of Portland, Oregon, and there is a good bus system that travels to Portland and back daily. A car is required for service at this site.

## Service Activities Description

The service member will be serving at Nehalem Elementary School, Garibaldi Grade School, and Nestucca Valley Elementary School. At Nestucca Valley, the service member will work with a 5th grade class on a School to Market program that teach students how to grow, market, and sell food. This program has a robust team of school admin

and garden committee leaders. At Nehalem and Garibaldi, the service member will work to build garden committees, parent/family engagement and focus on healthy eating choices through tasting tables, farm field trip experiences to connect students with local food and ag. The service member will also focus on growing Nehalem Elementary's garden site to better serve students and the increasing call for support from the school and parent volunteers.

**Skills, Interest, Knowledge Preferences**

Experience living and working in a rural community; excellent interpersonal communication skills; ability to motivate others and experience working in a school environment and engaging school administrators.

**Helpful Languages**

Spanish

**Community Type**

Rural

**Service Members Need Car**

Required

# Growing Gardens

## City

Portland

## Organization Description

Established in 1996, Growing Gardens' mission is to promote home-scale organic food gardening to improve nutrition, health, and self-reliance while enhancing the quality of life and the environment for individuals and communities in Portland, Oregon. We organize hundreds of volunteers to build organic, raised-bed vegetable gardens in backyards and schoolyards. Through our Lettuce Grow program, we provide educational and gardening experiences to people who are incarcerated in the state of Oregon. Our Youth Grow program develops three-year partnerships with low-income school communities to build strong school garden programs that will encourage the next generation of veggie eaters and growers to be healthy. Our programs improve nutrition and decrease the risk of food insecurity by teaching children lessons about where food comes from, the importance of eating fruits and vegetables, and how to grow food through fun, hands-on activities. We offer schools technical support and resources as well as in-class garden experiences, after-school garden clubs, and summer camps.

## Community Description

Portland is a city located in the northwestern United States, near the confluence of the Willamette and Columbia rivers in the state of Oregon. A city of half a million people, Portland has been referred to as one of the most environmentally friendly or "green" cities in the world. The Growing Gardens office is located in inner Northeast Portland, and our school partner sites are located throughout the city. We work with diverse school communities where the free and reduced price lunch rates range from 50-100%. A car is required for service at this site.

## Service Activities Description

The FoodCorps service member at Growing Gardens will be serving at 2-3 schools. The FoodCorps service member will teach after school garden club through the Schools SUN program throughout the year, as

well as offering cafeteria tastings, cooking demonstrations at food pantries co-located in the schools, and teaching garden lessons with interested teachers. The FoodCorps service member will collaborate with the school community and garden stakeholders to build capacity within the school for sustainable garden education programming. The FoodCorps service member will utilize the Healthy School Toolkit to organize a school community and make goals for their term of service.

**Skills, Interest, Knowledge Preferences**

The FoodCorps service member should be fluent in Spanish. We are looking for service member who enjoys cooking and gardening, has demonstrated experience engaging with a diverse population, and loves working with children.

**Helpful Languages**

Spanish

**Community Type**

Urban

**Service Members Need Car**

Required

# North Powder Charter School

## City

North Powder

## Organization Description

North Powder Charter School (NPCS) is a small, rural charter school located in beautiful Eastern Oregon. The school has only 300 students in grades K-12, with one teacher per grade level. The dedicated staff members at NPCS work to bring high-quality education to their students. The elementary school utilizes NPCS's farm to school program to integrate hands-on, experiential garden and food education into regular curricula. The farm to school program oversees a beautiful 10,000 square foot school garden (space that is shared space with an FFA-run greenhouse), classroom education in cooking, nutrition, and local foods, and promotion of local ranchers and farmers through school activities and community events.

## Community Description

North Powder is a rural town of about 500 people located in the middle of two amazing mountain ranges, the Elkhorns and the Wallowas, in Eastern Oregon. We are a high mountain desert area that has a very short 90 day growing season. North Powder has great outdoor activities like hiking, skiing, and fishing. North Powder is located between two bigger rural cities, Baker City and La Grande, which offer even more arts and outdoor activities and extensive housing opportunities. A car is required for service at this site.

## Service Activities Description

Our service site is unique in that North Powder Charter School is the only school served by our service member. Our service member will foster close relationships with our students and staff through classroom nutrition and cooking lessons as well as garden based lessons. We also encourage our teachers to have their classes involved in getting the garden planted and in helping harvest the produce. Our service member will also have the opportunity to do tasting tables in the cafeteria for students prek-12 grades. And will also be taking on the

Harvest of the Month program. Our service member will be able to help with our effort to get our community better informed of who and what FoodCorps is by helping with different school and community events that will take place through out the year.

**Skills, Interest, Knowledge Preferences**

If your interests are the outdoors and you like a small town, low key environment you will love our service site. We have access to some of the most beautiful high mountain lakes, a ski resort with in 20 miles, and many other outdoor activities. We are an agricultural community with our main crops being Wheat, hay, potatoes, corn and raising beef cattle. Some skills that would be beneficial to our site are greenhouse/hoop house knowledge, garden experience, teaching and classroom management skill with children prek-6 and on into the 7-12 grades would be a bonus.

**Helpful Languages**

Spanish

**Community Type**

Rural

**Service Members Need Car**

Required

# Rogue Valley Farm to School

## City

Ashland

## Organization Description

The mission of Rogue Valley Farm to School (RVF2S) is to educate students about the food system by teaching hands-on farm and garden programs and by increasing local food in school meals. We inspire an appreciation of local agriculture that improves the economy and environment of our community and the health of its members. RVF2S is a small organization with a big mission. We offer a variety of educational programs to students across two counties and six school districts. We offer on-farm Harvest Meals and Pumpkin Tours at five local farm sites, Tasting Tables in three school districts, and a School Garden Coordinator program that supports over 25 school gardens. Our staff varies with the season from 3-6 employees and also includes a FoodCorps service member as well as other a UCAN AmeriCorps service member.

## Community Description

The Rogue Valley is situated west of the Cascades along the north side of the Siskiyou Mountains and is separated from the nearby coast by a high section of the Coast Range. The Klamath-Siskiyou bioregion is rich and diverse, boasting vegetative types ranging from coastal temperate rainforest to fire-dependent oak savannas. The forests and rivers of the region provide an unparalleled variety of niche habitats and recreational opportunities. Clear streams still flow, old-growth forests still stand, salmon still spawn, and rare wildflowers still bloom. Located along the middle section of the Rogue River and its tributaries in Josephine and Jackson counties, the valley forms the cultural and economic heart of Southern Oregon. Characterized by a mild climate that provides a long growing season for many varieties of row crops, grapes, fruits, and nuts, the rural Applegate and Williams Valleys are filled with orchards, wineries, small farms, and historic sites. Interstate 5 follows the Rogue Valley through its largest communities of Medford, Ashland, and Grants Pass. The community of Ashland is famous for the

Oregon Shakespeare Festival, the Mt. Ashland Ski Area, and is home to Southern Oregon University. A car is required for service at this site.

### **Service Activities Description**

The FoodCorps service member will be serving in Central Point Elementary school and Jewett Elementary school, both schools are in the Central Point school district. The service member will be supporting teachers to utilize skills learned from professional development workshops to integrate weekly garden activities into class time. Each school has identified two grade levels that will focus on utilizing the school garden. These grade levels will also participate in two farm field trips with which the FoodCorps member will assist. The service member will also coordinate the Harvest of the Month Tasting Table program in both cafeterias, and offer food and garden activities at school events.

### **Skills, Interest, Knowledge Preferences**

A successful FoodCorps member will have excellent communication skills, be highly organized, and have a deep passion for educating students of all ages. Basic knowledge and skills related to gardening, season extension and crop planning are important. Experience and ability to manage multiple projects and allocate time and resources efficiently is preferred.

### **Helpful Languages**

Spanish

### **Community Type**

Rural

### **Service Members Need Car**

Required