

**From:** Marcus Duck <duckmarc@msu.edu>  
**Subject:** 2010 Allen Nbhhd Ctr AmeriCorps Openings  
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**To:** Marcus Duck <duckmarc@msu.edu>



*Thank you for forwarding to interested friends, neighbors, and classmates!*

**Allen Neighborhood Center (ANC)** has two openings for 1/2 time AmeriCorps members interested in food and/or gardening related projects. Each 1/2 time position involves serving 900 hours over a period of one year with a start date of October 18.

### **About ANC**

Working closely with neighborhood stakeholders over the last decade, ANC has crafted an integrated and synergistic set of programs that focus on health, housing, food security, economic development, and social capital building in our lively and diverse urban neighborhood known as Lansing's Eastside. The Center's best known food-related projects include the Allen Street Farmers' Market, an award-winning market and the first in Michigan to accept EBT for its farmers; and the Hunter Park GardenHouse, a large greenhouse that serves as a hub for educational and entrepreneurial growing projects on the Eastside and beyond.

One of our ½ time placements is with our Market while the other is with the GardenHouse.

### ***Position 1: Community Engagement Coordinator for Allen Street Farmers Market***

This half-time AmeriCorps member will play a key role in supporting the Food and Nutrition Manager's objective to expand the Allen Street Farmers Market into a year-round market. An essential on-going effort will be public education awareness of the many food related issues including exciting and new opportunities recently introduced by the passage of the Michigan's Cottage Food Bill. The expanded market plan will include options that can incubate and support the entrepreneurial spirit by providing a shared-use space to various complimentary neighborhood and regional food interests. Specific duties will include:

1. Gauging community awareness and soliciting community input, re: expansion of the Allen Street Farmers Market to a full year market;
2. Exploration and implementation of additional food-related programs (e.g., buying clubs, food storage center, community kitchen) to increase access to wholesome foods for low-moderate income residents.
3. Coordinate Food Chatter, Kids Table, and other educational displays and presentations at the expanded Allen Street Farmers Market.

### ***Position 2: Gardening Education Coordinator***

This member will serve as the Educational Program Coordinator of the Hunter Park GardenHouse/Urban Gardening Program, responsible for:

- 1) Robust planning and promotion of educational gardening, nutrition, and food-related workshops, classes, forums, and 'growing projects' offered to low-moderate income residents at the GardenHouse.
- 2) Serving as shift coordinator and guide by the side instructor in the GardenHouse--overseeing planting, watering, care and feeding, harvesting of GardenHouse crops by neighbors and volunteers.
- 3) Increase food and nutrition awareness and gardening skills among members of the year-round GardenHouse CSA (Community Supported Agriculture Project) to address food insecurity issues among our low-moderate income neighbors.

**Minimum Qualifications for either position**

- High school degree, GED certificate or agree to achieve GED within the year
- Minimum of 18 year of age, US citizen or permanent resident status
- Desire and ability to engage with a diverse group of people, particularly those living in low-income distressed neighborhoods
- Ability to function independently and in a team environment
- Computer skills
- Good written and oral communication skills
- Flexible availability required (some night and weekends may be required)
- Experience, or strong interest in learning about and strengthening food systems.

**Member Benefits**

Our ½ time AmeriCorps member is expected to serve 900 hours within one calendar year, beginning October 18. Half time members receive a \$6,247 living allowance and a \$2,675 education award, but do not receive health insurance. Members are invited to attend monthly meetings and trainings hosted by the Power of We Consortium, and Allen Neighborhood Center will also make additional training opportunities available.

***Intensive mentoring guaranteed!***

**Please send submissions to:**

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***Good Health is Contagious; Catch Some on the Eastside!***