

**From:** Marcus Duck <duckmarc@msu.edu>  
**Subject:** 2011 AmeriCorps  
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**To:** Marcus Duck <duckmarc@msu.edu>



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From: "Rita O'Brien" <[rita@southlansing.org](mailto:rita@southlansing.org)>

Hello everyone,

South Lansing Community Development Association (Lansing, MI) is currently seeking applicants for a summer AmeriCorps position. This person will coordinate volunteers to establish a sustainable community-based food system in South Lansing through the South Lansing Community Farmers Market, youth gardens, community gardens and nutrition education. Summer-only AmeriCorps members will be required to complete 450 service hours from June 6 through August 26. They must also attend a mandatory AmeriCorps orientation at the Ingham County Health Department on June 6, 8, and 9.

Please view more information about our organization and our programs on our website: [www.southlansing.org](http://www.southlansing.org)

View the full position description (attached).

For more information, please contact Rita O'Brien, 517-374-5700, [rita@southlansing.org](mailto:rita@southlansing.org)

Thanks!!

Rita O'Brien  
Health Initiatives Coordinator &  
Farmers Market Manager  
South Lansing Community Development Association  
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[www.southlansing.org](http://www.southlansing.org)

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# South Lansing Community Development Association

## AmeriCorps Farmers Market and South Lansing Urban Gardens Volunteer Coordinator

### Position Overview

Coordinate volunteers to establish a sustainable community-based food system in South Lansing through Farmers Market, youth gardens, community gardens, and nutrition education.

### Responsibilities

- Coordinate volunteers to assist with Farmers Market activities (Saturdays, June-September).
- Coordinate volunteers to assist with youth garden programs.
- Distribute seeds and plant starts among local gardeners.
- Provide technical and organizational support to existing and potential gardeners.
- Collaborate with other organizations to provide nutrition, garden, and physical education workshops for community members.
- Present information at community meetings, classes and events (e.g. neighborhoods, schools, churches, Farmers Markets) about the connection between access to healthy food/recreation and positive health outcomes.
- Collaborate with local youth and other community service organizations to build garden boxes, container gardens, and raised beds.
- Recruit neighborhood-based garden mentors and Learn While You Burn leaders.
- Assess needs and generate interest in community gardens (perform outreach through surveys, interviews, flyers, emails, newsletters).
- Develop newsletter articles and updates about the garden program.
- Attend weekly staff meetings and report on contacts, activities, and progress made.

### Qualifications

- Knowledge of horticulture (food production), dietetics, and fitness
- Physical ability to perform hands-on tasks associated with gardening (bending, lifting, kneeling)
- Ability to work well with a diverse socio-economic and ethnic population
- Ability to take initiative, work independently, and manage time effectively
- Ability to manage multiple tasks without compromising organization or attention to detail
- Comfortable working at multiple sites
- Ability to thrive in a small, fast-paced non-profit environment that values collaboration, creativity, and strong work ethic
- Public speaking skills
- Ability to work nights and weekends as needed
- Competent in Microsoft Word, Excel, Access, Publisher, and PowerPoint
- Reliable transportation

### Other Skills/Abilities Preferred

- Financial and in-kind resource development
- Knowledge of South Lansing community

Summer-only AmeriCorps members will be required to complete 450 service hours from June 6 through August 26. They must also attend a mandatory AmeriCorps orientation at the Ingham County Health Department on June 6, 8, and 9.

Compensation: Members will be provided extensive training (on and off site), a \$3,125 living allowance, a \$1,415 educational award at the successful completion of the service term, and loan forbearance for qualified student loans.

For more information about AmeriCorps, visit [www.americorps.gov](http://www.americorps.gov). Contact Katie Ellero, AmeriCorps Program Coordinator, to apply. ([kt.ellero@gmail.com](mailto:kt.ellero@gmail.com), 517-887-4596)