Farm Co-Coordinator, Field Operations
Keep Growing Detroit

Location: 76 E. Forest, Detroit, Michigan
Salary: $13-15 per hour based on experience
Schedule: Hourly employee, 35 hours per week on average, including some evenings and weekends
Start Date: April 1, 2015
Area of Focus: Food Systems, Urban Agriculture, Community Organizing, and Education

Organizational Description:
Keep Growing Detroit (KGD) exists to promote a food sovereign city where the majority of fruits and vegetables consumed by Detroiters are grown by residents within the city’s limits. Our strategic approach to achieving our mission includes work that fosters relationships to food, grows the knowledge of food and farming, builds leadership skills and capacity within Detroit’s urban agriculture community, and changes the value of food while developing community assets. To these ends, our organization operates a number of nationally recognized programs including the Garden Resource Program (GRP), which supports a network of 1,400 urban gardens and farms and Grown in Detroit (GID), which provides more than 70 urban gardeners with opportunities to sell the fruits and vegetables they grow at local market outlets. Our staff also operates the Plum Street Market Garden, a 1.75-acre urban farm and teaching facility located in the heart of downtown Detroit.

Position Description:
Keep Growing Detroit is seeking a Farm Co-Coordinator responsible for Field Operations. The Field Operations Co-Coordinator is responsible for managing in-ground production and supporting transplant and greenhouse production at the Plum Street Market Garden. The site, which is owned by MGM Grand Casino-Detroit and operated by Keep Growing Detroit, includes a 60’x96’ heated greenhouse and multiple large raised production areas including an established perennial flower/herb garden. The Farm Team works collaboratively to co-manage field production, harvest for sale, and provide farm-related training and technical assistance to urban market gardeners. The Farm Coordinator reports to the Co-Director of Advanced Programs.

Duties and Responsibilities:

• Oversee the planting, maintenance, harvest, and post-harvest handling of fruits, vegetables, flowers, herbs, fruit, and seed in the outdoor production beds at the Plum Street Market Garden
• Assist with the coordination and supervision of volunteers engaged in fieldwork at the site
• Assist with transplant production and in-ground greenhouse production
• Assist with community engagement initiatives related to the Plum Street Market Garden including events, tours, and regularly scheduled volunteer opportunities
• Assist with data collection and maintenance of farm records
• Assist with the development and implementation of farm-based education for urban gardeners and farmers
• Attend KGD staff meetings, trainings, and other key citywide events including Garden Resource Program plant distributions
Qualifications:

• The ideal candidate will have at least 2 years of organic farming experience, including transplant production, field production, and harvest and post-harvest handling
• Interest and familiarity with issues relating to the City of Detroit, local food, food access, and sustainable agriculture, and a genuine appreciation of the urban environment
• Strong organizational and written/verbal communication skills
• Experience supervising youth, volunteers, and working with diverse communities
• Experience teaching youth and/or adults, preferably in a farm or garden setting
• Ability to work independently and as part of a team
• Ability to lift 40 pounds on a consistent basis
• Proficiency in MS Word and Excel preferred but not required
• Driver’s license is preferred but not required

How to Apply:
Please send email of your resume and cover letter to Eitan Sussman at sussmanster@gmail.com or mail to 76 E. Forest, Detroit, MI 48201. Use the job title as the subject line. Only potential interviewees will be contacted. For more information, please visit our website at www.detroitagriculture.net or call 313-757-2635.

Keep Growing Detroit is an Equal Opportunity Employer.