



## **Seasonal Garden Zone Leader(20-25 hours/week, 1 position available)**

Grassroots Gardens of Western New York, Inc. is a dedicated group of community gardeners and activists. Our mission is to share knowledge, power and resources to grow healthy food, heal systemic harm, and strengthen neighborhood connections through community gardens.

We seek to build a lasting network of land and people growing healthy communities.

We are seeking a seasonal, part-time Seasonal Garden Zone Leader who shares our values of Equity and Justice, Community Leadership, Fostering Connections, Stewardship, and Restorative Practices. The position will begin the first full week of May 2024 (beginning May 6th).

### **Position Summary:**

The Garden Zone Leader reports to the Program Manager, and is responsible for direct support of our gardens in Buffalo and Niagara Falls.

The Garden Zone Leader helps with the direct care of gardens within our organization's network, working with residents who volunteer in stewarding community and school gardens, and also taking on independent projects for garden care throughout the growing season. The Garden Zone Leader may work occasionally with volunteer groups, who will be under the guidance of our full-time staff.

Compensation for this position is **\$18.50 per hour**. This position is hourly and non-exempt. Hours are expected to be between 20-25 hours/week. Scheduling is fairly flexible and can include evenings and weekends if desired. End dates will be flexible, but work will fall between the months of May and October. The Garden Zone Leader reports to the Program Manager and will work with other staff members regularly.

Benefits include paid time off and professional development opportunities.

### **Principal Duties and Responsibilities**

#### **Community Garden Support and Community Engagement**

- Assist volunteer gardeners and residents in all aspects of community garden maintenance, including but not limited to planting, weeding, watering, moving soil and compost, mulching, building and repairing garden beds, pruning, and work with gardeners to facilitate growth and sustainability of their community gardens.
- Provides technical assistance to all community gardeners and answers their questions about plant needs and garden care, soil health, basic organic pest control and troubleshoots garden concerns. Seeks supervision when further consultation is needed to address garden issues.
- Maintains ongoing and regular communication with lead gardeners.
- Supports volunteer events in community gardens as requested by gardeners and staff.
- Distributes materials, tools, and supplies to gardeners throughout the growing season.
- Attend and staff tabling events on behalf of the organization as needed.

#### **Administrative**

- Supports grant-based programming and reporting as requested by the Executive Director.
- Attends monthly staff meetings.
- Supports Program Manager and Community Garden Coordinator as needed.

#### **Necessary Qualifications:**

- Demonstrated ability, experience, and interest in working with diverse communities, including

- communities of color, people with disabilities, and people in economic need
- Demonstrated knowledge and high level of comfort with gardening and native plant care
- Effective communication skills, both verbal and written
- Experience or willingness to learn to work with power tools for basic carpentry and landscaping tasks
- Ability to work independently and with attention to detail
- Ability to lift at least 40 pounds, and the ability to walk, stand, and kneel regularly for extended periods of time
- Ability to work in team settings
- Valid driver's license and reliable transportation

**Helpful Qualifications to have:**

- Professional degree or certificate in horticulture, agriculture, or environmental science, etc.
- Proficient in Microsoft Word, PowerPoint and Excel and Google Apps
- Strong knowledge of native plants and vegetable gardening.

Grassroots Gardens WNY seeks to build an organization and culture fully reflective of the communities where we work and grow. We are committed to building an equitable and inclusive organization and strongly encourage applications from People of Color, LGBTQ+ individuals, women, individuals living with disabilities, veterans, and people from working class backgrounds. **We particularly encourage those who may not meet all the qualifications, but who possess relevant lived experiences, commitment to learning, and a strong alignment with our organizational values to apply.** We will strive to make accommodations to the work environment to facilitate the ongoing success of the selected candidate as needed.

To apply, please send a resume and a short statement of interest to Loc Tran, Program Manager, Grassroots Gardens WNY via email to [Loc@grassrootsgardens.org](mailto:Loc@grassrootsgardens.org) or mail it to Loc's attention at GGWNY, 389 Broadway St., Buffalo, NY 14204 by April 12th, 2024. **No phone calls please.**