

Take action  
Build community  
Work & learn  
With the land



AmeriCorps



VERMONT  
YOUTH  
CONSERVATION  
CORPS

## Food & Farm: AmeriCorps Production Leader

**Location:** Richmond, Vermont

**Dates:** March 19th, 2025 - October 24th, 2025

**Weekly compensation (housing included):** \$551

**Weekly compensation (housing not included):** \$664

**Education Award:** \$5,176.50

**Age requirement:** 20+

### Who We Are

VYCC is a mission-driven organization where we strive to take action and build community by working and learning together with the land. VYCC's Food & Farm Program is a youth development, diversified agriculture and food security initiative. We believe in the power that food has to connect us with the land, our community, and each other.

On the farm, young people engage in the daily tasks of organic vegetable farming. The produce grown by Corps Members is distributed to more than 400 families through the Health Care Share – a public health initiative that connects Vermont families to locally-grown produce through their medical provider. Patients who may have nutrient-related illness or have barriers to accessing fresh produce receive a weekly share of fresh food. We also raise laying hens for eggs, chickens for meat, and additional vegetables, flowers, and herbs that we sell through our vibrant, on-site farm stand.

In addition to the work Corps Members do in the farm fields, they also spend time in the kitchen learning cooking skills. Working with the food they've grown, they explore different recipes and help prepare a daily lunch that is served to all farm crews, connecting the work in the fields to the food on their plates.

These projects are made possible through VYCC's partnership with AmeriCorps and SerVermont.

### Who We're Looking For

A successful Production Leader is someone who strives to support farm crews, faces challenges with a positive attitude, and works toward personal and professional growth. We look for hard-working individuals who will demonstrate their passion for food access and public service through a commitment to VYCC's mission. They will bring experience or interest in developing skills in teaching, mentoring, or group facilitation.

### What You Can Expect

Production Leaders support nearly all aspects of farm production. There is a focus on assisting in prepping beds and setting up irrigation lines, maintaining and using farm equipment and livestock management. The VYCC farming season starts in March. Farm Leaders operate as a cohort that collaborates closely throughout the spring, building hands-on skills and knowledge of VYCC farm systems. Prior to the start of summer season, Farm Leaders develop their leadership skills by guiding volunteer groups through hands-on farm tasks.

In the summer, the Production Leader will also support Food & Farm crews in harvesting, washing and packing harvests for the Health Care Share. Additional responsibilities are responsive to the Leader's interests but will likely fall under the categories of soil health and compost, cover cropping, livestock management, maintaining irrigation systems and running the Farm Stand.

Come fall, Farm Leaders return to their original cohort leading volunteer groups, harvesting for the Health Care Share, and preparing the farm for winter.

Farm Leaders will serve an average of 40- 45 hours/week, Monday-Friday. Spring and fall hours will typically be between 8:00am-4:30pm. In summer, Production Leaders' schedule is 6:30am - 3:30pm Monday through Thursday and 8am - 3pm on Fridays. There are occasional evening and weekend hours allocated for chores, driving the Community Shuttle or campus events.

Farm Leaders spend most of their time outdoors, working with their crew while also interacting with community members, and VYCC staff. They serve daily at VYCC's farm, located in Richmond, Vermont.

## **What We'll Expect from You**

### *Farm Responsibilities*

- Participate in all aspects of farm work including:
  - Seeding, transplanting, weeding, harvesting
  - Washing and packing produce for distribution
  - Caring for and managing livestock
  - Maintaining and using farm equipment, including tractors and implements
  - Setting up and maintaining farm irrigation systems
- With Farm Staff support, ensure timely field preparation, vegetable planting, and harvest for Health Care Shares
- Support all aspects of livestock production operations including chicken processing
- Coordinate and organize logistics with Farm Team members for successful daily and weekly farm operations
- Maintain detailed production and farm maintenance records
- Support, teach, and oversee program participants and groups of volunteers in

growing, harvesting, preparing, and distributing farm products for the Health Care Share, farm stand, and wholesale

#### *Farm Stand Duties*

- Design clear and robust signage that informs the community about the Health Care Share and the products that support that work
- Ensure the farm stand is well stocked with high-quality products from the farm
- Keep detailed records on farm stand revenue
- Create engaging products for the farm stand such as meal kits, flower bouquets, etc.
- In collaboration with Post-Harvest Lead, maintain inventory and storage of produce for sales

#### *Crew Support*

- Support crew culture that prioritizes physical and emotional safety
- Foster teamwork among Crew Members, lead by example, and support Crew Members as they navigate challenges and successes

#### *Communication, Reporting, & Training*

- Communicate effectively with members of the Farm Team, including using Microsoft Teams and Outlook
- Complete forms related to their service including timesheets due biweekly on Fridays
- Engage with VYCC staff in setting goals and charting personal and professional progress through mid-term and end-term performance evaluations with supervisor
- Participate in a variety of trainings, including VYCC and AmeriCorps Orientations and additional enrichment activities. These training hours will not exceed 20% of the total number of member hours
- Attend SerVermont events

#### **Required Qualifications**

- Be at least 20 years of age
- Be a U.S. citizen, a national, or legal permanent resident non-citizen of the U.S.
- Have not been convicted of murder or sexual assault and be willing to undergo a National Service Criminal History Check and a VT Agency of Human Services check. Crew Leaders will have access to vulnerable populations
- Be a high school graduate or have a GED certificate, or be willing to work towards GED as part of their service-year successful completion requirement
- Commitment to VYCC's mission, including the Health Care Share project
- Commitment to the mission of AmeriCorps and SerVermont
- Valid driver's license with good driving record for at least three years (preferred)

#### **Compensation & Benefits**

- AmeriCorps Living Allowance paid bi-weekly:
  - o Residential members living in on-site housing: \$551/week
  - o Non-residential members living off-site: \$664/week
- Segal Education Award upon completion of service: \$5,176.50
- Access to fresh produce from the farm and daily lunch during the summer
- Organizational dedication to professional development
- Career pathways support during and after the VYCC experience provided by the Community Engagement Manager
- Potential eligibility for student loan forbearance and interest payment
- Potential to earn up to [12 free college credits](#)

**Have questions about the position? Feel free to reach out to...**

Katie Colatch, Food & Farm Program Manager

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**Equal Opportunity at VYCC**

Are you concerned that you don't meet all the requirements of this position? Please apply anyway. VYCC is dedicated to building an inclusive, diverse, equitable, and accessible work environment that fosters a sense of belonging – so if you're excited about this role but your experience doesn't align perfectly with everything in this job description, we encourage you to apply anyway. You may be just the right candidate for this role or another one of our openings!

**Terms of Service and Dates of Service:**

1200 Hour (three-quarter-time) term from March 19 - October 24, 2025

Name:	Date:
Signature:	