Take action
Build community
Work & learn
With the land

Food & Farm: AmeriCorps Crew Member

Location: Richmond, Vermont

Dates: June 16th, 2025 – August 14th, 2025

Weekly compensation: \$400 Education Award: \$1,565.08 Age requirement: 17+

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, sustainable 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

VYCC is looking for AmeriCorps Farm Crew Members who want to get hands-on experience working and learning on an organic vegetable and poultry farm. A successful Crew Member is someone who can be part of a supportive and welcoming team, face challenges with a positive attitude, and work toward personal and professional growth.

AmeriCorps Farm Crew Members are essential to the success of the Health Care Share and the daily operations of the farm. If you are excited to work on a farm while having a positive impact on communities and individuals, this service opportunity is for you!

What You Can Expect

AmeriCorps Farm Crew Members engage in hands-on work on the farm. Tasks include (but are not limited to) soil preparation, transplanting, weeding, harvesting, washing and packing vegetables. Crew Members will also have the chance to learn cooking skills by helping with team lunches and taking care of the farm animals each day.

Farm crews consist of up to eight Members. Two Crew Leaders will work directly with their crew every day. Sometimes crews work together on the farm, other times crews split into smaller groups. There are usually up to six crews working on the farm at a time. There are about 80 people working on the Farm. This group eats lunch together every day.

Crew Members spend most of their time outdoors, serving with their crew. They also interact with community members and VYCC staff. They serve daily at VYCC's farm, located in Richmond, Vermont.

Crew Members serve Monday-Thursday, 8:00am to 4:30pm. Days are spent outdoors on the farm, and once a week in the kitchen.

What We'll Expect from You

Crew Member Duties

- Foster teamwork and respect fellow Crew Members
- Follow all principles, practices and policies of VYCC and AmeriCorps
- Contribute to a crew culture that prioritizes physical and emotional safety
- Be part of a team made up of people from different backgrounds
- Adapt, grow and move outside of comfort zones
- Willingness to work outdoors and in all types of weather

Project Accomplishments

- Contribute to farm projects including vegetable production (transplanting, weeding, harvesting, and washing crops), packing weekly shares, and caring for VYCC livestock
- Collaborate with Food & Farm Team to prepare Farm Team lunch in a rotating schedule
- Serve alongside other crews, volunteers, and the Farm Team
- Maintain production, quality, and safety standards

Education and Training

- Participate in AmeriCorps Orientation and scheduled training throughout term of service. These training hours will not exceed 20% of the total number of member hours
- Engage in learning and enrichment opportunities across all parts of the Food & Farm Program
- Attend SerVermont events

Communication & Reporting

• Complete timesheets in a timely manner, due biweekly on Fridays

- Engage with personal and crew goals through goal setting, reflection and feedback processes through mid-term and end-term performance evaluations with supervisor
- Maintain regular, effective communication with Crew Leader, Summer Crew Leader, and crew

Required Qualifications

- Be at least 17 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.
 The member will have access to vulnerable populations
- Be a high school graduate, have a GED certificate, or be currently enrolled in high school or working towards the GED
- Commitment to VYCC's mission, including the Health Care Share project
- Commitment to the mission of AmeriCorps and SerVermont

Compensation & Benefits

- AmeriCorps Living Allowance paid biweekly: \$400/week
- Segal Education Award upon completion of service: \$1,565.08
- Access to fresh produce from the farm
- Organizational dedication to on-going 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

Terms of Service and Dates of Service:

300-hour (Minimum-time) term from June 16, 2025- August 14, 2025

Name:	Date:
Signature:	

Food & Farm Program applicants:

Katie Robertson, Program Manager <u>Katie.Robertson@vycc.org</u> 1949 East Main Street Richmond, VT 05477

Opportunity at VYCC

Are you unsure whether you meet all requirements for the position? VYCC is a welcoming work environment that is open to all. If you're excited about this role but your experience

doesn't align perfectly with everything in this position description, we still encourage you to apply. You may be just the right candidate for this role or another one of our openings!	