



## **Training & Outreach Specialist**

Community GroundWorks is seeking an experienced garden-based learning Training & Outreach Specialist to develop and offer trainings, technical assistance services, and general outreach for the [Wisconsin School Garden Network](#).

### **PRIMARY DUTIES & RESPONSIBILITIES:**

- Develop and provide garden-based education trainings on a variety of topics for teachers, early care and education providers, afterschool educators, Master Gardener Volunteers, AmeriCorps service members, and others.
- Provide technical assistance on school garden development and garden-based education via webinars, regional and statewide meetings, and on-site and telephone consultations.
- Support Wisconsin School Garden Network regional outreach staff in the development and implementation of trainings, technical assistance, and other outreach throughout the state.
- Build relationships and coordinate with schools and community organizations to organize training workshop events and recruit participants.
- Foster connections among school garden stakeholders around Wisconsin to grow the statewide school garden network.
- Provide support to educators, administrators, and parents interested in establishing garden-friendly policies at schools and child care centers.
- Disseminate Wisconsin School Garden Network and other educational resources at trainings and as requested.
- Work with evaluation manager to develop, disseminate, and analyze training participant surveys.
- Collect and organize information about Wisconsin School Garden Network trainings and technical assistance visits for grant and other reports.
- Assist in program grant reporting.

- Other duties as assigned.

**QUALIFICATIONS:**

- At least two years of experience facilitating garden-based education programs for a diverse population of young people.
- At least two years of experience with school/educational garden design, installation, and maintenance.
- Experience leading training workshops for formal and non-formal educators.
- Experience building relationships and working with other organizations effectively.
- Ability to develop effective work plans, manage details, set priorities, and meet deadlines.
- Experience with program evaluation.
- Strong attention to detail and ability to work as a team member with minimal supervision.
- Ability to multi-task and prioritize in a dynamic work environment.
- Proficiency with Microsoft Excel, PowerPoint, and Word and Google Drive.
- Exceptional written and oral communication skills.
- Experience working in a community-based nonprofit environment preferred.
- Access to a vehicle for travel across the state required.
- Occasional evening and weekend hours required.

**COMPENSATION & BENEFITS:**

This is a .5 FTE (20 hours/week) position with a salary of \$17,212 annually, including generous paid time off, health insurance, and retirement benefits.

## About the Wisconsin School Garden & Cultivate Health Initiative

The Cultivate Health Initiative (CHI) was created to support the growing garden-based education movement in Wisconsin. Building off the success of the Got Dirt? Gardening and Wisconsin School Garden Initiatives, CHI will grow and sustain the garden-based education movement through the development of the **Wisconsin School Garden Network**. The promotion of this new network will increase the capacity for garden-based education programs at schools, early care and education centers, afterschool sites, and other community sites across Wisconsin. Over the five-year span of CHI, we will:

- Bring together a diverse community of stakeholders to set common goals and priorities
- Develop a robust communications infrastructure to build and support the Wisconsin School Garden Network
- Collaborate with decision makers at the local and state level to work towards policy changes that support school gardens
- Promote best practices in garden-based education by providing professional development, technical assistance, and educational resources to communities around the state.

To build a dynamic and enduring network, the Cultivate Health Initiative will establish nodes of leadership and capacity building in five regions of Wisconsin. In each of these areas, a regional coordinator will use their expert knowledge of the assets and needs of their community to support garden-based education programs. CHI staff will provide professional development and technical assistance to schools, early care and education centers, and afterschool sites around the state. Over the course of the initiative we will train 2,000 educators statewide who will provide high-quality garden-based education to a diverse population of 90,000 children in rural and urban areas across Wisconsin. Through CHI, we will develop and disseminate resources with a focus on health equity to promote best practices in garden-based education. Finally, CHI will develop a communications infrastructure to share model programs and success stories to strengthen the Wisconsin School Garden Network through active communication among educators and to raise awareness about the effectiveness of garden-based education to support children's health and wellbeing.

CHI is a joint project of [Community GroundWorks](#) and the [Environmental Design Lab](#), in collaboration with the Obesity Prevention Initiative and [healthTIDE](#). CHI is supported by many local, state, and national partners including schools and school districts, regional health departments and health coalitions, and state agencies and organizations such as the [Wisconsin Department Health Services](#), the [Wisconsin Early Childhood Association](#), the [Wisconsin Department of Public Instruction](#), and [UW-Extension](#). Funding for this project is provided by the [Wisconsin Partnership Program at the UW School of Medicine and Public Health](#).

## Application Information

*To apply, please submit:*

- Cover letter
- CV or Resume

**The application deadline is August 11th.** All application materials should be emailed to Renata Solan at [renata@communitygroundworks.org](mailto:renata@communitygroundworks.org). Interviews will be conducted on an ongoing basis beginning the week of August 21st. The anticipated starting date for this position is September 5, 2017. Candidates of all backgrounds are encouraged to apply.