

Take action  
Build community  
Work & learn  
With the land



AmeriCorps



VERMONT  
YOUTH  
CONSERVATION  
CORPS

## Food & Farm: AmeriCorps Summer Crew Leader

**Location:** Richmond, Vermont

**Dates:** May 19th, 2025 – August 15th, 2025

**Weekly compensation:** \$643

**Education Award:** \$1,956.35

**Age requirement:** 18+

### 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 Summer Crew Leader is someone who strives to support their crew, 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**

Summer Crew Leaders begin their service term at the end of May. They meet their Co-Lead and complete 2 weeks of leadership training in preparation for the arrival of the Farm Crew Members in June.

Throughout the summer, Summer Crew Leaders guide their crew. Crews have up to 8 Crew Members. Some crews consist of youth Members (ages 15-17). Other crews are designated for young adult AmeriCorps Members (ages 17+). Together, they grow food for the Health Care Share project. Crews also learn cooking skills and prepare lunch for all Food & Farm program community. Through their collaboration, Farm Crew Leaders and Summer Crew Leaders mentor Crew Members and facilitate hands-on learning opportunities for the crew.

Summer Crew Leaders are responsible for fostering an inclusive crew community, helping Crew Members navigate challenges and celebrate successes, and modeling high quality work in the field. They are also active and engaged members of the Summer Crew Leader cohort.

All Crew Leaders will serve an average of 40– 45 hours/week, Monday-Friday. Exact hours change with the season, including some early morning starts during peak summer season. The hours will typically be between 7:45am–4:45pm. There are occasional evening and weekend hours allocated for chores, driving the Community Shuttle or campus events.

Farm Crew 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.

## **Essential Functions**

### *Crew Leading*

- Support a 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
- Work closely and collaboratively with a co-Crew Leader
- Instruct Crew Members on all aspects of farm work
- Support co-Crew Leader in the design and facilitation of a weekly enrichment activity that supports Crew Members' learning around topics like food, health, land, and community
- Drive a Community Shuttle that transports Crew Members based in Chittenden County to and from VYCC's campus
- Conduct 1:1 check-ins with Crew Members to support their engagement with the Health Care Share project

### *Farm Responsibilities*

- Participate in all aspects of farm work including:
  - Seeding, transplanting, weeding, harvesting

- Washing and packing produce for distribution
  - Caring for our laying hens and broiler chickens
  - Maintaining tools and equipment throughout the season
- Work hard in all types of weather and environments motivating members to do the same
- Support the weekly packing and delivery of Health Care Shares, free organic produce boxes, received by over 400 Vermont families experiencing barriers to healthy food

#### *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 on setting goals and chartering 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 18 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: \$643
- Segal Education Award upon completion of service: \$1,956.35
- 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](#)

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

450 Hour (Quarter-time) term from May 19- August 15, 2025

Name:		Date:
Signature:		

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

Katie Colatch, Food & Farm Program Manager

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Phone: (802) 434-3969 Ext. 128

**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!