



## MAP Americorps Opportunity

### Position Title: Growing Green Summer Team Leader

#### Organization Summary

The mission of the Massachusetts Avenue Project (MAP) is to nurture the growth of a diverse and equitable community food system to promote local economic opportunities, access to affordable nutritious food and social change education. MAP's Growing Green Program is a year-round youth development initiative that involves youth in solving Buffalo's challenges related to nutrition and healthy food access. The program trains youth in urban agriculture, food systems issues, microenterprise development, and leadership. MAP values creativity and cooperative principles and our staff work closely as a team.

#### Position Summary

Three (3) Growing Green Summer Team Leaders, employed by MAP through the AmeriCorps ABLÉ program, will each lead a group of 6-10 high school-age youth employees in carrying-out jobs and tasks in the three work areas of the MAP Growing Green Summer Program. The work areas include: (1) Farm & Garden; (2) Cooking and Nutrition Education; and (3) Citizenship and Organizing. Each Team Leader will guide their small group of youth, twenty hours per week, for six weeks, for a total of 120 hours.

Through the MAP Growing Green Summer Program, the Team Leaders / ABLÉ members will guide the youth through jobs and tasks related to science education, nutrition, writing, ELA, civic engagement, economics, technology, physical fitness, and more. The total number of youth served by the three AmeriCorps ABLÉ members is approximately 30 youth.

#### Essential Functions

Under the supervision direction of MAP's Youth Education Director, the MAP Growing Green Summer Team Leader will:

- Participate in three-week training to learn how to: develop youth leaders, create a team environment, deal with problem youth, carry out required jobs/tasks in MAP's work areas, and basic food system and farming concepts
- Come up with 20 team-building games to incorporate into the Summer Program
- Assist with preparing snack each day
- Prep work environment each day
- Play team-building games daily with the large group of employees
- Play team-building games daily with a small group of youth
- Assign tasks and motivate a small group of youth to carry-out jobs daily, related to MAP's work areas:
  - Work with small group and motivate youth in the group to plan and prepare lunch on one Friday
  - Work with small group and motivate youth in the group to research nutrition and cultural facts about ingredients for their Friday lunch, and prepare a presentation or skit including that information
  - Work with small group and motivate youth in the group to carry-out farm and garden chores for one week on MAP's urban farm, in MAP's youth garden, and on one rural farm
  - Work with small group and motivate youth in the group to write social media posts and blog articles
  - Work with small group and motivate youth in the group to prep for, practice and carry-out canvassing to inform the community about MAP's work
- Participate in daily Team Leader meetings with Youth Education Director to discuss problem youth, violations to dole out, and other issues that came up in small group work
- Assess the ability and understanding of each youth in small groups to carry-out MAP's work area jobs/tasks
- Join the large group for weekly lunch on Fridays

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- Join the large group for field trips and civic engagement activities, and to study social studies, current events, governance and politics
- Join the large group for a trip to Beaver Meadow Nature Preserve to study the environment, biology, and earth science concepts
- Participate in an end-of-program debrief with MAP's Youth Education Director, and other staff and interns participating in the summer program
- Some tasks necessitate physical activity such as sitting, standing, walking, running, lifting, and carrying

### **Required Knowledge, Skills & Abilities**

- Demonstrated responsibility and organizational skills;
- Demonstrated ability to work in a fast paced environment;
- Good communication skills;
- Must be practical, decisive, creative and responsible;
- Must be outgoing and comfortable dealing with various constituencies (including teens, seniors, people of various socio-economic communities, ethnicities, and races)

### **Required Academic & Experience Qualifications**

- Graduates/alumnus of MAP Growing Green are preferred;
- Must understand the work of MAP Growing Green and basic concepts related to food systems, nutrition, and sustainable agriculture;
- Experience as a team leader, in education, community service, or other related field

### **Interested candidates should send a resume by May 1, 2016 to:**

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