



## MAP AmeriCorps VISTA Opportunity

### Position Title: Youth Training and Support Coordinator

#### 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

The Youth Training and Support Coordinator VISTA will work closely with MAP's youth education director and past practices to continue to develop the MAP Your Future program which includes helping youth to envision potential career avenues, assist with the college or trade school application process and improve college and workforce readiness. The VISTA member will work to include MAP Your Future events in Growing Green programming/curriculum by creating schedules and evaluation systems so that all areas of youth education are as effective as possible.

#### Essential Functions

- Support the Education Director in coordinating the Urban Agriculture training curriculum, covering topics of food systems, food justice, social enterprise, nutrition, civic engagement, community organizing, and leadership development for inner city teens. This includes planning a 6 week youth summer employment curriculum for 30-35 teens and school year training program for up to 20 teens.
- Provide academic and family supports and mentoring to Growing Green participants to ensure high school graduation and enrollment in college or further training through the MAP Your Future Program
- Schedule college and trade school visits including meetings with professors or staff, visits to classes, and the dorm experience.
- Maintain relationships with educational partners including, Community Foundation, Buffalo State, University at Buffalo, Say Yes and D'Youville College.

#### Other Responsibilities

- Help facilitate and raise funds for youth trips to national and regional conferences
- Supervise and train interns and volunteers to support Growing Green and MAP Your Future programs
- Assist with MAP fundraising events such as Tour de Farms
- Contribute to online newsletters and other communications with MAP members and supporters
- Assist with strategic planning, program reporting and evaluations

#### Required Academic & Experience Qualifications

- At least 2 years experience working with or teaching youth, ages 14-20, in an urban setting
- Experience with non-traditional teaching techniques or training in non-traditional settings
- Ability to engage and build strong positive relationships with and between young people
- Experience working with diverse, low-income populations
- Knowledge of sustainable urban agriculture, regional food systems and/ or social enterprise
- Ability to work independently and as part of a team

Massachusetts Avenue Project  
271 Grant St. Buffalo, New York 14213  
ph. 716.882.5327    fx. 716.882.5327



- Excellent organizational and communication skills, including social media fluency
- Flexibility, sense of humor and passion for creating youth leaders
- Own transportation and current driver's license helpful

**This position requires a 1-year commitment to VISTA and MAP.**

**Interested candidates should send a resume by May 15, 2016 to:**

Kerri Bejger, MAP Your Future Coordinator  
MAP  
271 Grant Street  
Buffalo, NY 14213  
kerri@mass-ave.org

Massachusetts Avenue Project  
271 Grant St. Buffalo, New York 14213  
ph. 716.882.5327    fx. 716.882.5327