

Volunteer with our SEEDS Youth Programs!



ABOUT SEEDS AND ITS MISSION

Located in a historically marginalized neighborhood of Northeast Central Durham, SEEDS develops the capacity of young people to respect life, each other and the earth through growing, cooking and sharing food. With access to a two-acre garden and a kitchen, SEEDS wants its young people, ages 5-17, to leave the garden with an understanding of how food sustains us in life and good health, respect for land and environment, and with leadership skills through serving the community by sharing the food they grow in the garden.

Our beautiful downtown property includes two acres of land with a classroom pavilion, a greenhouse, a chicken coop, beehives, a pond, environmental education exhibits and multiple areas for growing edible and medicinal plants. The SEEDS building, constructed in 2014, holds a kitchen and a multipurpose room with communal tables where the young people share meals they make, using food they grow in the garden.

VOLUNTEERING WITH OUR YOUTH

Our Middle School after-school program is launching this year, and we are very excited to be offering programming to another age group. The SAPLINGs (Students in Agriculture Program, Learning In Nature & Gardens) will have their own series of raised beds to farm. Ultimately the students will learn how to find seeds to match the season, plant them with enough space, care for them, harvest them, cook them and/or sell them. The arc of our curriculum will be to get them outside farming on a small-scale, to teach them all the skills they will need to master their own space!

As a volunteer for the SAPLINGs program, you will help guide them through this learning process to become confident in their own growing and husbandry skills.

Responsibilities include but are not limited to:

Volunteer Commitment

- You will be expected to commit to a weekly 3-hour volunteer shift, for no less than 3 months or a full semester
- Middle School program meets Wed/ Fri, 3-6pm
- Grade School program meets Mon-Fri, 3-6pm

Garden Work

- Completion of basic garden tasks, such as weeding, composting, planting, harvesting, pruning, watering, landscaping, etc.
- Helping to lead a work group of our youth
- Mediating conflict between youth

WORKING CONDITIONS

This position is a physically active position. You must be able to stand and walk for long periods of time, to bend at the knees and hips and to lift at least 30 pounds overhead. You must also be able to physically exert yourself for at least three (3) hours a week (taking breaks as needed), using heavy garden implements such as hoes and shovels.

APPLYING

To apply, please submit a letter of interest to thyde@seedsnc.org. Tell us about your background, your interest in the garden and/or cooking, and why you're excited about this opportunity. You do not need to submit a formal resume. No phone calls please. The position will remain open until filled on a rolling basis.

We value a diverse workforce and an inclusive culture and encourage applications from all interested persons, including people of color, persons with disabilities, and LGBTQ individuals.