



## **Chef Educator Job Description**

### **ABOUT SEEDS AND ITS MISSION**

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

The SEEDS building, constructed in 2014, holds an industrial kitchen and multipurpose classroom space where young people share meals they make using food they grow on the farm. Outdoors, there are two acres of land with a classroom pavilion, outdoor cooking spaces, a greenhouse, chicken coop, pond, environmental education exhibits and multiple areas for growing edible and medicinal herbs and other plants.

### **ABOUT THE CHEF EDUCATOR POSITION**

Reporting to the Executive Director, this role's primary responsibility is to provide farm-based cooking classes and food justice curriculum to 1st grade through 12th grade youth in SEEDS after-school programs.

The Chef Educator designs cooking class curriculum, facilitates lessons, and guides interns and volunteers in developing and maintaining a productive and educational kitchen as a classroom. This position will work closely with the Farm Manager to implement a seed-to-table curriculum.

The Chef Educator is tasked with creating an inviting, magical, and safe kitchen classroom.

Responsibilities include:

#### **Afterschool Kitchen Programming** (January - May; Late August - December)

- Design, document and teach farm-based cooking class curriculum for grades 1-12 (includes attending to dietary needs/restrictions of all youth)
- Design and implement systems for tracking program outcomes
- Coordinate volunteer/intern outreach and management
- Coordinate program design and implementation with Farm Educators & Afterschool Coordinator
- Build relationships with community partners, local schools and culinary experts to share SEEDS programs and advance the organization's mission
- Participate in youth program recruitment activities, as needed

#### **Summer Kitchen Programming** (June - August)

- Design daily farm-based lunch menu and budget for summer camp participants
- Teach two (2) 45 minute cooking classes/per day
- Prepare daily lunch (with intern support) for 25 summer camp participants
- Coordinate volunteer/intern outreach and management

#### **Kitchen Management**

- Maintain SEEDS kitchen classroom before and after kitchen programming
- Create and manage kitchen cleanliness and organization guidelines with staff and building guests
- Purchase bulk groceries and maintain budget for all SEEDS food-related programming

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

We seek a Chef Educator with excellent people skills, including the ability to relate to others, strong communication skills, patience with others, knowing how and when to show empathy, assertiveness, and active listening skills. This position requires a love of cooking and the ability to delegate daily to the SEEDS kitchen team including educators, volunteers, young people and interns. Kitchen experience is required.

The ideal candidate will have a social justice focus with teaching and curriculum development experience, familiarity with organic cooking, collaboration and community engagement techniques, and project management, as well as excitement and enthusiasm for working with youth.

### **Working Conditions**

This position is a physically active position. The Chef Educator 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.

This position is a full-time position (30 hours/week with the opportunity for it to grow into 40 hours/week) with a Monday- Friday work week.

### **Compensation**

\$18/hour in addition to enrollment into SEEDS benefits package.

Please submit a cover letter and resume with three references to [jhowell@seedsnc.org](mailto:jhowell@seedsnc.org). Applications will be accepted and processed on a rolling basis until the position is filled. No phone calls please.

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.