



**Power of We Consortium AmeriCorps State Program Position Description**

<b>Position Title:</b>	<b>Lansing Roots Farm and Garden Assistant</b>	<b>Category:</b>	AmeriCorps Service Member
<b>Host Site:</b>	<b>Greater Lansing Food Bank, Garden Project's Lansing Roots Program</b>	<b>Site Supervisor:</b>	Benjamin Sommers
<b>Stipend:</b>	\$3,200	<b>Position Type:</b>	Quarter time, 450 hours
<b>HR Contact:</b>	AmeriCorps Program Manager	<b>Dates of Service:</b>	May 4, 2015-September 8, 2015

**Position Description**

**Organization Information:**

Lansing Roots is a program of the Greater Lansing Food Bank's (GLFB) Garden Project designed to help beginning farmers through an incubator farm setting while providing food through donations and at greatly reduced cost to low-income communities in Mid-Michigan. Lansing Roots reduces economic barriers to farmers and serves as a complement to the GLFB's on-going support for community gardens. For more info: [www.greaterlansingfoodbank.org](http://www.greaterlansingfoodbank.org)

**Role and Responsibilities:**

The **Farm and Garden Development Assistant** will work in collaboration with Lansing Roots and Garden Project Staff, other Americorps PWC members, farmers, community gardeners, volunteers, and members of the public to increase knowledge of food, nutrition, and farming by assisting in production and distribution of fresh food. This work will be based at the Lansing Roots Farm, 1084 S. Hagadorn Rd. Mason, MI 48854, with some office work and other off-farm responsibilities. Ability and willingness to work in all weather conditions and have a variable work schedule; including some early mornings, evenings, and weekends, is required. The position has two main components: 75%-Support of the incubator farm, now in its third year, and 25 %-Support and development of a new refugee-specific community garden. Service will be specifically focused in our Demonstration Farm plots, development of the new adjacent community garden, skill development through education, training, workshops and direct assistance of community gardeners and farmers, assisting in distribution of produce, and development and distribution of nutrition education resources; as well as other farm-related tasks as assigned by the Lansing Roots Manager.

**Minimum Qualification:**

- Be at least 17 years of age. Minors must have guardian permission. Applicants must have HS diploma, GED or working toward the completion of one.
- U.S. citizen, U.S. national or lawful permanent resident of the U.S.
- Pass the following checks: State of Michigan, DHS Central Registry Clearance, FBI Fingerprinting, and State & National Sex Offender Registry
- Valid Michigan driver's license and reliable transportation
- Willingness and ability to display cultural sensitivity, flexibility, and maintain respect while working with all types of people, including staff, volunteers, immigrants, refugees, & at-risk populations.
- Ability to lift 50 pounds and physical ability to work in all weather conditions; with a willingness & joy in getting dirty and performing manual farm labor to educate, produce, and distribute food to all people.
- At least one year of demonstrated experience or technical knowledge of horticulture, farming, or gardening
- Well-organized with excellent written, oral, and nonverbal communication skills; and the ability to work both independently and within a team on multiple projects in office, public, and farm settings
- Basic computer use skills; including Internet, E-mail, and Microsoft Office

**Compensation:**

Members will receive a living allowance of \$3,200 distributed bi-weekly from **May 4, 2015 – September 8, 2015** and receive student loan forbearance for qualified loans. Upon successful completion of service an education award in the amount of \$1,493 will be issued. Members will serve 20-30 hours/week. All interested candidates must submit a cover letter and resume to Power of We Consortium AmeriCorps Program Director, Andrea Villanueva at [avillanueva@ingham.org](mailto:avillanueva@ingham.org), and Lansing Roots Manager, Ben Sommers at [ben@glfoodbank.org](mailto:ben@glfoodbank.org), no later than **March 26<sup>th</sup>, 2015 @ 5pm.**

