

2024-2025 AmeriCorps Member Position Description



Partner Organization Name: Baton Roots Community Farm at Howell Park

Corps Member Position Title: Program Development and Evaluation Coordinator

Supervisor: Mitchell Provensal, Baton Roots Senior Program Coordinator

Days/Hours of Service: 8-4 M-F with occasional weekend and evening work which will be flexed

Physical Location: Brec's Howell Community Park, 5509 Winbourne Ave, Baton Rouge, LA 70805

Organization Mission and/or Goals:

By blending access to fresh food, skill-development, socialization, and art into one location, Baton Roots brings an opportunity for our community to learn best practices in sustainable agriculture on an urban farm.

Program Mission and/ or Goals:

Baton Roots is a community farm and garden network in Baton Rouge. Current programs include Sow Good Saturdays, Harmony Intergenerational Garden, and Hustle & Grow – a Youth Farm Management Training Program.

Sow Good Saturdays starts with a workshop on gardening/farming led by Baton Roots staff, followed by an all-levels yoga class. Afterwards, the American Heart Association leads a farm-fresh cooking demo and taste test. Participants will be able to take home produce from Baton Roots at the end of the event!

Harmony Intergenerational Garden connects all generations through growing fruits, vegetables, herbs, and flowers. This raised bed garden reduces social isolation and improves connections to the community, while growing a bounty of fresh and healthy food.

Hustle & Grow is a youth-focused initiative that starts with a 10 week spring/fall training (+ 5 week summer training) in sustainable urban agriculture. By being an integral part of the

distribution process from start to finish, youth participants will learn the importance of stewardship and the impact that food access and security have on the health of their community.

Member Position Summary:

The Program Development and Evaluation Coordinator will play a crucial role in supporting the operations and growth of the Baton Roots program. This position will be responsible for a diverse range of tasks, including direct farm work, program development, and program evaluation efforts. The Program Development and Evaluation Coordinator will be responsible for evaluating the effectiveness of our programs, managing outreach efforts to engage the community, and ensuring that our initiatives align with our mission and goals. The Program Development and Evaluation Coordinator will also develop and update current programming initiatives at the farm.

Responsibilities:

Program Development and Evaluation (75%):

- Collaborate with the Senior Program Coordinator and Operations Coordinator to develop and enhance current and future Baton Roots programming.

Direct Farm Work (25%):

- Collaborate with the team to perform farm-related tasks at Howell Park and EBRPHA sites.
- Assist with planting, cultivating, and harvesting crops.
- Support maintenance and upkeep of the farm, including irrigation, composting, and general site maintenance.

Essential Functions of Position:

- Actively recruit participants for programming at Baton Roots Community Farm involvement and educate them about the benefits and opportunities of participation.
- Develop and maintain relationships with community organizations, schools, and local businesses to expand volunteer networks and partnerships.
- Design and implement innovative farm-based programs and activities that align with the mission and goals of Baton Roots Community Farm.
- Develop curriculum, lesson plans, and educational materials for youth programs, adult workshops, and community events.
- Coordinate logistics, scheduling, and participant registration for program activities and events.
- Design and implement evaluation frameworks to assess the impact and effectiveness of Baton Roots' programs and initiatives.
- Collect, analyze, and interpret data related to program outcomes, participant feedback, and community engagement metrics.
- Generate reports and presentations to communicate findings to internal stakeholders, funders, and the broader community.

- Use evaluation results to inform strategic decision-making and program improvement efforts.
- Collaborate with the team to plan and execute special events, such as community workshops and celebrations.

Skills and trainings the corps member can expect through their year of service:

This position offers a unique opportunity to contribute to the growth and impact of the Baton Roots program while gaining valuable experience in community engagement, volunteer management, and sustainable agriculture. The Volunteer and Program Outreach Coordinator will work closely with the program manager and play a vital role in fostering community involvement and promoting food sovereignty in Baton Rouge.

Qualifications:

- Passion for community engagement, sustainable agriculture, and food justice.
- Excellent interpersonal and communication skills.
- Ability to work collaboratively in a team setting.
- Strong organizational skills and attention to detail.
- Familiarity with volunteer management systems is a plus.
- Ability to perform physical tasks related to farm work.
- Flexible schedule, including occasional evenings and weekends.
- Reliable transportation to and from the farm