



CENTER FOR WHOLE COMMUNITIES

Kitchen and Garden Manager Opportunity

The Center for Whole Communities (CWC) at Knoll Farm in Fayston, Vermont is looking for a part-time Kitchen and Garden Manager for the 2012 season. This is a great opportunity to experience working in a garden and kitchen at a non-profit retreat/education center and to interact with a diverse group of leaders from the environmental and social change fields. Interested applicants should hold a strong desire and passion about gardening, meal preparation and the farm to plate cycle. We are looking for a candidate who is able to commit to our full season (April 1-November 1). CWC is specifically seeking to enhance its racial and cultural diversity within the make-up of our staff. Therefore, we are especially inviting candidates who identify as a person of color, or from a non-dominant ethnic or racial background to apply for this position.

Manager Responsibilities: The Center for Whole Communities is a rapidly developing non-profit organization that hosts more than half a dozen week-long retreats each summer. The meals provided for retreat participants are prepared in a kitchen devoted to using local ingredients, including many found in the Whole Communities Garden. Manager responsibilities include (but are not limited to):

- Maintaining the garden (planting (primary and succession), harvesting, weed and pest management)
- Managing the greenhouse
- Managing the compost
- Working with and leading CWC interns in the garden
- Meal planning with cooks
- Solo breakfast preparations for retreats
- Team lunch and dinner preparations for retreats
- Connecting with local farmers through ordering, farmers markets, delivery and pick-up
- Food-shed orientation for retreat participants
- Hands on the Land: working with Knoll Farm employees to direct short activities in the garden and on the farm for retreat participants
- Planning annual Farmer Dinner event

Manager Qualifications: The garden and kitchen at CWC is looking for a strong, organized, enthusiastic manager to grow food for our retreat kitchen and assist in the kitchen while creating learning opportunities for retreat participants and CWC interns. Some farm and/or vegetable garden and kitchen experience required. Qualifications include a passion for working outdoors; ability to work with your hands; an interest in agriculture and local food, whole foods, social justice, and environmental issues; and an ability to remain flexible and positive. Must be able to set priorities, possess a desire for clear communication and be both a positive part of a team and an independent self-starter. For the right

person this is the chance to be working outside in a beautiful, rewarding, and stimulating place and to put all kinds of different skills to work.

Hours: Manager is expected to work approximately 20-25 hour weeks, with some flexibility. Some weekend hours are required.

Compensation: Compensation is based on experience and includes two home-style meals a day when retreats are in session.

Relationship between Knoll Farm & CWC: Knoll Farm is a 400-acre working farm in the Mad River Valley of Vermont, where Icelandic sheep are raised for grass-fed meat and wool, and high-bush blueberries are grown. Knoll Farm is the home of our nonprofit, Center for Whole Communities. While primarily the Manager will be providing support for CWC garden and kitchen there will be opportunities to be mentored by Knoll Farm employees and gain experience in raising sheep and running a pick-your-own blueberry farm if desired.

About CWC's Mission and Services: The Center for Whole Communities (CWC) fosters inclusive communities that are strongly rooted in place and where all people – regardless of income, race, or background – have access to and a healthy relationship with the natural world. We strengthen the capacities of environmental and social sectors by connecting their leaders to one another, by helping them to develop more durable and compelling responses to problems that cannot adequately be addressed in isolation, and by transforming their movements to act in concert with each other's goals and aspirations.

We believe that one of the greatest strengths of a community is rich diversity of race, religion, national origin, ethnicity, gender, sexual orientation, gender identity and expression, marital status, height, weight, physical ability and age. CWC is a 501(c) 3 non-profit organization with a policy of equal opportunity and non-discrimination in employment and is committed to helping all of its employees feel safe, comfortable, accommodated, and valued in our work environment and the larger Vermont community.

HOW TO APPLY

Please submit the following application materials no later than February 15, 2012 via email to molly@wholecommunities.org (you may also handwrite and mail your application).

- 1) **Cover letter**, introducing yourself, sharing your personality, and telling us how your skills and experience make you a good fit for this position
- 2) **Resume**, outlining your previous experience
- 3) **References**: contact information and relationship to two professional and one personal reference
- 4) **Answers** to the application questions below (typed into a separate Word document or hand-written)

KITCHEN/GARDEN MANAGER APPLICATION QUESTIONS

1. Please briefly describe what you hope to get out of this position.
2. What kind of work are you most interested in pursuing in the future?
3. Please tell us how much, if any, experience you have with the following skills areas, and illustrate with a brief example:
 - Preparing food/cooking
 - Gardening/farming
 - Working in greenhouses
 - Compost
 - Meal planning
 - Event planning
 - Working with diverse groups of people
 - Managing multiple tasks at once
 - Working independently
 - Working as a team
 - Please speak to your understanding or experience with social justice and its relationship to environment/conservation
4. Do you have any experience working in an educational setting? If so, please elaborate.
5. What interests you most about this position?

We look forward to receiving your application!

Thank you very much,

Molly Bagnato

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