

## **Cooking & Nutrition Education Volunteer Position**

Zenger Farm, Portland, Oregon

Position closes: applications accepted on an ongoing basis

Position Type: Unpaid volunteer position



**ZENGER FARM** is a working urban farm that models, promotes, and educates about sustainable food systems, environmental stewardship, community development, and access to good food for all.

**Cooking & Nutrition Education Volunteers** work with a team of staff, volunteers, and community leaders to facilitate workshops and events focused on cooking, nutrition, gardening and other food skills, with a goal of building community and improving equitable access to nutritious foods in East Portland. Activities utilize our Community Kitchen in our Urban Grange facility, with adjacent classroom and gardens, to build community around food and support families to learn and share cooking, gardening and nutrition skills. Volunteers will help extend these opportunities into the community as well, by supporting similar events at Lents International Farmers Market, local schools and community venues.

Bilingual volunteers are especially needed (Spanish, Vietnamese, Chinese, Russian, Nepalese or other language represented in East Portland immigrant communities).

### **TIME COMMITMENT**

- Seasonal commitment of at least 4 months, preferably starting in January, May or September
- Monthly commitment of 2-4 events, adding up to 15-20 hours per month. Events are mainly on Monday or Tuesday evenings, Sundays at the Lents International Farmers Market and occasionally other days and times.
- Time commitment and schedule will be discussed with each applicant to meet the needs of the Volunteer and Zenger Farm

### **RESPONSIBILITIES**

- Work as a team to prepare for and assist with cooking, nutrition and gardening events and workshops
- Lead activities with small groups of children and adults
- Interact with participants and volunteers in an warm and helpful manner
- Connect participants to resources at Zenger Farm and in the broader community
- Maintain clear and open communication with Zenger Farm staff and volunteers

### **QUALIFICATIONS**

- Enjoy working with children and adults
- Positive, can do attitude
- Ability to travel to and within East Portland (personal vehicle is helpful, but not required)
- Current Food Handler's card
- Prior experience in cooking, nutrition, gardening or teaching
- Comfortable working with diverse populations and sensitive to issues of power and privilege
- Bilingual, desired (Spanish, Vietnamese, Chinese, Russian, Nepalese or other language represented in East Portland immigrant communities)

*Zenger Farm provides equal employment opportunity without regard to race, color, sex, age, religion, national origin, handicap, disability, veteran status, sexual orientation, or gender identity, in accordance with applicable federal laws.*

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### **BENEFITS**

- Build community around food, while supporting equitable access to food skills and nutritious food
- Develop hands-on skills in community based education and cross-cultural communication
- Work with a dedicated team of staff, volunteers and community leaders in a lively, collaborative environment
- Get to know a beautiful urban farm and a culturally diverse community
- This is an unpaid volunteer position, room and board are not provided

### **HOW TO APPLY**

Submit a completed Volunteer Application (included below), and contact information for two work or school references, and optional resume. Submit application materials to Community Engagement Manager, Prairie Hale at [prairie@zengerfarm.org](mailto:prairie@zengerfarm.org) or mail materials to Zenger Farm, Attn: Prairie Hale, Zenger Farm, 11741 SE Foster Rd. Portland, OR 97266. Interviews will be conducted as applications are received.

### **Cooking & Nutrition Education Volunteer Application**

**Name:** \_\_\_\_\_

**E-mail:** \_\_\_\_\_

**Primary Phone:** \_\_\_\_\_

**Address:** \_\_\_\_\_

Interview Availability:  At Zenger Farm  Phone (**only** if you are out of the area)

Are you at least 18 years old?  Yes  No

Are licensed to drive an automobile?  Yes  No

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### **Questions (Limit 2 pages):**

1. Why do you want to volunteer in this position at Zenger Farm?

2. How have you demonstrated your interest, knowledge or experience in cooking, nutrition, gardening, food access or teaching?

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3. What prior experience do you have with diverse populations (age, race, religion, income, etc.)? Are you fluent in a second language?

5. What experience, if any, do you have in outer southeast Portland (Powellhurst Gilbert, Lents and other neighborhoods surrounding Zenger Farm)?

6. What three attributes would co-workers, friends, and family all agree that you possess?

**List two references**, at least one work-related (name, relationship, phone, email address):