

# **Root Riders Program Coordinator**

Aquidneck Community Table seeks an energetic individual who is passionate about teaching the next generation of community leaders and growing nutritious food. The Program Coordinator manages the Root Riders Program and teaches local youth how to grow, harvest, and sell fresh produce while sharing first job skills and acting as a mentor and mediator within the youth group. Two Program Coordinators will be hired to lead the Root Riders Program.

# About Us

Aquidneck Community Table (ACT) works in the areas of health, environment, and agriculture to create a thriving food system and make healthy food accessible to all on Aquidneck Island. We operate farmers markets, school and community gardens, and facilitate community-wide discussion to result in a healthier and more equitable food system.

## The Root Riders Program

The Root Riders Program brings together high school-aged youth in an exciting paid summer internship in Newport, combining physical activity with hands-on horticultural, environmental, and job skills training.

## **Root Riders Program Coordinator Position**

The two Root Riders Program Coordinators motivate and mentor a group of 10 to 12 high school students, during an empowering 6-week summer internship. Building a strong team environment, the Coordinators guide the group through gardening and harvesting tasks at ACT's community and school garden sites in the North End of Newport. The team commutes, by bicycle, between gardens and food distribution sites–all within a mile radius of Miantonomi Park. The team sells and/or donates their freshly-harvested produce at a stand at the Miantonomi Market. Additionally, the Program Coordinators will have the opportunity to implement relevant field trips once a week via bicycle or public transportation.

This position is approximately 25 hours per week in July and August, with the possibility of part-time hours starting in February for program planning and garden preparation.

#### **Responsibilities**

The Root Riders Program Coordinators teach and empower youth through hands-on experiences. The Coordinators lay the foundation for strong group dynamics and excellent work ethic, using ACT's gardens to teach growing skills while drawing connections to careers in horticulture, agriculture, environmental science, customer service, and food service industries.

The Program Coordinators...

- Ensure the group is supervised and safe.
- Utilize appropriate behavior management techniques.
- Model good behavior for students as it relates to courtesy and respectfulness.
- Identify and capitalize on teachable moments.
- Interact with parents and community members in a professional and polite manner.

# Qualifications

- Demonstrated ability to plan, organize, and lead activities for high school students
- Motivational and enthusiastic leader
- Strong biking skills and preferred bike maintenance skills
- Experience working in a team
- First aid skills and training (Certification in CPR and AED)
- Ability to pass a background check
- Bilingual in English and Spanish preferred
- Farm or garden-based education experience preferred
- Social work background and/or DEI certification preferred

#### Compensation

Hourly rate of \$25-28 per hour, based on experience.

# To apply, send a resume, cover letter, and availability to info@aquidneckcommunitytable.org

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