



Position: Community Outreach Specialist

Status: Part Time, 20 hrs/week

Organization Description: Advocates for Urban Agriculture (AUA) is a coalition of urban farms, community and school gardens, individuals and businesses working to empower urban growers to foster thriving communities through sustainable agriculture and equitable food systems.

Workplace Values: Dignity, Relationship-Centered, Transformative Justice, Social Consciousness, Horizontal Leadership, Biomimicry, Continued Growth

Organizational Values: Justice, Centering BIPOC Communities, Self Determination/ Sovereignty, Respect for the Earth, Sustainable Economic Development, Community Focused, Accountability

Strategic Directions (from 2021 Strategic Plan)

1. Honoring and reckoning with our past while reimagining our future.
2. Cultivating intersectional, values based partnerships.
3. Co-creating a collective vision for urban agriculture in Chicagoland.
4. Redesigning our funding model(s).
5. Communicating the collective reality of urban agriculture in Chicagoland.

Position Description: The Community Outreach Specialist will help AUA operationalize our values and strategic directions by strengthening existing relationships and cultivating new ones with individuals and community partners across multiple sectors. Building on these relationships, the Community Outreach Specialist will support social media content, advocacy, and program initiatives.

Primary responsibilities:

- Support AUA's existing program and advocacy initiatives, including Ward Ambassadors and Good Practices for Growing In Chicago.
- Proactively build relationships with new and existing community partners across multiple sectors connected to urban agriculture.
- Support the implementation of a social media marketing plan.
- Promote the work of partner organizations across multiple sectors on AUA's social media accounts — Instagram, Facebook, and Twitter — as well as our website.

- Support AUA's listserv and newsletter communications by researching and collecting resources, including upcoming workshops, events, funding opportunities, etc.

Primary Qualifications:

- A strong commitment to AUA's mission, values, and strategic directions.
- A minimum of 2 years of community advocacy experience, including familiarity with campaigns.
- A minimum of 2 years of experience in urban agriculture, food systems, or other community focused areas.
- A minimum of one year of experience creating and posting content on social media platforms for a business/organization.
- Experience facilitating community meetings and group discussions.
- Excellent relationship and coalition building skills.
- Excellent verbal and written communications skills, with the ability to communicate in more than one language.
- Strong organizational skills, with a proven ability to manage multiple projects.
- Proven ability to work independently and meet deadlines.

Preferred Qualifications

- Bachelor's Degree in a relevant field.
- Strong familiarity with urban agriculture and local food movements in the Chicago region.
- Experience with curriculum development, specifically in the field of political education.
- Bilingual skills
- Comfortable using multiple social media platforms and post scheduling applications.
- Other marketing and communications experience, including graphic design, word press, etc.

Physical Demands:

- Employee to work primarily from home, with regular visits to local farms, gardens, and community organizations.
- Requires ability to use computers, telephones, and other office equipment.
- Requires ability to speak audibly and listen actively.
- Requires ability to use a computer for an extended period of time.
- Will require periodic travel.
- *Reasonable accommodations may be made to enable individuals with disabilities to perform these essential functions*

Compensation: This position is part-time, exempt, and at-will. The compensation for this position is set at \$22,500 at 20 hours/week for one year, formally ending in June 2022, with a limited benefits package, and potential for growth within the organization.

Equal Opportunity Employment: AUA works affirmatively to provide equal opportunity among its workforce and does not discriminate in the selection of its staff on the basis of race, color, religion, sex, national origin, age, sexual orientation, disability, income, marital status, or any other dimension of identity. We strongly encourage applications from diverse candidates, particularly individuals from groups that have been historically under-represented, including but not limited to women, people of color, and immigrants (including individuals who were formerly detained, incarcerated, undocumented, or who have navigated the immigration legal system).

Other duties: The above job description is meant to describe the general nature and level of work to be performed. It is not an exhaustive list of all responsibilities, duties, or skills required for the position. Employees will be required to follow other job-related instructions and perform other job-related duties as requested by their supervisor, in compliance with federal and state laws.

To apply for this position: Submit the following documents to jobs@auachicago.org

- a) Resume
- b) In place of a cover letter, submit responses to the following questions (all responses combined should be no more than 1 page)
 1. Why are you interested in working with Advocates for Urban Agriculture?
 2. Briefly describe how your past professional experiences have prepared you to succeed in this role.
 3. In this role, you will be expected to develop and strengthen community relationships. Provide an example of a time you developed a relationship with a community member/organization in a professional setting. What approach did you take?
 4. In your own words, define solidarity and how you believe it applies to our work at AUA. In addition, provide one example of how you practice solidarity in your personal and/or professional life.