Host Site Name: SCAN-Harbor

Position Title: Get Healthy East Harlem Program Advocate

Location: Martin Luther King Towers Cornerstone Center, 2 West 115th Street, New York, NY 10026

Tentative Schedule: M-F 10am-6pm

# of member Slots in this Position: 1

Need for the specific project on which AmeriCorps Member is serving:

- Launched in 2015, our GHEH program educates and empowers program participants through culinary training and nutrition education. GHEH’s core goals are to engage, empower and educate NYCHA residents and the surrounding community with the knowledge and skills needed to produce healthy lifestyle changes.

- The Get Healthy East Harlem (GHEH) program is in need of an advocate for the program who will simultaneously advocate for and be part of program execution. GHEH aims to add the production of garden produce as a learning component to the program curriculum.

- The GHEH program has been successful at introducing healthy foods through cooking labs, training sessions, and including program participants in community events where youth in the program have advocated for healthy foods, armed with the education they received from the program.

- As a next step in the healthy food education journey of program participants, GHEH wants to introduce the youth and adults involved in the program to the garden and farming components of produce production.

Expectations and Goals for the specific project on which AmeriCorps Member is serving:

By including a garden bed at a NYCHA development and adding to an already robust healthy foods curriculum as led by the Get Healthy East Harlem (GHEH), SCAN-Harbor aims to add an innovative and productive component to the healthy foods and nutrition education. At the completion of a NYCHA Health Corps Member’s 9-month program, SCAN-Harbor expects to have the following accomplished:
• 2-4 Garden Beds planted with produce. The Member will partake in the planning and executing of this planting phase.
• 800 total NYCHA residents are reached with advocacy efforts, receiving education about healthy foods available via the GHEH program. Service Member will hold at least 6 information sessions that may occur jointly with other events scheduled at the NYCHA development.
• 400 total program participants served in some capacity by the project. Service Member to facilitate at least 6 teaching demonstrations of both gardening and cooking to engage NYCHA residents in the process of healthy food production.
• 100 total youth to participate in the preparing, planting, and production of the garden beds. Service Member to facilitate at least 6 teaching demonstrations of both gardening and cooking to engage youth in the process of healthy food production.
• 20 training sessions to be held for participants teaching about the benefits of gardening.
• The expectation is that 70% of the Member's time would be spent in the field either gardening, meeting with NYCHA residents, hosting teaching demonstrations, etc. The remaining 30% of their time would be spent planning and operating the logistics of the program (ordering needs, creating timelines, preparing educational materials etc.)

**Member Position Summary:**

The Get Healthy East Harlem Program Advocate will work with program staff on developing a garden that will produce healthy foods. The Service Member will be in charge of creating teaching demonstrations for the garden, as well as advocating for healthy foods. The Service Member's work will have a direct impact on the effectiveness of the GHEH program's goals of advocating for healthy foods, and demonstrating the benefits of healthy foods for NYCHA residents.

**Detailed Tasks:**

• Participate in learning session hosted by program director of Get Healthy East Harlem (GHEH) to learn about the program, and the goals and expectations for the Service Member.
• Provide ideas and insights into the conceptualizing of the garden bed project and the advocacy component of the project. This would include brainstorming of methodology of how to advocate for the project with NYCHA residents.
• Cooperate in the planning process of the garden bed project and the physical planting of the 2-4 garden beds. The Member will provide ideas and insights on what to be planted, when, how, and include a timeline of goals for the garden beds production.
• Cooperate in the planning process of the advocacy needs for the project.
The Member will provide ideas and insights on the schedule and logistics of advocating for GHEH with NYCHA residents—such as when to partake in events, or canvassing, or how to get the word out to NYCHA residents about the program and its plans. The Member’s insights will help SCAN-Harbor reach the goal of reaching 400 total program participants across the life of the project.

- The Member will be responsible for the execution of the planting of the garden beds. Once a plan is completed, the Member will ensure the planting is completed as well. This will include the physical planting and staying to the schedule that had been planned.
- The Member will be responsible for the execution of the advocacy efforts for the GHEH program, ensuring that at least 400 NYCHA residents are reached about the benefits of Healthy Foods education through at least 6 teaching demonstrations, canvassing, informal conversations, and other methods deemed appropriate.

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**Required Skills for AmeriCorps Members (set for all program members):**

- Strong commitment to national service and the mission of the host site
- Desire to work in the non-profit sector
- Desire to serve with diverse communities
- Excellent organizational and communication skills
- Ability to conduct community outreach and make presentations to community groups
- Willingness to take initiative to achieve goals
- Strong project management/multi-tasking abilities
- A clear plan for living on the AmeriCorps stipend in New York City
- Availability to lead and/or attend events during evening and weekend hours (frequency varies by position)
- Minimum high school diploma or equivalency
- Ability to pass a criminal background check
- US Citizen or lawful permanent resident (AmeriCorps regulations)
Preferred Academic or Experience Qualifications, Knowledge, Skills, and Abilities:

- Personal and/or professional experience with gardening and nutrition education highly preferred.
- Ability to conduct community outreach and engage as a partnership with community groups.
- Willingness to take initiative to achieve goals.
- Strong foundation in project management/multi-tasking abilities.
- Strong foundational skills in gardening and nutrition education.
- Honed skills in cultural fluency and competence.
- Good academic record, a dynamic highly motivated and driven individual, with an interest in nutrition education and/or agricultural affairs.

*Please note*: The duties and responsibilities in this service position description may be subject to change. In the rare event that there are any changes, members will be notified prior to beginning the service year and the position description will be amended. All changes will be reviewed and approved in advance by NYC Service.