

Alice Aycock Poe Center for Health Education

Job Description

Position: Garden Occasional Health Educator

Reports To: Senior Health Educator

Position Summary:

Under the direction of the Senior Health Educator, the Garden Health Educator delivers consistent, high quality health education to children PreK-12 and their families. The Poe Center has curriculum for five broad health education topics: general health, family life, dental health, drug education and nutrition/physical activity.

In conjunction with the Senior Health Educator, the Garden Health Educator assists in the research, design and development of garden and health education curriculum and supplemental materials. The Garden Health Educator assists in the development and delivery of comprehensive evaluations for students and ensures comprehensive evaluation of reaction, learning, behavior change and results for all interventions. S/he provides initiative in expanding Poe Center program capacity. The Garden Health Educator is responsible for delivering instructional programs at the Poe Center and offsite, including teacher training, community outreach and development and maintenance of resource materials.

Qualification Requirements:

- Bachelor's degree in Health /Prevention Education or an equivalent combination of work experience and college level course work.
- Minimum of two years of practical education/teaching experience in learner centered training environments.
- Demonstrated understanding of the principles of prevention best practices, health education, experiential learning techniques and the art of teaching.
- Demonstrated experience in program implementation and evaluation.
- Strong commitment to the Poe Center's mission.
- Demonstrated excellence in written, oral and interpersonal communication skills.
- Excellent presentation and facilitation skills.
- Ability to relate to students (Pre K - 12 and adult)
- Ability to be flexible under pressure.
- Ability and willingness to see where help is needed and to be part of the Poe team.
- Proficiency in use of educational and office technologies, including, but not limited to Microsoft Word, PowerPoint and Excel.

Major Duties and Responsibilities:

- Delivers SNAP-ED programming to eligible school and community groups
- Plans, maintains and supports improvements in the Poe Center garden. Manages the garden, plans and prepares for work activities, manages planting schedule, ensures availability of necessary materials.
- Assists with the development of new and innovative curriculum, instructional methods and supplemental materials regarding gardening
- Consults with partner organizations
- Consults with food retailers, farmers, food distributors and farmers market.
- Assists local and district schools and community groups in the creation and maintenance of gardens
- Oversees and coordinates students' hands-on experiences in the garden.
- Aligns lessons with common core standards.
- Supervises program interns who assist with garden and activities. Coordinates with volunteers and youth groups.
- Seek and incorporate methods of instruction that will enhance and enrich the learning experience. Explore and implement strategies which promote experiential learning.
- Develop and implement on-going evaluation of program effectiveness and preference.
- Assist in the research and development of new and innovative curriculum and instructional methods based on assessed need and demand.
- Work with the Education Team to promote Poe Center programs in the community
- Research, develop and as necessary purchase supplemental materials for program implementation
- Promote the mission and goals of the Poe Center through outreach efforts in the community and during on-site tours and program promotions.
- Be responsive to the needs of other staff and Board volunteers as time and expertise allows.
- Contribute to proposal writing for grants requiring garden education components.
- Master the course content of each program offered at the Poe Center in the five curriculum areas, developing a proficiency in those areas specified by the Senior Program Manager.
- Perform other duties and responsibilities as assigned by the Senior Health Educator.

Knowledge, Skills and Abilities:

- A thorough understanding and mastery of the principles of education. (learner centered, experiential, popular education)
- Experience in curriculum design and development, education.
- Facilitation or teaching experience with youth.
- Knowledge and skills in organic food production or home gardening.
- Knowledge of topics such as urban gardening, health and nutrition, food access, and food systems.
- Ability to make independent decisions and manage various responsibilities with minimal supervision.
- Ability to develop clear, concise program goals, objectives, work plans and reports. Ability to work effectively as a team member in a diverse workplace.