



In the soil of our urban farm and garden, people find the tools they need to build a home in the world.



Connecting with Community & Social Work Program Manager

Hours: 25 hours/week

Rate: \$20/hour

Reports to: Executive Director

Benefits: Pro-rated vacation and sick time; accrual max applies

Position open until filled

Applications: Mail resume, cover letter and contact information for three references to Darrie Ganzhorn, Executive Director, P.O. Box 617, Santa Cruz, CA 95061 or email to darrieg@homelessgardenproject.org. Resumes will be accepted until position is filled.

Description of Organization and General Function

The **Homeless Garden Project** (HGP), a 501c3 nonprofit based in Santa Cruz, CA, provides job training, transitional employment and support services to people experiencing homelessness. In complement, HGP operates a vibrant community volunteer and education program. The training, employment, education and volunteer programs take place in a 3.5 organic farm and related enterprises.

Our Connecting with Community program builds trainee well-being to support trainees' sustainable transition into a job. Trainees work in partnership with the social work team, consisting of a social work supervisor and interns, to connect with community resources, and set and work towards short and long-term goals.

www.homelessgardenproject.org

MAIL
PO Box 617
Santa Cruz, CA 95061

PHONE
(831) 426-3609

FARM
Delaware at Shaffer Road
Santa Cruz

DOWNTOWN STORE
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The Social Work team works one-on-one with trainees to promote their full participation in our job training and transitional employment programs. Needs such as health care, legal issues, transportation and shelter are addressed throughout the year. With our social work team, trainees identify goals that will create and sustain their own well-being. The team monitors trainee progress toward goals and supports meaningful engagement in accomplishing goals. In addition, our social work interns and staff foster trainee progress toward unsubsidized employment as a key long-term goal related to a career plan.

Support services are considered a best practice in transitional jobs for people who experience barriers to employment. Our program uses Motivational Interviewing and is centered on a Positive Psychology model.

HGP is in an exciting period of growth, preparing to move our farm from its temporary 3.5-acre site to a permanent 9.5-acre farm site, within a 20-acre site on City of Santa Cruz Pogonip park land. This new permanent site will allow us to triple our job training capacity, over time, providing 50 positions each year.

As we prepare for this expansion of services, HGP seeks an experienced and dedicated individual to lead the Connecting with Community and Social Work program. The ideal candidate will also have a commitment to ending homelessness and have experience with employment and workforce programs.

Reporting to the Executive Director, the Connecting with Community and Social Work Program Manager is responsible for HGP's support services program, including coordination with the Transitional Jobs program, overseeing MSW intern and volunteer social workers, ensuring quality delivery of client-centered services to our trainees, developing and maintaining a strong network with local service providers, supporting planning for our program expansion and ongoing program development.

Responsibilities

- Orient, train and supervise MSW interns and volunteers to include:
 - Theory and practice of social work
 - Administration and paperwork
 - Referrals and community resources
 - Crisis intervention and problem solving
 - Support recruitment of MSW interns
- Attend partner University Faculty Field Instructor orientation
- Connect Homeless Garden Project and trainees to appropriate local services and providers including:
 - Smart Path/Coordinated Entry
 - Housing workgroups and services
 - Prosperity network
 - Health, counseling, legal, and educational opportunities
- Identify additional relevant network opportunities
- Provide crisis support for trainees

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- Facilitate and support group meetings, such as circle and real talk
- Support development and delivery of CBT curriculum
- Coordinate pre- and post-surveys with Blum Center at UCSC
- Ensure continuity of social work from trainee experience during the summer MSW intern break-- by supervising a transitional team and managing a caseload of trainees
- With Volunteer Coordinator, plan, oversee and develop alumni program to accomplish HGP goals of job retention, career advancement and stable housing.
- Support outcome tracking process
- Other duties as assigned

Qualifications

- Master's degree in social work
- At least two years' experience in the social work field
- Proficient computer skills, including Microsoft Office Suite (Word, PowerPoint, and Excel)
- Ability to work both independently and take direction
- Motivation to take on additional community involvement projects and solve problems
- Comfort in a fast-paced environment
- Familiarity with and commitment to Positive Psychology and Motivational Interviewing approach
- Experience with supervision of volunteers and interns
- Experience working with diverse populations and dedication to social justice principles.

We are proud to be an equal opportunity workplace dedicated to cultivating a diverse and inclusive work environment. We believe that diversity is essential to achieving our mission. HGP does not discriminate in employment on the basis of race, color, religion, sexual orientation or gender identity, or parental status.

We strongly encourage people of all races, ethnicities, gender identities, sexualities, classes, and religious identities to apply.

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