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Athens Land Trust is recruiting a dynamic Community Agriculture Director who is willing to continue to grow our Community Agriculture program. The following outlines some of the details of who we are looking for:

Community Agriculture Director Job Description

The Community Ag Director represents and leads Athens Land Trust's community agriculture strategy. They oversee all aspects of outreach, community development around urban gardening and farming, entrepreneurship linked to markets, external relations, implementing strategic plans and policies approved by the Board of Directors. Leading the team on overall programmatic priorities the Community Ag Director also motivates the team to meet strategic outputs and ultimately outcomes. The Director is adept at navigating and negotiating complex relationships, which result in addressing social justice in the context of community, economic, and agriculture development in Athens and surrounding counties.

Key Responsibilities

1. Be a leader in community agriculture, particularly regarding tools to achieve healthy communities and sustainable agriculture in Athens, including technical support to urban farmers and entrepreneurs, community gardens, and implementing community ag programming.
2. Ensure that Community Agriculture programs are fully funded through application to and participation in all applicable USDA agency funding sources and Community Development Block Grants in Economic Development. Recent funding sources have included, but are not limited to: 2501, FMPP, UAIP, CFP, United Way, and CDBG.
3. Work with ALT staff to successfully implement farmer market and community ag projects, determine community needs around locally grown food, design new innovative interventions that meet the identified community needs. Negotiate complex and innovative partnerships and community solutions with beneficiaries, stakeholders and government agencies.
4. Use community, economic, and agriculture development tools to support disenfranchised residents in low to moderate income neighborhoods to engage in green open space, community gardens, and increase access to locally grown food. Locate and develop sources of funding for community ag projects, especially funding to support youth and community garden projects.
5. Implement the strategic direction and community ag priorities to position the organization as a major community ag and social justice partner in Athens. Includes development and implementation of government relations, speaking at events and meetings, presenting at conferences, participating in working groups at the local, regional and state levels, building partnerships, developing funding strategies, and developing and implementing an annual work plan in support of the community ag program.
6. Maintain and grow the organization's network of partners and allies, forming coalitions to support creative social justice and environmental solutions.
7. Manage project deliverables and budgets related to grant funding, including reporting and budgeting for numerous funding streams. This requires managing multiple complex grants including government grants, while keeping abreast of multiple ongoing projects.

8. Support the organization to identify and recruit future members of the Community Agriculture Committee and Board of Directors.
9. Support and foster success of Community Agriculture Program staff to ensure a safe and fair environment that encourages collaboration, new ideas, and provides a respectful and supportive workspace.
10. Manage relationships with staff, interns, volunteers, landowners, clients and consultants to execute the projects and initiatives of the Community Ag Program.

Additional Requirements Applicable To All ALT Employees

- Maintain regular in-office hours to answer email and phone inquiries, contribute to emerging projects, and coordinate with fellow staff, etc.
- Contribute to newsletters, monthly and annual reports, brochures and other educational materials as related to program(s) of primary responsibility as well as overall organization
- Assist with fundraising (including, but not limited to, grant applications, special events, and meeting with potential donors)
- Attend weekly staff meetings and prepare detailed timesheets
- Be part of a team—provide support for all staff members in their respective duties

Qualifications:

The Community Agriculture Director is an individual with high ethical standards, excellent strategic planning skills, and the ability to connect with people from all walks of life. They actively seek opportunities to build relationships with new partners and give public talks, and have a track record of engaging diverse groups—public, private, and nonprofit—in delivering on-the-ground community agriculture results. They have the ability to focus in on details and simultaneously see the 30,000-foot view, and can clearly communicate the importance of both. They have successfully negotiated complex transactions, including securing public and private funding.

A background of achieving social justice in the context of Agriculture, Natural Resources, Environmental Science, Planning, or a related field is preferred. They have a demonstrated ability to successfully prioritize and execute multiple projects with varying timelines and degrees of difficulty. They are comfortable with a fast-paced environment and adjusting on the fly to accommodate emerging projects and needs. Superb communication (verbal, written and visual) and time management skills are essential to success in this role. They have a strong history of working as a member of a team, effectively collaborating with outside partners as well as colleagues.

Find more information about Athens Land Trust at: <https://athenslandtrust.org>