



## THE FOOD PROJECT-BOSTON BUILD-A-GARDEN PROGRAM FELLOW

Massachusetts Promise Fellows deliver the resources that young people need to be successful in life by **mobilizing** and **organizing** community activity, **creating** and **leading** powerful initiatives, and **training** and **inspiring** citizen volunteers.

**The Massachusetts Promise Fellowship** achieves this by placing Fellows with non-profit organizations and state/local government agencies that focus on fulfilling the needs of our youth by providing; *a caring adult, a safe place, a healthy start, a marketable skill, and an opportunity to give back.*

### SERVICE DESCRIPTION

**The Food Project's** mission is to create a thoughtful and productive community of youth and adults from diverse backgrounds who work together to build a sustainable food system. This community produces healthy food, provides youth leadership opportunities, and inspires and supports others to create change in their own communities. Youth from Boston and the surrounding area work closely with one another as they explore issues of food justice, gain an understanding of sustainable agriculture, and develop personally as young adults. Teens start with our six-week Summer Youth Program, and in their second year, can join our Internship Program, where they apply their skills and knowledge to become leaders, improving food access in underserved communities and educating people of all ages. The Build-a-Garden Program Fellow will coordinate the newly restructured Community Programs Internship, focusing on two significant expansions of our Build-a-Garden (B-a-G) Program, which provides residents with resources to grow their own food. These expansions will harness the energy and hard work of area teenagers to create a system of neighborhood clusters which will connect garden participants to each other for more support and to establish new large-scale gardens at housing developments. The Fellow will be responsible for all youth development aspects of the new Community Programs Internship including mentoring youth, teambuilding, and facilitating feedback sessions.

### SPECIFIC RESPONSIBILITIES

- Manage the creation of a network of neighborhood clusters comprised of gardeners in the B-a-G program
- Work with youth to develop a strategic recruitment plan to promote the B-a-G program at affordable housing developments in Boston
- Train youth interns to lead components of housing development garden programs, such as outreach to residents and workshops on garden planning and maintenance
- Lead site visits and installations of raised bed gardens
- Lead all youth development components of Food Project youth program
- Travel at least once/month to Fellowship meetings, retreats, and training

### QUALIFICATIONS

- Drivers license and ability to drive larger vehicles in city is **required**
- Familiarity with Boston neighborhoods helpful
- Preference given to candidates from Roxbury, Dorchester, or Mattapan

#### Massachusetts Promise Fellowship

Northeastern University ♦ 360 Huntington Avenue, 212 CP ♦ Boston, MA 02115  
masspromisefellows@neu.edu ♦ www.masspromisefellows.org

- Fluency in Cape Verdean Creole, Spanish, or Portuguese strongly preferred
- Interest in issues related to food access, farming, and environmental justice
- Enjoy outdoor and physical work, and able to lift 50 pounds
- Some Saturday and evening work required
- Excellent organizational/communication skills and ability to work in fast paced environment
- An interest in and commitment to national and community service
- Experience working with youth
- The desire to work with diverse constituencies
- Flexibility and a sense of humor
- Ability to see the big picture
- Strong analytical and problem solving skills
- Professional and mature
- Must be a US Resident, US National or Permanent Resident Alien

The Food Project is an Equal Opportunity Employer that is committed to creating a multicultural organization. Candidates from diverse backgrounds are encouraged to apply.

#### **BENEFITS**

For a one year full-time commitment and 1700 hours of AmeriCorps service Fellows receive:

A taxable living allowance of \$269/week ♦ Comprehensive health care benefits ♦

Excellent training opportunities ♦ FREE courses at Northeastern University in the College of Professional Studies ♦

Loan forbearance and a \$5,550 educational award

#### **CONTACT INFORMATION**

**Apply ASAP!** Applicants are hired on a rolling basis. Send a letter of interest, resume and contact info for three references **ASAP and before May 27<sup>th</sup>, 2011** preferably electronically to:

Kathleen Banfield

The Food Project

555 Dudley Street

Dorchester, MA 02125

Phone: 617-442-1322 X12

Fax: 617-442-7918

Email: [kbanfield@thefoodproject.org](mailto:kbanfield@thefoodproject.org)

Website: [www.thefoodproject.org](http://www.thefoodproject.org)

#### **MORE INFO**

- Interviews will take place throughout April and May of 2011 until position is filled.
- Hiring decisions will be made on or before June 17th, 2011
- Program start date is August 2011
- **Visit [www.masspromisefellows.org](http://www.masspromisefellows.org) for detailed program information**

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The Massachusetts Promise Fellowship is committed to providing equal opportunities. We serve and partner with diverse organizations, and are dedicated to non-discrimination. It is our policy to ensure that all individuals with whom we are in contact are treated without regard to age, color, disability, gender, marital status, national origin, religion, sexual orientation or expression, or veteran status. We require that all our partners make reasonable accommodations for any and all individuals with a permanent or temporary disability. We actively partner with organizations representing minority concerns and interests to build high-performing teams that mirror the communities we serve.

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**Northeastern University**  
College of Professional Studies

