

Job Description: EcoHub Environmental Instructor

About us



Better Days was established in 2015 in response to the influx of refugees arriving on Lesbos, Greece. We are an international team united by a fierce determination to bring environmental stewardship and compassion into the delivery of humanitarian aid. Whether we are doing emergency response, legal support or education, we continue to emphasize the importance of participatory practices, supporting and collaborating with local efforts, and fostering agency among our beneficiaries.



The EcoHub, our environmental education headquarters, focuses on the creation of human-centered spaces that nurture, inspire, and raise environmental awareness. It was created to provide non-formal education, environmental activities, and relaxation opportunities to asylum-seekers. The idea is to empower through gardening and connect people to the earth through hands-on interaction with planting, maintaining, and harvesting fresh organic produce.

Scope of Work

We are looking to invest in a committed and dynamic educator who will be primarily responsible for the management of EcoHub's garden spaces at One Happy Family (OHF), and secondarily for consulting and supporting in the planning and instruction of BD's environmental programming in other areas of OHF. Better Days' EcoHub mission for 2019 is to offer environmental literacy and vocational training (curriculum, lesson plans, logistics); to customize an efficient waste management system for OHF (needs assessment and implementation); to assess the future possibility of in-house food production and composting, greywater systems, upcycling and recycling; and to form and lead a environmental subcommittee with viable partnerships (existing and expansion) who are interested in implementing greener solutions in humanitarian relief systems, using OHF as a viable case study.

The ideal candidate will possess permaculture and gardening experience (professional and academic), knowledge of horticulture therapy, and excellent problem-solving and management skills. He/she will be creative, passionate about regenerative systems and implementing eco-friendly solutions, a confident tutor and mentor, able to meet the standards of quality reporting and administrative deliverables promptly, and enthusiastic about working with people from a variety of backgrounds. He/she will be a central player in our EcoHub team, whose charge is to green the humanitarian field through regenerative and replicable actions in food production, waste management, horticulture therapy, education, and economic opportunity.

Responsibilities

1. Create and maintain gardens at multiple sites, including compost production
2. Create lesson plans and teach environmental courses to children and adults
3. Ensure harvest is maximized and delivered to the appropriate partners
4. Make sure accurate records are kept and assist EcoHub manager with monitoring and evaluation
5. Lead, train, and supervise EcoHub volunteers
6. Communicate regularly with partner organizations as needed
7. Communicate regularly with Better Days team, including via organizationally adopted software (e.g. Trello, Slack, etc.)
8. Submit Weekly Progress report to Better Days core team
9. Assist with other EcoHub projects both on- and off-site as needed

Candidate Characteristics

Required Characteristics

- Fluent in English
- Excellent organizational skills and ability to meet deadlines
- Self-motivated and able to work independently
- Experience and expertise in gardening, composting, permaculture, and related sustainability topics
- Demonstrated teaching ability with children and adults (mentoring)
- Collaborative and efficient
- Excellent communication skills with all stakeholders
- Compassionate, considerate, and positive attitude
- Commitment and available to work with us until the end of 2019
- Computer skills sufficient to complete required data collection and reporting
- Flexibility and willingness to assist with related projects as needed
- Eligible to work in Greece
- Valid European or International Driving Permit

Desired Competencies

- Experience with environmental education
- Experience with or knowledge of horticulture therapy
- Conversant in Farsi/Dari, Greek, Arabic, and/or French
- Previous humanitarian experience with asylum seekers
- Relevant higher educational background
- Experience in recycling and/or alternative waste management strategies
- Experience in sustainable technologies or related subject matter
- Experience in working with large multicultural groups
- Experience in reporting and project management

Additional Information

Full time

Duration: 4 months with possible renewal

Earliest start date: May 20, 2019

Compensation: Salary and benefits according to Better Days' policy

Location: Lesvos

To apply, please send your cover letter, CV, and references to eco@betterdays.ngo. Position open until filled.