

Laura Flower

SUMMARY

Dynamic and tested skillset rooted in diversity, community enhancement and collaboration; strengths include:

- Developing programs, services, and products.
 - Informed and creative problem-solving.
 - Strong interpersonal and communication skills.
 - Dedication to underserved communities through food access and education.
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PROFESSIONAL EXPERIENCE

Merit Medical, Employee Garden Program
South Jordan, UT

05/2016 – Present

Director, Garden Engagement & Employee Wellbeing

- Responsible for the initiation and development of five programs within Merit Farm & Garden. Programs include community garden, workshops and education, crop production Merit cafeteria and U-Pick Garden, as well as annual plant sales and fundraising.
- Manages participant recruitment, training, and education of roughly 200 employees annually for Merit's employee community garden program.
- Responsible for the hiring, training, and management of all garden staff members.
- Collaborates with state, non-profit, corporate, and independent partners, as well as external audiences.
- Cultivates relationships a diverse range of participants, including refugee and emigrant communities.
- Responsible for crop planning, production, harvesting and delivery.
- Manages year-round greenhouse production.
- Collaborates on wellness initiatives with Chief Wellness Officer, dietitian, and HR team.
- Contributes to annual budget development, management, and adherence.
- Initiates annual metrics to assess program impact and areas for improvement.
- Actively practices Spanish-speaking skills.

AmeriCorps VISTA, Utahns Against Hunger
Salt Lake City, UT

02/2014 - 02/2015

Outreach Worker and Volunteer Coordinator

- Managed the expansion of food stamps at farmers market through USDA grant.
- Collaborated with local, state, and nonprofit agencies.
- Conducted presentations at both regional and national conferences.
- Created manuals, training, and outreach materials.
- Coordinated Summer Food Service children's activities.
- Recruited and trained volunteers.
- Assisted with the management of several social media platforms.
- Generated press coverage, including print and television interviews.

New Roots of Utah
West Valley City, UT

03/2013 - 09/2013

Micro-training Farm Manager and Technical Supervisor

- Managed summer interns throughout the season.
- Worked with refugee participants of diverse ages, cultures, and personal backgrounds.
- Coordinated and supervised volunteer groups.
- Assisted participants in planting, maintaining, and harvesting garden plots according to design plans.
- Generated and managed physical farm projects and goals.
- Assisted with workshops for program participants.
- Generated online tools for staff members, such as participants' monthly task lists and staff calendar.

New Roots of Utah
West Valley City, UT

03/2012 - 12/2012

Community Garden Coordinator

- Generated and conducted garden workshops for more than forty program participants.
- Worked with participant family members and translators to instill workshop objectives and goals.
- Assisted with management of volunteer outreach, coordination, and supervision.
- Managed projects for summer intern throughout the season.
- Assisted with the management of physical farm projects.
- Helped to generate and execute end-of-year reports and evaluations.
- Contributed to the management of two greenhouses.

EDUCATION

University of Utah
Salt Lake City, UT

09/2009 - 12/2012

B.S in Psychology

- Continual Dean's List member, with a cumulative GPA of 3.8
- Member of the Phi Eta Sigma Honor Society
- Research Assistant in Behavioral Science

ADDITIONAL EXPERIENCE

Worldwide Opportunities in Organic Farming (WWOOF)
New Zealand

08/2015 - 11/2015

Volunteer Farmer

- Lived and worked on four different farms throughout New Zealand.
- Learned various organic farming techniques using permaculture and biodynamic techniques.
- Achieved daily tasks as outlined by hosts.
- Worked with various animals, including cows, goats, chickens, and ducks.
- Learned about seed saving and propagating fruit trees
- Planted, pruned, and mulched seasonal trees.

REFERENCES

Dr. Nichole Priest
Chief Wellness Officer, Merit Medical
[REDACTED]

Jason Quigley
Director, Facilities, Merit Medical
[REDACTED]

Supreet Gill
Project Coordinator, New Roots of Utah
[REDACTED]

Marti Woolford
Nutrition Initiatives Director, Utahns Against Hunger
[REDACTED]