Farm to School Program Technician

Department: RCIS- Superintendent- FTS Program
Supervisor: FTS Coordinator
Status: Full-Time 12 Month- Grant Funded
Classification: Non-Exempt

MISSION

The mission of Red Cloud Indian School, Inc. (RCIS), a Catholic institution administered by the Jesuits and the Lakota people, is to develop and grow as a vibrant Church, through an education of the mind and spirit that promotes the values of the Lakota culture.

RCIS includes two elementary schools, a high school, The Heritage Center, and ten churches on Pine Ridge Indian Reservation in southwestern South Dakota. By integrating both Lakota culture and heritage with spiritual beliefs and practices from the Lakota and Catholic traditions, RCIS aims to educate both the mind and the heart of its students, parishioners, and staff, creating leaders of tomorrow with competence, conscience, and compassion.

Position Summary:
The Red Cloud Farm to School (FTS) technician will be responsible for completing daily farm tasks (including but not limited to weeding, watering, planting, harvesting, and pest management), maintaining spaces to ensure functionality and longevity as well as to create a welcoming and safe environment for youth and other visitors, and provide support for the educational programming offered by the farm to school initiative. Must be willing to work outside in various weather conditions and be able to take initiative in noticing needed work and completing repairs that need to take place. Independent problem solving is an important skill for this role. The FTS Technician should also be willing to assist activities with youth at times. The FTS Technician may also be asked to attend meetings, training, or workshops related to horticulture, education, or food sovereignty. Due to the nature of the position the technician may be asked to check-in on the growing spaces each day which may include being asked to come in on weekends or holidays.

I. DUTIES AND RESPONSIBILITIES:

A. Curricular Support
1. Support student activities at the school farm and assist with student activities
2. Offer creative ideas and suggestions for curriculum development

B. Building and Grounds
1. Daily Responsibilities: Water Plants, Feed Fish, and check the heater and all pipes and do a visual of the building.
2. Weeding the garden and the greenhouse.
3. Regular Pest Management in greenhouse and garden
4. Weekly deep inspections of plants and facilities
5. Harvesting and processing of the produce
6. Collaborate with the Maintenance Department for repairs through maintenance order-desk.
7. Support construction and renovations of new and existing program materials and structures

C. Grant Compliance
1. Must follow grant requirements to ensure compliance. This includes submitting a timesheet detailing grant work completed for grant records.
2. Must use work time to fulfill grant obligations.

II. QUALIFICATIONS:
A. Required Education and Experience:
   • Knowledge through formal education or experience in at least one of the following is required: horticulture, Lakota traditional plants, environmental/agricultural education, animal care, construction/maintenance.

B. Desired and Preferred Qualifications:
   • Experience working with tools and other equipment
   • Knowledge of Lakota traditional plants
   • Knowledge of Lakota language (or willingness to learn)
   • Ability to make repairs and complete farm tasks
   • Willingness to continue education on agriculture, traditional plants, and Lakota language

C. Physical Requirements:
   • Prolonged periods standing, walking, stretching, bending, climbing ladders, kneeling, and pulling.
   • Must be able to lift up to 50 pounds at a time.
   • Must be physically able to operate power equipment.
   • Must be able to work in a variety of weather conditions
   • Must be able to check-in on the growing spaces each day, which may include being asked to come in on weekends or holidays.

Closing Date: Open Until Filled

FY 21 Base Starting Salary  $ 28,000 – 30,000 DOE

To Apply
Email or Submit; cover letter, resume and General Application with any supporting documents to:

Lisa Swallow, Director of Human Resources
Red Cloud Indian School
100 Mission Drive
Pine Ridge, South Dakota 57770
lisaswallow@redcloudschool.org
message (605) 867-5491 ext. 2213