Vida Verde
Summer Caretaker 2020

MISSION STATEMENT
Vida Verde is a nonprofit that promotes educational equity by providing free, overnight, environmental learning experiences for students who don’t otherwise get the opportunity.

ABOUT THE ORG
Vida Verde has a long history of achieving remarkable results through high-quality programs delivered free of charge for 4th-6th grade students. Students interact in the outdoors with their peers and teachers, and they engage in activities meant to nurture positive interpersonal connections, instill a sense of belonging and connection to the natural world, and offer exposure to new and exciting environments and ideas. We are a small, tightly-knit, and exciting organization. Our jobs are the BEST, and so are the people who work here!

With equity as a cornerstone of Vida Verde’s mission, our entire staff intentionally and actively engages in Justice, Equity, Diversity and Inclusion (JEDI) work. We understand and agree that this work is critical in helping young people access high-quality, culturally relevant and inclusive nature education experiences; experiences that will translate into positive outcomes in their traditional classrooms. (read our full JEDI statement below)

JEDI STATEMENT: Vida Verde has a strong culture and values around supporting staff and providing fair pay, quality housing, and generous benefits. The well-being of our staff members is paramount. We encourage and provide funding for professional development opportunities, and help individuals to grow in their roles over time according to their interests and talents.

The Summer Caretaker will assist the Farm & Facilities Manager and help maintain the farm site over the summer while student programs are not in session and while our high school summer program, volunteer days, and donor events are happening. The position is ideal for someone who is experienced with maintenance, and who is handy, physical, detail-oriented, thorough, motivated, versatile and flexible.

Compensation
- This is a 16 hr/week, part-time position in exchange for housing.
- Additionally, for the right applicant, paid hours may be available, up to 40 hrs/week at a rate of $13.50/hour.
- Large private bedroom with closet, storage space, washer/dryer, and a shared living room/kitchen. Access to community hot tub, trails, and creek; in a secluded rural setting.
- Shared food from the garden, eggs from the chickens, milk from the goats.
Site: Vida Verde’s farm site is located at 3540 La Honda Road, San Gregorio, CA 94074. This is a 25-acre property along San Gregorio Creek, 1 hour from San Francisco, 45 minutes from Santa Cruz, and 5 minutes from the coast. The nearest town is Half Moon Bay, which is 15 miles away.

Term of work:
- June 8th–August 17th, 2020
- Weekly schedule will be determined with the Facilities & Farm Manager upon hire. A consistent weekly schedule is required, with a preference for morning and weekend availability.

Summer Caretaker Responsibilities

Duties may include, but are not limited to:

- Weekend Duty: Each weekend one caretaker or the FFM is on animal/greenhouse duty for about 3 hours/weekend, on a rotating basis.
- Goat care: milking, feeding, browsing, pasture care.
- Chicken care: feeding, cleaning coop, collecting eggs.
- Housing renovation: light carpentry, painting, landscaping, road work
- Landscaping: Mowing lawns, weeding, trimming/weed-eating, pruning, fence repair.
- Garden Tasks: weeding, sowing seeds, transplanting, shaping beds, fixing irrigation.
- Prepping the site for donor visits and events.
- Recycling, compost, and landfill duties (including site cleanliness).
- Cleaning and maintaining community hot tub.
- Assistance hosting volunteer groups and leading projects.

Qualifications of a strong applicant

- Inspired by the Vida Verde mission.
- Responsible and reliable.
- Positive attitude
- Experience with maintenance, livestock, gardening, and the outdoors.
- Able to work outside, standing or kneeling for long periods; can lift 50+ lbs.
- Able to follow directives and work unsupervised.
- Versatile and organized; attentive to cleanliness and detail.
- Committed to excellence and full of integrity.

Application Procedure

Send resume and 2 references by email to: Shawn Sears at shawn@vveducation.org
Peter Lansdale at peter@vveducation.org
Paula Alves at paula@vveducation.org

Website: www.Vveducation.org
Values of Vida Verde

The Mission First

We are a mission-centric organization. We make every decision with the kids' benefit and the mission as our guide. We specifically tailor the program to meet the unique needs of the kids we serve, with deep respect for students and their communities.

Persistent Improvement and Our Best Practices

We are driven to continually improve and reach the highest standards across the organization for the benefit of the kids we serve. From program quality to healthy communication, from strategic goal setting to prioritization: we are detail-oriented, reflective, and strive to serve as a model. We balance our best practices and lessons from our history with innovation and inspiration for improvement.

The Environment and Natural Resources

We practice responsible and long-term thinking regarding land stewardship facility management, building, and design. Using resources wisely, we value the earth's resources over convenience and cost, and share that value with the greater community.

Relationships and Community

People are at the heart of this work. We strive to create long-lasting relationships with our staff, supporters, students, and teachers. We believe that by honoring and including diverse perspectives, our organization is stronger and more sustainable. We believe in love, not hate. We help different people see each other and all that we share in common, as well as what we can learn from each other.

Making It Happen

We overcome outrageous obstacles and successfully achieve ambitious goals by using a combination of resourcefulness, a positive mindset, and our team's diverse set of skills and experiences, without compromising our work/life balance and well-being. We know that beliefs lead to actions, which lead to results. We "make it happen" even when circumstances would lead most to think progress impossible.