



Community Gardener - Food production

We are seeking applications for the following part time post:

POST WILL INITIALLY BE FOR 12 MONTHS

Job Description

Overview: Established in 2008 as part of the HSE Health Action Zone & Food Focus initiative, The Glen Community Garden, located within the grounds of The Glen Resource Centre, aims to help local people and communities gain access to quality, fresh fruit and vegetables. Using Community Development principles within the “Rapid” areas of Corks Northside, this role will guide and integrate urban sustainable food production in a community setting.

Over time, the garden's development has been overseen by volunteers, supported by a horticulturist advisor and community partners, ensuring its growth and commitment to sustainable development and health goals.

The Community Gardener will play a key role in sustaining and expanding the existing range of food-growing, biodiversity and sustainability projects at the Centre. This community setting encourages innovation and inclusion, enhancing local ecosystems through partnerships within the community garden network & Health Action Zones, Growing places for Wellbeing project.

The Community Gardener will bring extensive knowledge of organic food growing practices, distribution, and social innovation. They will be motivated to empower and activate community members, fostering connections with residents, volunteers, groups, local schools, and Centre staff.

Principal Duties and responsibilities

- Develop the community food garden in collaboration with the Community Garden Coordinator, volunteers, and centre staff.
- Utilize organic gardening practices with a focus on abundant seasonal fresh produce
- Work to enhance biodiversity and climate action goals in food production methods
- Maintain good environmental, health, and safety practices.
- Learn about the Community Health model and connect community gardening to broader social, health, and environmental benefits.
- Participate in supervision and training as required.
- Develop collective responses to needs within the community, including those experiencing social exclusion.

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Promote inclusive ways of working in order to secure concrete improvements in quality of life for the community Focus on empowerment, user-participation, collective action, partnership and inter-agency working, being respectful of individuals and their communities, promotion of social inclusion and accountability. Seek to support, guide and strengthen the capacities of the community for positive health and equitable health outcomes. Support the work across community agencies.
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The above Job Description is not intended to be a comprehensive list of all duties involved and consequently, the post-holder may be required to perform other duties as appropriate to the post which may be assigned to him/her from time-to-time and to contribute to the development of the post while in office.

Person Specification

Eligibility Criteria	Each candidate must, at the latest date for receipt cv :
Qualifications and/or Experience	<p>Minimum Level 5 or higher in FETAC accredited horticulture or equivalent food growing education</p> <p>At least 2 years of experience in market gardening or food growing social enterprises.</p>
Health	Each candidate must be free from any defect or disease which would render him/her unsuitable to hold office and be in a state of health such as would indicate a reasonable prospect of ability to render regular and efficient service.
Character	Each candidate for and any person holding the office must be of good character.

Essential Requirements

Skills & Competencies	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Working knowledge of organic practices and market garden concepts Enthusiasm for food production in a community garden setting Teamwork and community engagement skills. Commitment to social inclusion and equality Self-motivation, responsibility, and trustworthiness. Adaptability to changing needs, resources, and garden direction.
Experience/ Knowledge	<p>Minimum 2yrs experience in a related field (see details on Professional Qualifications, Experience and Eligibility above)</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Practical horticultural experience, particularly in organic or chemical-free growing methods. Experience working in community-based projects or similar settings.

	<ul style="list-style-type: none">▪ Knowledge of biodiversity, sustainable gardening, composting, and seasonal planting cycles.▪ Experience engaging with and supporting volunteers from diverse backgrounds.▪ Understanding of health and safety practices in a garden or outdoor setting.▪ Awareness of food poverty issues, and the role of community growing in promoting food security.▪ Familiarity with risk assessment procedures and managing shared community spaces.		
Values	<ul style="list-style-type: none">▪ Community Development values▪ Social Inclusion Ethos▪ Social Justice ethos▪ Anti-discrimination▪ Anti-poverty▪ Equal Opportunities ethos		
Personality	<ul style="list-style-type: none">▪ Impartial▪ Non-judgemental▪ Pragmatic▪ Flexible approach▪ Enthusiastic▪ Honest & Trust worthy▪ Excellent understanding of Confidentiality		
<i>Candidates must have access to own transport and full clean driver licence.</i>			
<u>Terms and Conditions of Employment</u>			
Tenure	The current vacancy is one year A panel may be created from which further vacancies may be filled. <i>The continuation of this post is subject to funding being available</i> Terms: Fixed-term contract for one year (with a 3-month probation period). The position will be offered to the most suitable candidate subject to the provision of two written references (one from the most recent employer) and Garda clearance.		
Working Hours Full-time / Part-Time	26 hours	If Part-time, state specific days / hours per week	4 days
Remuneration	€ 26151		
Annual Leave	The annual leave associated with the post is calculated pro rata of 23 days /35hr week		

Probation	All appointments shall be subject to a probationary period of 3 months
Employment arrangements	The post will be hosted and managed by The Glen Resource Centre Glen Avenue, Cork City, The post holder will also have a reporting relationship Working with & liaising with: The Glen Community Garden Coordination group and HSE Health Action Zone.
Employer	Glen Community Resource Centre
Position funded through	The funding is provided through HSE South West and supported by Cork North and East Community Work Department
<p><u>Application Process</u></p> <p>Please complete attached application form and include a short cover letter detailing suitability for the post.</p> <p>Return via email to glenresourcecentre@gmail.com</p> <p>Shortlisting process will apply</p>	
Postal Address	Glen Resource and Sports Centre, Glen Avenue, The Glen, Cork T23 DH95
Email Address	glenresourcecentre@gmail.com
Closing Date	Monday 2 nd June
Proposed Interview date(s)	Weeks of 16 th – 27 th June
Taking up Appointment	<i>Post begins on 1st September 2025</i>
Location of Post	<i>The Glen Resource Centre and Ballyvolane area and surrounds</i>
Informal Enquiries	Ailish McDonald 087 0979707
<p>Garda Vetting Process will apply for successful candidate</p> <p>Reference Checking for successful candidate will apply</p>	