

GREEN GARDEN BAKERY VOLUNTEER OPPORTUNITY

Organization Description:

Urban Strategies, Inc. (USI) supports more than 30,000 low- to moderate-income families, approximately 100,000 individuals, in 27 unique communities across 15 major metropolitan areas throughout the United States. In Minneapolis, USI has been working for the past 17 years in the Heritage Park neighborhood just outside of downtown. USI's approach places value on integrating both the experiences and ideas of the target residents who will ultimately be participating in the programming that is created. To date within Heritage Park, this approach has resulted in high quality programming that displays strong community support and buy in from partner organizations and residents. Our mission is "All families will be STABLE and THRIVING" and to that end we have implemented a variety of place-based strategies in Heritage Park targeting economic mobility, housing stability, health and wellness and education achievement for all residents. It was out of the youth development programs Urban Strategies had been providing onsite with community partners that the concept of Green Garden Bakery began.

Green Garden Bakery (GGB) is an innovative social enterprise program that was started in 2014 by and for youth in Heritage Park. The youth wanted to capitalize on skills gained through Urban Strategies, Inc's (USI) out of school time programming and create teen employment opportunities in the neighborhood. USI has supported the youth's vision and today GGB has developed a product line of healthy vegetable based desserts using vegetables grown in their community garden that they sell online, at farmer's markets and pop-up sales around the Twin Cities metro. The revenue earned through their sales is divided into thirds to reinvest into operations and payroll, and the final third is invested into a community need that the youth determine for themselves. This business model allowed the youth participants to invest over \$10,000 into the Heritage Park community in 2017. In addition to the gardening, baking and selling components of the social enterprise, over 100 youth in grades K-8 are engaged in GGB and mentored by the high school students involved in the actual operations. These younger youth are learning the basic skills of gardening, baking, entrepreneurship, environmental education, and marketing and design.



Farmer's Market Volunteer Opportunity:

Volunteer will supervise 2-3 Green Garden Bakery teens at local Minneapolis Farmer's Markets, maintain and track a consistent youth attendance, and ensuring compliance with work policies & procedures. We are also looking for volunteers willing to transport sales supplies to and from the Farmer's Market.

Time and day/week options for volunteering:

- Saturdays, 7-1pm
- Mill City Farmer's Market or Midtown Farmer's Market
- Other days of the week available for festivals/special events
 - *We ask that you commit to at least 3 dates throughout the summer and a volunteer farmer's market orientation*

If you are interested in volunteering please fill out this form: <https://bit.ly/2JKOvNb>

Questions please contact:

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To learn more: www.urbanstrategiesinc.org and www.greengardenbakery.org

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