



**SPACES OF
OPPORTUNITY**

Land Manager I Spaces of Opportunity

A start-up nonprofit, with deep community roots and 19-acres of land, home to community farmers, a budding farmers market and gathering space bringing health and wellness to the Roosevelt School District and South Phoenix communities

Timeframe: Fulltime, with ideal start date May 1, 2023

Compensation: \$55,000 to \$65,000, plus benefits

Location: Phoenix, in-person, with regular community-based meetings and on-site presence at Space of Opportunity

Reports To: Executive Director

Further Reading: [Spaces Website](#), [Strategic Plan \(2021-2024\)](#), [Theory of Change](#)

Our History

Spaces of Opportunity was seeded in 2015 through community conversations anchored in a strong desire to directly and intentionally address health and social disparities in South Phoenix rooted in systemic racism. Recently formed as a non-profit, Spaces of Opportunity seeks to build off the community's desires into a thriving hub of wellness and health, to include small-scale farming, an on-site farmers market and gathering space to serve the community. The land provides space for over 20 incubator farmer quarter-acre plots, more than 200 community garden plots, a desert edible garden, a healing garden, a regular farmer's market, a children's nature explore classroom and host a variety of community activities and events. As the organization grows, Spaces of Opportunity is set to be a model for what a holistic local food system rooted in community can be. Spaces of Opportunity is currently a fiscally sponsored organization of the Desert Botanical Garden.

Our Vision & Approach

As a community, we value accessible, open communication that encourages collaboration, networking and the cross-pollination of ideas that result in intentional results and solutions. We thrive on transparency, open-source sharing when possible, mutual support and celebrate diverse perspectives and people. We intentionally seek out ways to make our organization and resources accessible to all communities. We are committed to building an equitable movement and organizational structure – one that works towards inclusion and justice, acknowledges and celebrates diversity and strives to bring this lens to all of our work.

The Land Manager Position

The Land Manager position is crucial to the overall success for Spaces of Opportunity. This is a hands-on position, with the expectation of spending the majority of the time on-site with the farmers. Under the supervisor of the Executive Director, they will be the primary person to directly support the incubator farmer program, as well as to coordinate logistical operation related to the farmer waitlist, recruit new farmers, facilitate regular farmer meetings, manager the farmer handbook to ensure best ecological practices are upheld, train and on-board new farmers, as well as management of core infrastructure functions such as: irrigation system management, ordering soil

supply and material donations and other core functions related to the use of the land at Spaces of Opportunity. The Land Manager will work as part of a team in coordination with the other programs at Spaces of Opportunity.

Essential Duties

- Oversee logistical operations related to the land at Spaces of Opportunity
- Support the coordination of produce purchases from Spaces' farmers
- Direct support to farmers related to problem solving, logistic coordination, and infrastructure oversight
- Networking with farmers and community partners; skill sharing related to best practices
- Oversee design, development and maintenance of core infrastructure systems at Spaces of Opportunity
- Coordinate irrigation system for ordering schedule and water quantifies while managing usage rates of water
- Maintain incubator farmer waitlist, selection criteria, collection of farmer's fees, as well as onboard and orientate new farmers to Spaces of Opportunity mission, practices and expectations.
- Maintain Farmer Manual content and update as needed; Ensure every farmer understands and is able to implement best practices laid out in manual; Provide oversight as needed
- Conduct regular formal and informal assessments of incubator farmers' needs and assets
- Work as part of a team with the Community Gardener Coordinator, Lead Farmer, Farmer's Market Coordinator and volunteer coordinator to ensure overall land functionality
- Data and evaluation metrics for tracking farmer success, i.e. farming methods uses, harvest yields and water usage
- Serve as an ambassador for Spaces of Opportunity to the surrounding community.

Desired Qualifications

- Bachelor's degree in agriculture, environmental studies, urban planning, social work or other related field or comparable combination of education and work experience preferred
- Understanding of urban food systems and racial equity dynamics
- Two years of supervision experience
- Language fluency other than English (Spanish, French and/or Arabic preferred)
- More than five years of experience with bio-intensive and ecologically sustainable growing practices and techniques preferred
- Demonstrated experience in navigating and resolving conflicts between diverse groups
- Experience working within community food systems

Minimum Qualifications

- At least 3 years of experience managing similar scale farming projects
- Familiarity with meeting facilitation
- Ability to work with diverse partners and stakeholders; demonstrated experience working within marginalized communities and communities of color
- Working knowledge of best practices for irrigation, soil health, crop rotation, plant propagation, composting and harvesting
- Demonstrated ability to track and manage planning, crop rotation and harvesting plants as well as yields

- Strong written and verbal communication skills
- Proficiency with Microsoft Word, Excel and Office 365
- Strong urban agricultural background
- Aptitude for logistical planning
- Comfort working within diverse communities
- Commitment to social equity work

To Apply

Submit your resume and cover letter (PDF or Microsoft Word Doc) describing your qualifications and interest in this position to Ryan Thayer, Ryan.Thayer@spacesofopportunity.org by 5:00PM 3/24/2023

Underrepresented community members (Asian American, Black/African-American, Latinx, Native American/Indigenous and Pacific Islander, LGBTQIA+, women, socioeconomically disadvantaged communities, and any additional historically marginalized communities) **within the agricultural industry are strongly encouraged to apply**