Organization Overview: Westcott Community Center is a 501c3 nonprofit organization that serves the east side of the city of Syracuse and beyond. We provide a wide range of programs and services including older adult services such as meals, transportation, activities and transportation, our basic needs pantry, workforce development, and our after-school programs in 5 SCSD schools. We also have many afterhours programs for our community members including Open Figure Drawing, Depression and Bipolar Support Group, and Talk to a Lawyer Program.

Our Mission: To invest in our community by offering essential services and engaging programming to embrace the diverse needs of all.

Our Vision: A community center that meets the evolving needs of individuals and families; strengthening and enriching the current and ever-changing community and neighborhood.

Internship Description: Westcott Community Center is located on the eastside of Syracuse in the University Neighborhood. We occupy a city-owned historical building that once was the local fire station. The grounds at the community center are designed to be inviting for our community and include two rain gardens. The rain gardens were designed and implemented in 2015 to educate community members on their ecological benefits including improving the health of our waterways by guarding them from pollutants that collect in runoff water. This internship is an opportunity to work hands-on restoring our rain garden. This would include design and planting new floral species as well as preserving existing plants. The goal is to restore it to its original beauty and enhance it as a welcoming educational space for the community. This intern would also work to educate staff and community members on the rain garden, its purpose, and best practices for sustainability. Additionally, will develop a written guide on how to sustain the rain garden so that any volunteer, intern, community member or staff person would be able to maintain its restored quality for many years to come. The intern would also restore our rain barrel program and provide some educational sessions for the community.

Qualifications: Must be an ESF student who enjoys working outdoors in summer weather doing physical gardening work. Must be friendly and courteous, and respect diverse populations. They must be punctual, responsible, and able to follow through with assigned projects.

Additional Internship Information:
- Internship period: 10 weeks beginning June 3, 2023
- Approximate hours per week: 30-35 (330 hours total)
- Internship location: Westcott Community Center, 826 Euclid Ave. Syracuse, NY 13210
- As a non-profit/government organization, this internship stipend is completely funded through the ESF Career Development Program; the hourly wage for this position is $15 per hour ($5,000 total stipend).

Interested in applying? Regional Internship Program Application