

June 2, 2017

Nature Nurtures Farm
2406 Delphi Rd SW
Olympia, WA 98512

To Whom It May Concern,

I am enthusiastic to learn more about working as a Development Associate on Nature Nurtures Farm. Presently, I am a member of the Texas Episcopal Service Corps. I work now on a small team to support refugees with complex medical conditions. As my term comes to an end, I aim to begin a second year of service in Olympia. I intend to shift my focus: from migration to ecology, from medical care to mental health.

Looking at Nature Nurtures Farm's website, I felt called to answer questions from the internship application. I have written a few questions myself.

I have pastured sheep, kept stables for donkeys, and maintained chicken coops, but I have never worked with cattle or horses. *What animals are kept on the Farm?* Since a child, I have worked in various gardens—on hillsides, in raised beds, scrunched between roads and canals. *How is the garden organized? What is grown?* I am familiar with the climate and soil in Idaho (volcanic, drains through the Columbia) and Baden-Württemberg (chalky, drains through the Rhine). *What is the geology underneath Olympia? What is the soil gradient?*

I am a strong candidate for the Development Associate position because I have a year of experience with refugee medical case management in Houston and an enthusiasm to explore the connection between psychology and ecology. At the refugee resettlement agency, an employee is "strong," if they successfully advocate for their client. *What makes a "strong" staff member at Nature Nurtures Farm?*

I forward this information with hope to begin a correspondence.

Respectfully,

Colton Grainger

P.S. Outside of my professional interests, I am passionate about cycling, hiking, and computer science. I have ambition to pursue higher education in mathematics and, eventually, work towards environmental preservation.

P.P.S. *I am available via email, by phone after 3:00 P.M. PST, or by scheduled video-chat.*

OBJECTIVE To serve as an AmeriCorps VISTA Development Associate on Nature Nurtures Farm.

SUMMARY OF QUALIFICATIONS

- 1 year of administrative experience in refugee medical case management.
- Prior experience as a ranch-hand: comfortable with large livestock.
- Enthusiasm for mental health, youth development, and sustainability.

EDUCATION **B.S. in Mathematics-Physics** May 2016
The College of Idaho, Caldwell, ID

- Minors: History, English Literature and German Language.

PROFESSIONAL EXPERIENCE **Clerk — Refugee Case Management** September 2016 – July 2017
YMCA International Services, Houston, TX

- Supported 7 staff over 240 client cases (60 medical, 180 social adjustment).
- Scheduled medical appointments and arranged client transportation.
- Obtained low-income healthcare for 30 cases and rental assistance for 5 cases.

Grading Assistant September 2015 – December 2015
The College of Idaho

- Corrected weekly assignments for 25 general physics students.
- Corresponded with faculty to ensure objective and accurate grading.

COMMUNITY INVOLVEMENT **Service Corps Fellow** August 2016 – July 2017
Texas Episcopal Service Corps, Houston, TX

- Completed a year of service (1,800 hours) while living in community.
- Participated in professional development and communication training.

WWOOF Ranch-Hand June 2016 – August 2016
Sonnwendhof Biofarm, Möckmühl, Deutschland

- Worked on a cooperative ranch with German, Italian and Albanian youth.
- Pastured two herds of sheep and maintained a sustainable garden.

Gem Boys State Counselor June 2012, 2013, 2014, 2015
Northwest Nazarene University, Nampa, ID

- Coordinated a summer camp on state government (150 students).

JOB RELATED ABILITIES

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| <p><i>Social Service</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Conflict resolution • Volunteer coordination <p><i>Communication</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Grant writing • Public speaking | <p><i>Physical</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Excellent health • CPR certified <p><i>Technology</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Microsoft Office • HTML5, CSS, L^AT_EX |
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Professional References

Shaoli Bhadra Refugee Medical Care Program Coordinator

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Salimah Shamsuddin Refugee Case Management Program Coordinator

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Katie Devine Assistant Professor of Physics

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Community References

Nick Puccio Houston Director of Texas Episcopal Service Corps

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