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| **Role title** | **Farmyard and Animal Care Volunteer**  |
| **Reporting to** | Farmyard Manager: Jenny BettensonVolunteer and Community Outreach Manager: Ursula Carey |
| **Location**  | Spitalfields City FarmBuxton Street, London E1 5AR |
| **About the role**  | Volunteers are the backbone of Spitalfields City Farm, helping to maintain the farm and gardens, look after the animals and assist in delivering projects. We need support with feeding, mucking out and tending to our animals behavioural and healthcare needs. As a Farmyard and Animal Care volunteer you will work alongside our team and learn about best practice animal welfare and farmyard management. The farmyard is home to our much loved animals who help us to educate and increase awareness of the health and welfare issues for pets and food producing animals. What is produced on the farm is shared with our volunteers and the local community; our vision is to create a space for all, that empowers people to make positive change to their lives, our community, and the planet. |
| **Tasks and activities**  | Under general supervision from one of our expert staff members you will support with feeding our charming animals and monitoring their health and behaviour. You will help us to groom, muck out their homes, collect eggs and accompany them around the farm..You will be able to spend lots of time with our animals and get to know their individual quirks and characteristics. Our volunteers span all ages backgrounds, and cultures, there are always tasks that suit a variety of abilities. |
| **Timing and duration**  | The role would suit someone who can give at least one day per week, volunteering sessions will usually run from 10:00-16:00 however half days can be arranged. We hope that volunteers will stay for at least 6 months, so that both the farm and the volunteer will get the most out of the experience.  |
| **What you will gain** | * Experience of working in an amazing community space.
* Develop your knowledge and understanding of best animal welfare practices.
* Hands on skills in tool use and animal care.
* Working as part of an experienced and knowledgeable staff team
* Community cook ups
* Discount at the shop and café
* Take home produce
* Certificate of contribution
* References
* Develop volunteers’ employability and life skills with support of the team
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| **Useful skills and experience** | This role will suit you if: * You have a willingness to learn
* You are passionate about animal welfare
* Have a basic knowledge of animal care (i.e. pet care)
* You are happy to work independently as well as part of a team
* You are willing to work outdoors (in all weathers)
* You are not afraid of getting your hands dirty
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| **Training and support** | We want to support our volunteers to achieve their goals at the farm, to find a role that suits their interests aims and skills. We offer our volunteers supervision, informal check ins and volunteer meet ups. |
| **Expenses**  | We are committed to ensuring that volunteers do not incur any cost when volunteering. * Travel expenses will be reimbursed up to a maximum value of £11.70 per day.
* Lunch will be provided either directly by the farm or we will pay a daily allowance of up to £4 (upon production of a valid receipt).
* Outerwear can be provided but we ask that volunteers be mindful that we are a working farm and wear suitable clothing and footwear.
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| **Is this role suitable for volunteers with additional needs?**  | We are an inclusive organisation motivated by social justice, we aim to create a space for all and foster social inclusion. We offer volunteering opportunities for those with health, social and educational needs.The Farmyard and Animal care role is physical and can include heavy lifting and regular use of wheelbarrows. Specific needs can be discussed in more detail during the initial farm visit however.  |
| **How to apply for this role**  | Please complete the application form. We will then contact you to arrange an informal chat onsite at the farm. We may request references and a criminal record check (Disclosure and Barring Service check). Previous criminal convictions will not necessarily prevent you from volunteering with us). |
| **How to find out more**  | Please contact the Volunteer and Community Outreach Manager if you would like to discuss the role before applying: Email- volunteer@spitalfieldscityfarm.orgPhone- 020 7247 8762 |