Cobbs Creek Job Opportunity

We’re looking for a creative and dedicated graduate-level student that will help brainstorm the following ideas and processes. We intend to work with community partners to identify integrated solutions to the water resource management challenges in the Cobbs Creek watershed impacting the neighborhood.

1. Familiarize yourself with the History of West Philadelphia and Cobbs Creek Watershed, Political, Social & Environmental History from Prehistory-21st c report.
2. Work with the Water Center Senior Manager to foster deeper relationships with West Philly teachers we’ve connected with thus far. The goal is to develop a robust, STEM educational framework opportunity to be based at CCCEC, focused on activities and hands-on learning. Including but not limited to the following:
   a. Sayre High School (5800 Walnut Street)
   b. West Philadelphia High School (4901 Chestnut Street)
   c. Paul Robeson High School (4125 Ludlow Street)
   d. Mitchell Elementary School (5500 Kingsessing Ave)
   e. Lea Elementary School (4700 Locust Street)
3. Think critically about how to connect STEM programming with activities that West Philly teachers have prioritized, including but not limited to:
   a. Nature immersion
   b. Environmentalism/ Climate change
   c. Tactile, close-up engagement
   d. Science lab and general classroom activities
   e. Reference PWD stream restoration efforts - brainstorm, how we tie this into STEM education opportunities for CC youth, develop a plan, and implement
      i. Facilitate/plan for West Philly students (and Penn students) to join the RES ecologist when he/she samples along the Cobbs this summer.
4. Another goal for this work is to demonstrate to Cobbs Creek youth that there are job opportunities in the environmental field that they can get excited about.
   a. Research existing programs that provide financial support for a summer work experience for high school students and/or think critically about starting our own program. See examples here and here.

We’re hiring for a full-time, summer position with the potential to extend into the fall at $18 per hour.

If interested, please send your resume to both edepalma@sas.upenn.edu and jricks@sas.upenn.edu by Monday, May 23rd, 2022.