

*The mission of Kalamazoo in Bloom is to plant locally grown flowers and plants in public spaces to beautify our metropolitan communities.*



**Job Title:** Portage Gardener (2 positions available sharing responsibilities)

**Reports to:** Executive Director

**Status:** Seasonal independent contractor, part-time (18-20 weeks in the summer)

**Pay Rate:** \$1,235 per person

### **Why work for Kalamazoo in Bloom?**

If you love flowers, gardening, and working with others – and are looking for a little extra spending money – this is the perfect opportunity for you! As one of our gardeners, you will share in the rewarding feeling of making our Kalamazoo and Portage communities beautiful with the annual flowers we plant each May. You will also be able to share your love and knowledge of plants with the community, particularly volunteer bed adopters who help tend flower beds throughout the summer. Your skillful care and guidance will help flowers flourish and also grow the connections volunteers and the community have with KIB.

### **Job Summary:**

The Portage Gardeners are responsible for the overall care and watering of KIB's flower beds and baskets in Portage's City Centre and the containers at City Hall. Train and assist bed adopters who volunteer to maintain a bed throughout the summer and communicate with Portage City staff concerning flowers as needed. KIB gardeners are independent contractors that work seasonally during the summer.

### **Responsibilities:**

- Water beds, flower baskets, and containers daily and report problematic watering situations to Portage City staff
- Perform weeding and deadheading and visually inspect all flowers checking for damage and problems
- Fertilize beds periodically
- Orient volunteers to increase their understanding of KIB and their responsibilities
- Regularly communicate with bed adopters and others throughout the season
- Establish and maintain cooperative working relationships with volunteers, Portage City staff, Kalamazoo in Bloom Board, Executive Director, and Gardener Educator

### **Knowledge, Skills, and Abilities:**

- Master Gardener training preferred but not required
- Professional gardening or landscaping experience
- Internet and Gmail capability
- Valid driver's license and reliable transportation
- Ability to work independently and to work with diverse people

### **Work Environment and Physical Demands:**

- Outdoor work in variable weather with most of the physical work being done in the morning
- Physical activity includes stooping, kneeling, reaching, standing, walking, picking, pinching, grasping
- Occasional lifting of up to 50 pounds

### **To Apply:**

Send resume to [director@kalamazooinbloom.org](mailto:director@kalamazooinbloom.org) with **Portage Gardener position** in the Subject line.