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## Living Reefs Foundation

Bermuda's 1<sup>st</sup> Organisation Dedicated to Coral  
Restoration  
Charity #954

**Job title:** Hatchery/Research Technician

**Start date:** June 1, 2025

**Location:** Coney Island, Bermuda

Living Reefs Foundation is seeking a full-time hatchery/research technician for its upcoming coral spawning season. We are looking for a qualified and driven individual interested to join a growing organisation dedicated to developing scalable and sustainable coral production technologies with novel and effective tools.

The successful candidate has an understanding of seawater systems and flow, a high level of marine husbandry aptitude, common sense in the use of tools and equipment, attention to detail, consistency and reliability, and the realisation that the responsibility of a well-maintained culture system underpins the success of the entire coral culture work.

### **Organisation Description:**

Living Reefs Foundation is a research-based organisation which actively works to develop coral culture techniques for the restoration of coral areas and the development of nature-based solutions for coastal protection. Our approach is based on innovation, collaboration with technological partners and implementation of evidence-based techniques. The Foundation has a land-based hatchery where young corals are produced and transferred to its ocean-based nursery, housing coral gardens, for further growth of young corals until they become self-sustainable. Our work is divided into two main programmes, the Coral Garden Initiative and the Blue Barrier Initiative; the first targets juvenile production research with an awareness raising component through participatory ecotours; the second focuses on integrating corals to artificial breakwaters to strengthen coastal protection and on quantifying the efficacy of the resulting coral-based hybrid barrier using photogrammetry technology.

### **Job Description:**

This position includes technical and research responsibilities and focuses on:

- Maintaining and implementing improvements to the marine culture system on land and in the ocean to maximise production
- Conducting experimental research to optimise standard operating protocols
- Assisting in raising public awareness through Coral Garden ecotours.

Day to day operations include:

- Basic maintenance- basic plumbing (PVC), screen-making, casting coral substrates using moulds, making cement for planting
- Preparation of equipment and materials for field trips
- Upkeep, checks and basic repair of filtration and water delivery systems
- Culture of microalgae and *Artemia sp* using microbiological sterile techniques.
- Monitoring and record keeping of daily seawater parameters and feed in hatchery
- Organise and maintain detail record-keeping of environmental seawater parameters in the field (using submerged loggers), and of hatchery production parameters (coral source, translocation, growth).
- Coral fragmentation (using a diamond bandsaw) and preparation of coral tiles for transfer to the ocean-based nursery
- Assist in experimental research projects using precise scientific equipment
- Measure larval and coral growth and survival using camera-based microscopes, and a range of software (Agisoft, Taglab)
- Monitor juvenile coral growth and survival in ocean-based nursery
- Assist in installing, cleaning and monitoring coral gardens
- Participate in coral collection and rescue missions for damaged corals and translocation
- Assist in photogrammetry and reef health surveys
- Assist in Coral Garden workshops and tours

#### **What to expect:**

The work is labour intensive, particularly during the summer spawning months (June-September). It is a must that the candidate is physically fit and enjoys working in a fast-paced environment with a desire to learn new skills and the intellectual curiosity to improve protocols. The selected candidate will be working with a small but dynamic team and is also expected to have the self-discipline to carry out tasks independently and in a timely manner. Regular working hours are 9 am-5 pm, with flexible hours required during busy periods. Shifts are scheduled for weekends, as staff is needed on site every day to feed and check the seawater systems; a maximum of 4 hours a day is anticipated for weekend shifts.

The post is **full time** for a **3-year period** with a probation period of 3 months. There is possibility of extension after the initial 3 years. We offer a competitive salary and benefits commensurate with experience.

#### **Qualifications required:**

Masters of Science (or equivalent experience), SCUBA certification and at least 10 research dives. Experience driving motorboats is preferred. Proficiency in Microsoft Office and R studio required. Experience in photogrammetry surveys and analyses preferred. The ideal candidate will have at least 2 years of experience in marine husbandry and research in the culture of early life stages of corals and/or other marine organisms.

#### **To Apply:**

Please send a cover letter and 2-page CV to [ssarkis@livingreefs.org](mailto:ssarkis@livingreefs.org)