

**Land Stewardship Project
Organizer position in LSP's Policy and Organizing Program
March 10, 2014**

Position: Federal Farm Policy Organizer

Help staff LSP's priority efforts to advance and win strategic campaigns by organizing large numbers of farmers, rural residents, and urban supporters to:

- build a powerful membership organization;
- mount significant public pressure for stewardship and justice in America's farm and food system;
- win public policies that rein in corporate concentration in agriculture, and that support a sustainable, family farm-based food and agriculture system in our state, region, and nation.

Qualifications: Willingness to learn and employ effective grassroots and community organizing skills. Strong writing, speaking, and listening skills. Strong commitment to environmental stewardship, family farms, and social, economic, and racial justice in our society. Strong communication skills over the phone, in person, and internet-based communications. Ability to work within a team, take direction from program director and senior program staff, and meet goals and deadlines. Some familiarity or interest in: U.S. farm policy; corporate, legislative, and administrative campaign efforts; and community, conservation and farm organizations is desired.

Primary Responsibilities:

- Assist LSP Federal Farm Policy staff in advancing campaigns and policy initiatives to win (and effectively defend) farm and food policy beneficial to the land, family farmers, and rural and urban communities, and to expose and rein in excessive corporate power.
- Conduct one-to-one meetings with farmers and other rural residents; lead turnout for larger organizing meetings; organize phoning on action alerts to bring LSP members and constituents voices to bear on critical issues.
- Assist in major outreach to farmers and rural Minnesotans being conducted by LSP in 2014 to further expand our base – large mailings, online engagement, tracking responses and database entry and notes, phone banks, and organizing meetings.
- Contact media to place stories and set up interviews with LSP member/leaders around federal policy priorities.
- Engage LSP members in meetings/events with Congressional offices and key organizational allies, and cover such meetings in person as directed by supervisor.
- Conduct outreach to MN farmers regarding Conservation Stewardship Program and other conservation program options useful to farmers and good for the land.
- Recruit new LSP members with a focus on farmers and rural residents, and assist in grassroots fundraising and individual giving efforts.
- Conduct applicable research on farm programs and other priority issues to help wage and win campaigns.
- Contribute to ongoing organizational activities such as: staff meetings, and meeting/events.

Hours, location, supervision and compensation: This is a full-time salaried organizing position located at the LSP office in south Minneapolis. Evening hours and weekends are part of the work, particularly during organizing drives or around major events. There will be frequent travel in Minnesota and occasionally out of state, sometimes necessitating overnight stays, and requiring a car. Compensation will include a salary in the \$26,000 - \$29,000 range, and benefits including health and dental insurance. This is a 1 year position with the possibility of longer employment. The position will be supervised by the Federal Farm Policy lead staff, Adam Warthesen.

The Land Stewardship Project is a grassroots membership organization based in Minnesota whose mission is to foster an ethic of stewardship for farmland, promote sustainable agriculture, and develop sustainable

communities. The Land Stewardship Project uses a community organizing, education-to-action approach with the goal of achieving major change in our agriculture and food system towards stewardship, justice and community vitality. Our more than 3,300 member-households, including hundreds of farm families, live and work in Minnesota and the Upper Midwest. We are nationally known for our work in community organizing, public policy, beginning farmer training and support, and stopping factory farms. Currently we have three major program areas: Farm Beginnings, Community Based Food Systems, and Policy and Organizing.

To apply: Please submit a resume, a cover letter saying why you are interested in this position, a 1 -2 page writing sample, and 3 references by April 7, 2013 to:

Adam Warthesen, Federal Farm Policy Organizer
Land Stewardship Project
821 E. 35th St.,
Minneapolis, MN 55407
adamw@landstewardshipproject.org