



LAND STEWARDSHIP PROJECT

JOB DESCRIPTION: Organizer

Land Stewardship Project (LSP) — Policy & Organizing Program

April 2016

Position Purpose

Help lead the Land Stewardship Project's efforts to advance major reforms to U.S. farm policy in the next federal Farm Bill and related legislation. Build LSP's base and advance a new public narrative, building the power to win real change in farm policy towards stewardship and justice on the land.

Qualifications

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 telephone, in person and via Internet-based communications. Ability to work with a member leadership committee and with a staff team, to take direction from the Program Director, and to meet goals and deadlines. Willingness to learn/develop and employ effective campaign and community organizing skills. Ability to work "on the road" across the Upper Midwest, meeting and working with LSP members and supporters. Background in effective organizing, familiarity with policy work, and a farm or rural background are pluses. Women and people of color are encouraged to apply.

Primary Responsibilities

1. Working with other staff assigned to federal farm policy reform and with LSP's member-led Federal Farm Policy Committee, develop critiques of existing and proposed farm policies, and build the power to advance policy options that provide solutions.
2. Help lead LSP's grassroots organizing on U.S. farm policy, especially:
 - a. Develop agendas and organize logistics and turnout for organizing meetings.
 - b. Write action alerts and organize telephone banks to engage LSP members on key issues.
 - c. Conduct one-to-ones with members, new supporters and allied organizations.
 - d. Prep member-leaders for roles in LSP organizing and media strategies.
 - e. Staff LSP's expansive base building effort to engage thousands of new supporters through a set of planned mailings, e-mails, telephone banks and Internet outreach.
 - f. Advance LSP's public narrative on food and agriculture system reform through campaigns, communications, media organizing efforts.
 - g. Participate in and help organize fly-ins to Washington and in-district meetings.
3. Recruit new LSP members with a focus on farmers and rural residents, and assist in grassroots fundraising and individual giving efforts.
4. Represent LSP's positions and advance LSP strategies in key coalitions/collaborations.
5. Take on other LSP organizing work as directed by the Policy and Organizing Program Director.

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Hours, Location, Supervision & Compensation

This is a full-time salaried organizing position based in LSP's office in Minneapolis. Evening hours and weekends are part of the work, particularly during organizing drives or around major events. There will be travel in Minnesota and Wisconsin and occasionally further afield, sometimes necessitating overnight stays, and requiring a car. Compensation includes a salary in the low-to-mid-30K range, depending on experience and skills, and health insurance. The position will be supervised by the Policy and Organizing Program Director, Mark Schultz. Starting date is planned for May 15, 2016.

The Land Stewardship Project is a grassroots membership organization based in the Upper Midwest with the mission of fostering an ethic of stewardship for farmland, promoting sustainable agriculture and developing healthy 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 4,000 member-households, including hundreds of farm families, are people who 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: Policy and Organizing, Farm Beginnings and Community Based Food Systems.

To Apply

Please submit a resume, three references, and a cover letter saying why you are interested in this position by April 25, 2016, to:

Mark Schultz, Associate Director/Policy & Organizing Director

Land Stewardship Project

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Minneapolis, MN 55407

marks@landstewardshipproject.org