



## LAND STEWARDSHIP PROJECT

MONTEVIDEO OFFICE  
301 State Road, Suite 2  
Montevideo, MN 56265  
Phone: 320-269-2105

[landstewardshipproject.org](http://landstewardshipproject.org)

### **JOB ANNOUNCEMENT**

Program Organizer- Land Stewardship Project's Farm Beginnings

75% Full Time Equivalent

Land Stewardship Project Office in Lewiston, Minnesota

Start Date: October 1<sup>st</sup>, 2013

*Farm Beginnings® is committed to more successful, sustainable farmers raising livestock and crops on the land, through farmer- led seminars and mentoring, in Minnesota and beyond. Farm Beginnings is equally committed to leadership development toward positive social change. Farm Beginnings provides farmer to farmer training, education, connection to a farmer network and organizes to change the conditions impacting beginning farmers. This Farm Beginnings Organizer position will work directly with beginning and established farmers as well as helping to build larger community support and understanding around beginning farmer issues.*

This part-time position will focus on Farm Beginnings work in the Driftless Region (covering SE Minnesota, western Wisconsin and NE Iowa) and be based in the LSP office in Lewiston, Minnesota. The Farm Beginnings Program Organizer will be supervised by Amy Bacigalupo, Farm Beginnings Program Director.

#### **Key Areas of Responsibility:**

##### **Facilitation of Farm Beginnings Classes (20 hours per week):**

- Lead organizing and facilitation of Farm Beginnings Classes in Driftless Region
- Participate in planning and implementation for reaching recruitment goals for Farm Beginnings
- Participate in regular planning, feedback and coordination calls with lead facilitator (Nick Olson) and recruitment and scholarship lead (Karen Benson)
- Recruit Farm Beginnings graduates and LSP member farmers for roles within the Farm Beginnings class and organizing.
- Implement evaluation of Farm Beginnings Classes
- Coordinate student-led individualized learning plans and provide technical assistance
- Lead planning of field days and farm tours.
- Organize and host several farm tours in Driftless region
- Provide timely written and verbal updates on individual student progress and progress of class as a whole to the Farm Beginnings team and Farm Beginnings presenters
- Organize and facilitate two-three Farm Dreams class per year

##### **Additional program-wide organizing (5 hours per week):**

- Assist recruitment and engagement of farmers in the Farmer to Farmer Network
- Identify and build relationships with allies and partner organizations
- Conduct one-to-one meetings with established farmers, resource people and beginning farmers
- Participate in racial justice organizing
- Participate in established farmer outreach
- Assist with Farmer Network Handbook

**All Farm Beginnings team members are expected to collaborate in the following areas (5 hours per week);** fundraising, membership recruitment and retention, database entry and management, grassroots fundraising, interaction with program steering committees as appropriate and collaborating with LSP staff in other programs as appropriate.

**Key Skills:**

- Ability to work independently as well as part of a team
- Good written and oral skills
- Ability to work in rural areas with farmers, previous rural organizing experience a plus
- Experience with farmer training programs (e.g. Farm Beginnings) and mentoring programs
- Experience in farming preferable
- Ability to be creative in solving problems and getting the work done
- Ability to travel, sometimes overnight
- Familiarity with and supportive of social justice concerns and organizing for positive change.
- Flexibility to work closely with supervisor to implement the program priorities and implement assigned projects based on experience and skills
- Availability for evening and weekend work
- Ability for regular work in the Lewiston office
- Ability and experience working with communities of color preferable
- Familiarity with and support of racial justice concerns and organizing for a more equitable food and farming system.

If you are interested in this position please send a resume and cover letter to Amy Bacigalupo at 301 State Rd. Suite 2, Montevideo, MN 56265 by September 15<sup>th</sup>, 2013. If you have questions please call Amy at 320-269-2105 or by email at [amyb@landstewardshipproject.org](mailto:amyb@landstewardshipproject.org).