Wisconsin Farmers Union - Farmer-Labor Solidarity Field Organizer - Job Description

Theory of Change: If our organizers intentionally build authentic relationships based on shared values and strategic action, then we grow the collective power needed to achieve the change we want to see in agriculture and the food system and in Wisconsin’s communities.

Expectations: The Field Organizer will work remotely, without direct supervision, to develop grassroots power in support of WFU’s efforts to build/rebuild farmer-labor solidarity. To do this, the Field Organizer will assist WFU staff to implement organizing plans and work towards the goals established by WFU and coalition partners. The Field Organizer will be responsible for building relationships that expand our base within Wisconsin across geographic lines and also with farmers and workers and across racial identifications and structures.

Duties & Responsibilities:
- Focus on building intentional relationships through one-to-one meetings to explore self-interest, identify shared values, and establish mutual commitment.
- Engage grassroots volunteers in collective action. Identify, recruit, and build a grassroots team that actively participates in WFU and Coalition partner farmer-labor solidarity actions, including but not limited to 1:1 meetings, conference calls, and legislative calls to action.
- Recruit participants to statewide and regional farmer-labor solidarity events through personal invitations.
- Coordinate and conduct outreach activities in targeted rural communities to engage community members in the fight for fair prices for farmers, fair wages for workers, support for immigrant workers and support for fair trade and the end to corporate concentration.
- Host and facilitate relational house meetings to create dialogue around a community’s shared values and cultivate engagement in the farmer-labor solidarity initiative. Note these are being held virtually during the COVID stay-at-home period.
- Quantitatively track outcomes of organizing activities.
- Participate in bi-weekly team check-in (video conferences) to measure progress, evaluate accomplishments, and discuss strategy.
- Regularly communicate via email, phone, Slack, Trello, and video conferences.

Preferred Qualifications:
- Strong commitment to sustainable agriculture, economic justice, and racial equity.
- Ability to multitask, create and achieve goals, meet deadlines and creatively solve problems.
- Excellent interpersonal skills and emotional intelligence.
- Ability to manage multiple projects simultaneously.
- Strong willingness to learn and adapt.
- Ability to take feedback and implement changes in real time.
- Strong organizational skills and attention to detail.
• Interest in and ability to participate in a formal community organizing training, such as WiLD.
• Experience working or volunteering on electoral, union, or community organizing campaigns a plus.

Other Expectations:
• Field organizers will be expected, when it is deemed safe, to travel for work within the state occasionally, and no more than 2 weekends per month.
• Field organizers should have access to a reliable vehicle for their transportation. Mileage will be reimbursed by WFU.

Duration: mid-July – December 2020
Compensation: $20/hour
Time: Minimum 20 hours per week preferred, but flexible depending on applicants’ other time commitments.
Deadline: 5pm, July 1, 2020

The Wisconsin Farmers Union prohibits discrimination on the basis of race, color, religion, creed, national origin, ancestry, gender, gender expression, sexual orientation, family/parental status, age, disability, socio-economic or military status, in any of its activities or operations. These include employment, youth and adult programs, membership, selection of vendors, appointment of board members and selection of grantees, volunteers and representatives.

To apply for this job, send a resume and cover letter, including contact information for 2 references, to Julie Bomar, WFU Executive Director, jboomar@wisconsinfarmersunion.com