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**DRA West**  
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## **JOB OPPORTUNITY – ORGANIZER**

Dakota Rural Action (DRA) is seeking the right individual to join our team. The newly hired Organizer will get the opportunity to work with the staff and members of a fast growing grassroots organization whose work on local foods, landowner protection, extractive energy protection, renewable energy and leadership building are unique in South Dakota. Position will be located in Brookings, SD. This is a full-time position.

Dakota Rural Action is a 29 year old grassroots organization working in South Dakota on family farm, environmental and local food issues. DRA organizes at the grassroots level to build a strong base of members who work together to make change at the local, state, and national level. DRA is democratically run organization with decisions made by our Board of Directors, chapters, and committees.

### **This organizer's duties will include:**

- **Build and maintain local chapters that maximize the power and participation of their members.**
  - Lead organizer for the Deuel County Chapter and their ongoing campaign promoting sustainable and organic agriculture in lieu of industrial animal agriculture.
  - Work with the chapter to develop, plan and execute future campaigns.
  - Recruit and retain active chapter members. Meet yearly fundraising and membership recruitment goals.
  - Build grassroots leadership among active members.
- **Build and maintain a statewide issue campaign committee.**
  - Lead organizer for the Rural Vitality Committee on their continued statewide campaign to protect citizens and the environment from the damages caused by Confined Animal Feeding Operations.
  - Work with the committee to develop campaigns and carry out actions on these issues.
  - Build membership.
  - Train and recruit leadership and spokespeople for the committee.
  - Coordinate with national and regional allies as appropriate.
- **Lead Organizer for DRA's Legislative lobbying**
  - Spend significant amount of time working in Pierre during yearly Legislative Session.
  - Prepare members and leaders to lobby and testify on their issues.
  - Prepare weekly updates for DRA membership.
  - Prepare and update the DRA lobby guide.
  - Prepare the legislative wrap up at the end of the session.

- o Prepare the legislative fundraising letter and plan.
- o Track member activity at the legislative session.
- o Coordinate social media and online elements connected to lobby work.

**Qualifications:**

- Must have completed a four-year degree or have equivalent experience.
- Be familiar with basic software, such as Microsoft Word, Excel, PowerPoint, and Gmail or Microsoft Outlook. Must be comfortable navigating the internet and handling administrative tasks (creating basic promotional materials, making phone calls and conducting meetings, for example).
- Ability to work effectively in networks and coalitions.
- Excellent writing, speaking and interpersonal communications skills.
- Skilled in group dynamics and group decision-making process.
- Knowledge of South Dakota and its people a plus.
- A strategic thinker and planner.
- Someone who can motivate people to take action.
- Must have a driver's license and be able to drive.
- Possession of personal vehicle is helpful, but not necessary.
- Must be a team player, and also work with minimal supervision.

**Salary:**

Depending on experience. Generous benefits included.

**Apply:**

Send resume, writing sample, and three references to Frank James, Director, PO Box 549, Brookings, SD 57006, [fejames@dakotarural.org](mailto:fejames@dakotarural.org), 605.697.5204. If you have any questions please contact Dakota Rural Action.

Application deadline: Open until filled.

***Dakota Rural Action is a grassroots family agriculture and conservation group that organizes South Dakotans to protect our family farmers and ranchers, natural resources, and unique way of life.***