Position Title: FarmLink Coordinator
Organization: Liberty Prairie Foundation (Grayslake, Illinois)

Position Overview
The Liberty Prairie Foundation is looking for a part-time coordinator to advance farmland access in Northeast Illinois as part of the Foundation’s Northeast Illinois FarmLink program. The FarmLink coordinator’s primary goal will be to connect farmers and farmland owners in the region and improve their ability to create mutually beneficial land tenure arrangements. This will be done through administering and marketing the Northeast Illinois FarmLink website (www.illinoisfarmlink.org) as well as organizing events. We also intend, over time, to offer increased levels of direct advice and to develop a network of skilled service providers.

Responsibilities of the FarmLink Coordinator

• Work closely with Director of Conservation and Working Lands on enhancing and growing the Northeast Illinois FarmLink program.
• Market and manage Northeast Illinois FarmLink website. This will involve developing marketing strategies and carrying them out in the 10-county service area. It will also involve updating resources, tracking usage data, and interacting with site users.
• Market and organize workshops, programs, and gatherings for farmers & farmland owners.
• Provide advice to farmers and farmland owners related to land tenure arrangements
• Assist in development of program strategies
• Partner with other organizations in work already mentioned and in new initiatives
• Represent the Liberty Prairie Foundation at conferences, workshops, and events
• Contribute articles and other writing as needed

Skills, Experience and Personal Qualities

• Required: A minimum of a Bachelor’s Degree (or equivalent work experience)
• Required: Knowledge and experience with farming, especially sustainable farming
• Familiarity and comfort with websites, social media, and other digital communication tools
• Excellent communicator in words and in person
• Friendly and relationship-oriented
• Organized and detail-oriented
• Enjoy presenting, teaching, and explaining in ways appropriate for different audiences
• Self-directed and autonomous while also being good team player
• Passionate about moving our food system towards sustainable/regenerative agriculture that is good for farmers, communities, the land, and food consumers
• Knowledge of ecology and natural area management a plus
• Experience in organizing successful workshops and programs

www.libertyprairie.org
• Aptitude for marketing and building interest in topics and events
• Strong learning orientation

Position Context
This is a part-time, grant-funded position. Starting hours would be 15-20/week. Hourly wage will depend on experience and skills. The position will offer considerable flexibility in scheduling of hours. There will also be some flexibility in working remotely. Traveling to workshops and meeting with farmers and farmland owners will also be required at times throughout 10-county area.

How to Apply
Send a cover letter, resume, and one-page writing sample to careers@libertyprairie.org by February 10, 2020.

Background
The Liberty Prairie Foundation is a 501c(3) private operating foundation located in Grayslake, Illinois. The Foundation is headquartered at the 94-acre certified organic Prairie Crossing Farm, a working organic farm nestled inside the Prairie Crossing conservation community. A valued legacy of its common origins with the Prairie Crossing conservation community, the Foundation is fundamentally concerned with enabling human communities and nature to thrive together locally in ways that inspire and educate others far more widely. Because agriculture is the human activity where people have the most ongoing impact and interaction with nature, the Foundation focuses its programmatic work on promoting sustainable agriculture.

The Foundation, for example, not only leases a significant amount of its farmland to sustainable agriculture entrepreneurs Jeff and Jen Miller of Prairie Wind Family Farm but also partners with them on innovative regenerative agriculture projects. Through the Farm Business Development Center, the Foundation makes farmland available to beginning sustainable farmers who can develop their skills and their markets without huge loans or upfront investments. Foundation staff also lead an agriculture-based youth development program, the Prairie Farm Corps that is transforming lives and attracting increasing interest from local school districts. With funding from the Food:Land:Opportunity Initiative, the Foundation works to advance farmland access (with a special focus on sustainable farming) in northeast Illinois through its farmlink website, programs, network development, and other emerging strategies.

For more information about the Foundation, visit www.libertyprairie.org.

We are unable to accept phone calls or other inquires related to this position announcement. The Liberty Prairie Foundation does not discriminate on the basis of race, color, religion, gender, gender expression, age, national origin, disability, marital status, sexual orientation, or military status, in any of its activities or operations.