

Oregon Rural Action

Community Profile

Population 78,600

Location La Grande

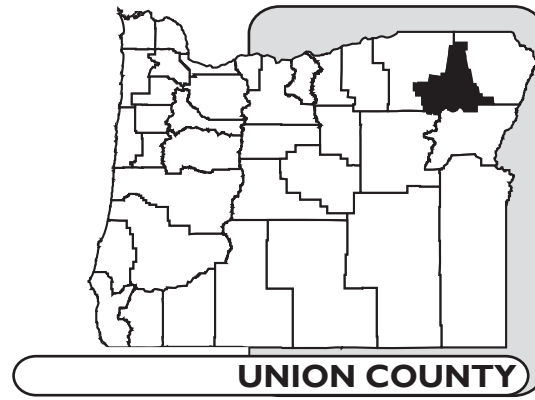
Position Description

Sponsor Oregon Rural Action

Supervisor Andrea Malmberg

Assignment Oregon Rural Action's mission is to promote social justice, agricultural and economic sustainability, and stewardship of the region's natural resource at a grassroots level. The RARE participant is working on a farm-to-school project with Oregon Rural Action. The goals of the farm-to-school project are to connect local produce and producers to public school cafeterias and improve the nutrition and physical activity of school aged children. As the project coordinator, the participant is taking the lead in grassroots outreach, assessing regional needs, soliciting community support, and catalyzing action.

The participant is responsible for all aspects of the farm-to-school project such as cataloging food purchased by the local school district and identifying farmers currently capable of selling to institutional markets. Additionally, the participant is educating farmers interested in joining the program about regulations and food service requirements. Finally, the participant is coordinating volunteers and initiating grass-roots fundraising to further Oregon Rural Action's mission.



RARE Participant



Teresa Roark

Teresa Roark grew up in Salem, Oregon. She graduated from the University of Oregon with a BS in Political Science and International Studies. As a student, Teresa was an event coordinator for the Service Learning Program and a research assistant for the Institute for Policy Research and Innovation. Recently, she spent six months in Peru interning for FINCA Peru where she translated, interviewed clients, and oversaw the quality of artisan products. Teresa is interested in working with organizations to determine the most efficient and effective ways to accomplish defined goals.