

# PLEASE NOTE: THIS POSITION HAS BEEN FILLED

We're keeping this PDF online so that links we've previously posted to it do not break, but we are no longer accepting applications for the role described below.

## Program Officer, Factory Farming

The Open Philanthropy Project is looking for a founding Program Officer to lead our work on factory farming.

Our goal is to greatly reduce the suffering of animals raised on factory farms, whether by eliminating particularly abusive practices or by reducing the number of animals raised on factory farms globally. We're open to pursuing whatever strategies most effectively further this goal, including supporting research, movement building, and individual, corporate, or policy advocacy. The Program Officer will be responsible for developing our strategy and making grants, starting in the range of \$5 million per year, with significant room to grow.

## About the Open Philanthropy Project

The [Open Philanthropy Project](#) is a collaboration between Good Ventures and GiveWell in which we identify outstanding giving opportunities, make grants, follow the results, and publish our findings.

[Good Ventures](#) is a philanthropic foundation whose mission is to help humanity thrive. Good Ventures was created by Dustin Moskovitz (co-founder of Facebook and Asana) and [Cari Tuna](#), who have pledged to give the majority of their wealth to charity. [GiveWell](#) is a nonprofit that finds outstanding giving opportunities and publishes the full details of its analysis to help donors decide where to give.

## Factory Farming Program

Current factory farming practices cause enormous suffering for billions of animals around the world. Our goal is to identify and fund the most cost-effective opportunities to reduce that suffering, whether by eliminating particularly abusive practices or by reducing the number of animals raised on factory farms.

We're hoping to give around \$5 million per year in this area to start, and we anticipate growing our grantmaking significantly beyond that level if we find great giving opportunities. We haven't made grants in factory farming to date, but some initial areas of potential interest are:

- increasing public awareness about the treatment of animals on factory farms, e.g., by further publicizing the results of undercover investigations.
- corporate campaigns to reduce meat use and improve supply chain practices.
- state-level advocacy to ban the most harmful factory farming practices.
- research on messaging strategies to encourage people to reduce their meat consumption.
- broadly increasing the scale and capabilities of the advocacy organizations opposing the current treatment of animals on factory farms.

We're also potentially open to supporting technical research on plant-based or *in vitro* meat alternatives, though that work may or may not be assigned to this program officer depending on their skills and interests.

These are only preliminary interests, and we are very open to revising them or pursuing other approaches instead.

## **About the Program Officer Position**

The Program Officer will play the key founding role in our work on factory farming. They will be responsible for developing our grantmaking strategy and priorities, making grants, and forming and maintaining relationships with grantees and others in the space.

While we intend to formally incorporate the Open Philanthropy Project as an independent organization in the future, the Program Officer will start as a GiveWell employee. The Program Officer will be a member of our U.S. Policy team, working under the guidance of Managing Director Holden Karnofsky.

## **Key Responsibilities**

- Develop a strategy for the Open Philanthropy Project's work in the field that clearly describes what kinds of grants we aim to make and explains why the Program Officer believes this to be the best approach to pursue.
- Source and investigate promising grant opportunities within the purview of the strategy.
- In consultation with other staff, make grants to the most promising opportunities that arise.
- Establish and maintain relationships with current and prospective grantees and other funders in the field.
- Produce public writeups explaining the rationale for our strategy and our grants.
- Follow up with grantees periodically and produce public updates on their progress.
- Stay up to date on overall progress in the field and adjust strategic direction based on new information by building and maintaining relationships with a diverse set of players.
- Prepare briefs synthesizing knowledge on questions of key strategic importance.
- Provide input on Open Philanthropy Project grants in other U.S. policy areas.
- Represent the Open Philanthropy Project at relevant external meetings, conferences, and site visits.

## **Desired Skills and Experience**

- Experience in a senior role in the farm animal advocacy field, including some time in a role with responsibility for making and justifying difficult strategic and budgetary decisions.
- Strong connections in the field – the candidate should already have working relationships with many key players.
- Quantitative skills sufficient to assess the cost-effectiveness of potential grant opportunities and to evaluate assessments conducted by others.
- Significant experience in or aptitude for developing and assessing strategies that combine different approaches, such as research, policy analysis, and advocacy.
- Ability to work effectively with ideologically and culturally diverse partner organizations.
- Curiosity about and ability to rapidly acquire knowledge in areas beyond current expertise.
- Excellent written and oral communication skills, especially the ability to explain one's views clearly.
- Strong interpersonal skills.
- Ability to travel domestically.

## **Personal Characteristics We Look For**

- Alignment with the Open Philanthropy Project's core values of openness and impact maximization.
- Excitement about working for a relatively new organization whose processes are under development and subject to change.

- Strong self-direction coupled with eagerness for discussion and feedback.
- Directness and openness in giving and receiving feedback.
- Comfort with intense discussion and debate, including challenging one's manager.
- Quantitative mindset and comfort thinking in terms of expected value.

### **What We Offer**

- Immediate opportunity to lead strategy development and grantmaking in factory farming for a major new funder in the field.
- Long-term opportunity to build a team. We anticipate that a successful program officer will lead initial strategy development and grantmaking with limited additional staffing, but may eventually have the opportunity to lead a larger team.
- Flexible location. The majority of the Open Philanthropy Project staff is currently based in San Francisco, but location is negotiable.
- Competitive compensation, commensurate with experience.

### **To Apply**

Please send an email with a resume and brief cover letter explaining your interest in the position to [jobs@openphilanthropy.org](mailto:jobs@openphilanthropy.org).

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