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PRESS STATEMENT
**WORC Honored with Farm Aid's 2024 People Powered
Organizing and Leadership Award**

BILLINGS, MONT. - Western Organization of Resource Councils (WORC) is thrilled to be named the winner of Farm Aid's prestigious 2024 People Powered Organizing and Leadership (PPOs) Award. Farm Aid, the renowned organization dedicated to supporting family farmers and promoting sustainable agriculture, announced the award at Thursday's Farmer Fellowship Supper at Pitney Community Farm. This accolade recognizes WORC's longstanding commitment to collective action and invaluable contributions to rural and community organizing.

The Farm Aid PPOs Award was introduced last year with the aim of honoring organizations and grassroots partners who tirelessly work towards long-term social change. WORC's recognition, with the Farm Aid 2024 PPOs Award, underscores the vital role of rural community organizing in building a sustainable and equitable future for family farmers and our agricultural system.

The Farm Aid 2024 PPOs Award was presented to WORC's executive director Deb Love at the Thursday Farmer Fellowship Supper, held at Pitney Community Farm, prior to the opening of the festival. This event provided an opportunity for the community to come together and celebrate the remarkable achievements of WORC and honor the work of rural community organizers.

"We're thrilled to receive Farm Aid's 2024 People Powered Organizing and Leadership Award. Like WORC, Farm Aid has spent decades championing independent farmers and ranchers. Farm Aid's recognition of our work is both a great honor and a testament to WORC's diverse, multi-issue rural community organizing," said WORC Executive Director Deb Love.

Farm Aid, founded over 35 years ago by famed artists and board members Willie Nelson, Neil Young, John Mellencamp, Dave Matthews, and Margo Price, aims to create a thriving, family farm-centered agricultural system in America. Through their annual festival and the support of generous artists, Farm Aid has raised nearly \$80 million to empower family farmers, expand the reach of the Good Food Movement, challenge the dominant industrial agriculture system, and promote food from family farms.

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[The Western Organization of Resource Councils \(WORC\)](#) is a network of nine grassroots organizations in seven Western states with 22,750 members, many of them ranchers and farmers committed to common-sense reform in agriculture, oil and gas development, coal mine reclamation, and rural economic development. Headquartered in Billings, Mont., WORC also has an office in Washington, D.C.