

TONY VARGAS FOR CONGRESS

Communications Director Job Opening

The Tony Vargas for Congress campaign is hiring a Communications Director to join our team for the 2022 cycle. The Communications Director will work directly with the Campaign Manager and other senior level campaign staff and consultants to develop and execute a communications plan for the campaign that includes, but is not limited to, earned and paid media, social media, and direct voter contact. The Communications Director's duties include managing campaign social media accounts, developing and refining campaign messaging, managing press relationships, drafting press releases and statements for media, and organizing press events.

This is a contractual, salaried position requiring long hours, including nighttime and weekend hours. A good Communications Director will anticipate problems and proactively develop solutions – we're looking for organized, driven, proactive, communicative people who will work well with our coalition of supporters, staff, and volunteers, and keep calm under tight deadlines and stress.

This is a senior position and prior experience as a Communications Director or Deputy Director or in a similar senior-level role is required. The Communications Director must have excellent writing and speaking skills, good interpersonal skills, and the ability to work well with press, experience creating persuasive messaging and developing simple ways to explain complex topics, and proven skills working with social media platforms.

About the Candidate:

Tony Vargas has served Nebraskans as an elected official for nearly a decade. Tony learned the values of community, hard work, and perseverance from his parents, who, coming from humble beginnings, sacrificed everything to provide their children with an opportunity for a brighter future. No matter how busy the family was, they had dinner together every night, where his parents encouraged Tony to "stay grounded, but reach for the stars."

Tony devoted his career to public service and improving opportunities for all Nebraskans. He has served our community since 2013, first as a member of the Omaha Public Schools Board and then as a member of the Nebraska Legislature. As a senator, Tony has developed a reputation for civility and working with anyone to get things done for Nebraska workers and small businesses.

He has successfully passed legislation to strengthen our public schools, improve access to health care, encourage technology and innovation, and improve consumer protections.

Tony began his career as a public-school teacher, receiving “Most Outstanding Teacher” and “Teacher of the Year” awards, and has worked in the non-profit and education sectors, striving to improve the quality of life and educational opportunities for thousands of children across the United States.

The first generation of his family to graduate college, Tony earned his Bachelors of Arts degree at the University of Rochester and a Masters in Education at Pace University. Tony and his wife, Lauren, are raising their two young kids, Ava and Luca, in Omaha. They are proud parishioners of St. Frances Cabrini Church, where Tony and Lauren were married.

About Nebraska’s 2nd Congressional District:

Nebraska’s 2nd Congressional District is located in the Omaha metro area and includes some parts of suburban Sarpy County and rural Saunders County. Our campaign is based in Omaha, NE.

An ideal candidate will:

- Possess strong written and oral communications skills and the ability to multitask while thriving in a fast-paced setting under tight deadlines;
- Have experience working directly with local and national reporters, bookers, and other members of the media to proactively pitch stories and respond to inquiries;
- Think strategically and creatively while designing, implementing, and evaluating both short and long-term communications plans in addition to leading rapid response efforts;
- Have a proven track record of writing in the voice of a principal (op-eds, speeches, statements, messaging, talking points, digital content, etc.) and explaining policy issues in ways that people can easily understand; and
- Understand the digital media landscape and current digital trends, with experience overseeing a digital program.

Responsibilities include, but not limited to:

- Developing and executing the campaign’s communications strategy and advancing creative, proactive initiatives;
- Working directly with Senator Vargas to prepare and staff him for interviews, speeches, press conferences, public events, roundtables, and other opportunities;
- Building and sustaining strong relationships with local and national reporters, editors, columnists, producers, bookers, and advocacy groups;
- Proactively and strategically engaging in media outreach, including pitching reporters while also fielding and responding to press inquiries at the local and national levels;
- Serving as the spokesperson (on the record, on background, and off the record) for the campaign;
- Drafting written materials including press statements, quotes, speeches, remarks, op-eds, press releases and advisories, and talking points;
- Designing creative plans to effectively roll out major moments on the campaigns that include press components and events;

- Oversee planning and preparation for major communications moments, including but not limited to: editorial board interviews, debates and other multi-candidate forums, and other endorsement processes;
- Overseeing a robust, aggressive, engaging digital strategy, including drafting social media content, designing graphics, editing videos, etc.

Position Type: Full-time, beginning as soon as possible.

To apply: Send a resume and references to meg@vargasfornebraska.com with a brief statement of interest.

Subject line: “[First Name] [Last Name] – Communications Director Application”

Salary: Commensurate with experience, in the range of \$4,000-\$6,000 per month. Will also include either employer based healthcare plan or a stipend to offset the cost of the employee’s health insurance.

Tony Vargas for Congress is an equal opportunity employer. We are committed to ensuring equal opportunity employment regardless of race, color, religion, national origin, sex, sexual orientation, marital status, age, disability, or veteran status.