

Frequently Asked Questions

Do I need experience in child and family services to join your board?

Our board members contribute to our success in many different ways, so experience with the services we deliver is not a requirement. Although some board members do have this experience, members typically learn about our services through their participation on the board. So, while a strong interest in the needs of children and families is essential, actual experience with our services is not.

How do board members contribute to the success of your organization?

The board is responsible for providing oversight, strategic planning and advocacy on behalf of our three organizations. Some board members may have professional experience which will help them provide valuable insight and guidance, others may have knowledge of the communities that we serve, while still others may have relationships in the larger community which will allow them to advocate on our behalf.

Regardless of the specific skills you may be able to provide, we want board members to bring their “entire selves” to the board, by which we mean the lived experiences of you as an individual member of our community. We believe that diversity of thought and lived experience is one of the most valuable assets of our members!

What is the time commitment I am expected to make?

Each board member is expected to participate in a general board meeting and a board committee meeting every two months. Board meetings are scheduled to be one and half hours in length, while committee meetings are one hour long. Together this would total 12 meetings per year, requiring 15 hours of meeting time. Typically, board members also devote additional time as needed to prepare for these meetings by reading materials, participating in webinars or working on assigned tasks.

Is there a financial expectation to being a board member?

Each board member is free to determine for themselves what level of financial support is appropriate. Throughout the year board members will be advised of each agency’s major fund-raising activities, and the many smaller opportunities available to support our agencies’ services. It is up to you to determine what is meaningful and in which you participate.

Do I need to attend board meetings in person?

Throughout the past year, board and board committee meetings have been held virtually. In the future, we would like to return to in-person meetings with some meetings being held at our various service locations so that members can see our facilities first-hand and meet our staff. Whenever possible, these meetings will accommodate video or phone participation for members unable to attend in person.

