



Supporting Families Together Association

Mission: We cultivate a system of organizations and professionals across Wisconsin to promote quality, strengths based, early childhood services in all communities.

Vision: In every Wisconsin community, all children have the opportunity to reach their highest potential and all adults embrace their role and responsibility to children.

Purpose: Our purpose is to optimize the developmental window of opportunity that early childhood presents for building a strong foundation for life.

Position: Member-At-Large, SFTA Board of Directors

The board of directors is the organization's governing body. It is entrusted with the authority to establish policy for the governance of Supporting Families Together Association. Its members are trustees who act on behalf of SFTA and have the principle responsibility for setting and fulfilling the mission. The board forms the strategic plan to accomplish the mission and oversees and evaluates the plan. The board hires the executive directors, provides support and supervision to the directors, is responsible for the financial solvency and sustainability of the organization by providing proper financial oversight and ensuring adequate resources; and establishes and oversees the organization's policies and procedures for human resource management.

Board members serve three-year terms. The make-up of the board as determined by the organizational by-laws, must include a representative elected by the Child Care Resource and Referral Agencies and the Family Resource Centers; and should include such consideration as geographical region, community and public and private business leaders, early care and education professionals, and the diverse communities served by the organization.

Key Qualifications

Each board member must:

- Be committed to SFTA's mission, vision, and purpose.
- Approach board service to SFTA in a way that serves the organization as a whole, rather than any segment of the constituency.
- Have no financial or personal interest, direct or indirect, that may pose a conflict of interest or may be otherwise incompatible with proper discharge of fiduciary duties as a Board member.

Primary Responsibilities

Each board member is expected to:

- Uphold the duties of governance and oversight and acknowledge that the responsibilities of SFTA's board of directors includes the establishment of policy, setting and fulfilling the mission, formulation of the strategic plan, oversight and evaluation of the implementation of the plan, the hiring supervision and support of the Co-Directors, ensuring the financial solvency and sustainability of the organization through proper financial oversight and securing of adequate resources.
- Participate in a board orientation at the start of the first term of service.
- Maintain knowledge of SFTA's work and the field of early childhood as a whole, and maintain a commitment to continuous learning.
- Operate from a mission-driven perspective, so that the work remains focused and effective.
- Prepare for and actively engage in board meetings and retreats to ensure that there is consistently quorum at meetings and that the organization has access to the skills, perspective and expertise that members of the board have to offer.
- Conform to SFTA's board policies regarding participation and attendance.
- Serve on one or more of SFTA's committees of the board, action teams or work groups, making every effort to stay actively engaged and make strong contributions to advance the purpose of that committee, team or work group.
- Represent SFTA from the perspective of a board member in a professional and constructive manner, making continuous efforts to introduce the organization to new stakeholders and making connections that will impact SFTA's mission and only acting as a spokesperson for the association when specifically authorized to do so to ensure clear and consistent communications.
- Commit time and energy to the priorities of financial stability and diversification of funding and contribute to SFTA's fund development activities, by volunteering time in effective ways, supporting the building of relationships and accessing new networks of potential partners, donors, funders and other stakeholders.
- Make an annual financial contribution to SFTA, at a level comfortable to the individual member, so that the organization can assure funders and donors of 100% board giving.
- Work to continuously develop the strengths of SFTA's board, which includes participating in the recruitment, nomination and retention of active and effective board members.

SFTA will provide training and orientation for board members. SFTA will make available a stipend for travel and lodging to attend official SFTA board functions for board members whose organizational or individual resources do not allow for this expense.

Please complete the SFTA Prospective Board Member Interest Survey and send to:

info@supportingfamiliesogether.org