



BOARD MEMBER OPPORTUNITY (updated may 2021)

Mission:

The mission of Laurel House is to:

- Advocate for and empower those impacted by domestic violence by providing crisis intervention, safe haven, supportive programs, and resources; and to
- Advance social change through preventative education and through community training and collaboration to foster a coordinated response to domestic abuse

Board of Director position: The Board of Laurel House supports the work of the organization and provides mission-based leadership and strategic governance. The organization's day to day operations are led by the Executive Director, along with an experienced management team. The Executive Director works closely with the Board on an on-going basis to ensure the long-term stability and effectiveness of the organization.

EXPECTATIONS:

Leadership, governance, and oversight:

- Serving as a trusted advisor to the Executive Director as she/he develops and implements Laurel House's strategic plan
- Reviewing outcomes and metrics created by Laurel House for evaluating its impact, and regularly measuring its performance and effectiveness using those metrics; reviewing agenda and supporting materials prior to board and committee meetings
- Approving Laurel House's annual budget, audit reports, and material business decisions; being informed of, and meeting all, legal and fiduciary responsibilities
- Contributing to an annual performance evaluation of the Executive Director
- Assisting the Board Governance Committee in identifying and recruiting other Board Members
- Serving as an active member of Standing and/or Ad-Hoc committees
- Representing Laurel House to stakeholders; acting as an ambassador for the organization
- Furthering Laurel House's commitment to a diverse board and staff that reflects the communities the organization serves

Fundraising: Laurel House Board Members will consider Laurel House to be a philanthropic priority and make annual gifts that reflect that priority. So that the organization can credibly solicit contributions from foundations, organizations, and individuals, Laurel House expects to have 100 percent of Board Members make an annual contribution that is at a level that is personal and meaningful.

Board terms/participation: The organization’s Board Members will serve a two-year term to be eligible for re-appointment for two additional terms. Board meetings are held 7 times per year and committee meetings are held at least quarterly. Each Board member is expected to participate in at least one Committee. Currently board meetings are held on Wednesdays (typically the 3rd Wednesday of alternate months, but this varies at times due to holiday schedules). Meetings last no more than two hours and alternate between mornings (8:30 am – 10:30 am) and evenings (6:00 pm – 8:00 pm).

QUALIFICATIONS DESIRED:

Ideal candidates will have the following qualifications:

- Experience or skills/knowledge in one of the following: Business; Human Resources; Social Work; Behavioral Health; Homelessness/Housing; Legal; Law Enforcement; Public Relations; Finance; Construction/Commercial Real Estate Development
- A commitment to and understanding of Laurel House’s beneficiaries
- Diplomatic skills and an affinity for cultivating relationships and/or for convening, facilitating, and building consensus among diverse individuals
- Personal qualities of integrity, credibility, and a passion for improving the lives of Laurel House’s beneficiaries

Diversity, Equity & Inclusion

Laurel House is committed to a diverse, inclusive, and equitable environment where all board members, staff, volunteers, and service recipients feel respected and valued regardless of gender, age, race, ethnicity, national origin, sexual orientation or identity, disability, education, or any other bias. Individuals of all backgrounds and experience levels are encouraged to apply.

Service on Laurel House’s Board of Directors is without remuneration.

Start Date: Terms begin July 1, 2021. Interested Board Candidates are encouraged to apply now to allow time to become more familiar with the agency prior to being considered for Board membership.

TO APPLY: Please direct all inquiries regarding the Laurel House Board of Directors to the agency’s Governance Committee Chairs:

Mary Griffith Alfarano at mgriffithalfarano@gmail.com

Colleen Lelli at colleenlelli@yahoo.com