

We're looking for Board Members to join the Open Arms Board of Directors!

The Board of Directors of Open Arms Resource Centre (Open Arms) is currently seeking to recruit 3-4 new board members. This couldn't be a more exciting time to join our organization; with expanding programs and growing ambitions, our ability to have an impact in our community is greater than ever!

About Open Arms

Open Arms is a dynamic and growing nonprofit organization dedicated to providing shelter, support, and community services to individuals experiencing homelessness. Rooted in Christian values, our mission is to create lasting, positive change by addressing the root causes of homelessness and fostering a supportive environment for those in need. Open Arms is committed to treating every individual with dignity and respect, recognizing the inherent worth and unique journey of each person.

This mission is expressed through the provision of shelter to the unhoused, outreach services to those in precarious housing or living rough, and support to guests and clients in securing stable, independent housing. Open Arms is also undertaking an ambitious plan to maintain and provide new affordable housing in the Annapolis Valley. Our goal is to build new or purchase existing housing units that will be kept affordable for those unable to pay market rates.

Desired Skills and Expertise

The Open Arms Board of Directors should be comprised of individuals with a variety of skills and expertise to ensure that the board is effective and successful. The following is a list of traits that the board views as necessary for all members:

1. Strategic thinking skills to help develop and implement the organization's strategic plan. This includes the ability to analyze data, identify trends, and make informed decisions.
2. Governance and leadership skills to help guide the organization's operations and provide oversight. This includes knowledge of board governance, ethics, and leadership principles.

3. Networking skills to help build relationships with community members, stakeholders, and partners. This includes knowledge of community development, outreach, and advocacy.

4. Strong commitment to the organization's mission and a passion for making a positive impact in the community. This includes a willingness to devote time on a regular basis.

Targeted Skills and Expertise:

As part of this recruitment campaign, the Open Arms Board of Directors is seeking out individuals with one or more of the following specialized skills and expertise:

1. Christian ministry expertise to provide spiritual direction and guidance in decision making that is consistent with the organization's Christian identity. This could apply to individuals who are clergy members or otherwise trained in Christian theology.

2. Financial management skills to help oversee the organization's budget, financial statements, and investments. This includes knowledge of financial reporting and analysis, budgeting, and risk management.

3. Legal expertise to help navigate complex legal and regulatory issues that may arise. This includes knowledge of housing law, labour law, contracts, and liability issues.

4. Marketing and communication skills to help promote the organization's mission and programs to the community, funders, and stakeholders. This includes knowledge of branding, public relations, and social media.

What You'll Gain

This is a volunteer position with a non-profit organization, and while it is not a paid role, it offers the opportunity to make a meaningful impact in the community and gain valuable leadership experience. By joining our board of directors, you'll get an opportunity to develop your network with a passionate group of people and shape an organization that is working to make the Annapolis Valley a better place. We're hoping to have board members join us for our Annual General Meeting at the end of June!

Time Commitment

3 to 6 hours/month (attending and preparing for board and committee meetings, and attending special events).

Key Responsibilities:

- Attend and actively participate in regular board meetings which generally occur every second month
- Perform tasks between meetings, as assigned
- Attend and actively participate in at least one board committee
- Respond to board communications in a timely manner
- Maintain board solidarity (e.g. once a decision has been made, individual board members must not undermine that decision)
- Collaborate with other board members to develop and implement strategic plans
- Ensure that the organization is meeting its legal and ethical obligations
- Monitor and evaluate the organization's financial performance and ensure that adequate resources are available to meet our goals
- Represent the organization in public and engage in community outreach to promote our mission
- Assist in fundraising efforts and donor relations
- Provide guidance and support to the executive director and staff members

Submitting an Application

Deadline: Applications will be accepted until **Tuesday, June 11th, 2024** at 5PM ATL.

Process: Once applications are reviewed, members of the Open Arms Nominations Committee will reach out to conduct interviews.

Submission Process: **Fill out the [form here](#) to submit your application!**