

Nonprofit Association of Washington Board Member Position Profile 2022



Nonprofit Association
of Washington

About Nonprofit Association of Washington

Nonprofit Association of Washington (NAWA) convenes a powerful network of nonprofit organizations across Washington State to learn, advocate, and collaborate, so that nonprofits can achieve their missions. Through participation in our network, nonprofits (staff, board, and volunteers) become more sustainable and effective. Stronger nonprofits contribute to healthy, collaborative, economically vital, and civically engaged communities.

Established in 2010, NAWA has become a dynamic organization, recognized across the state and nationally for successfully carrying out its mission. Working with local partners, NAWA has sponsored statewide and regional conferences, established a learning program that crosses the state, and developed a public policy program that includes direct advocacy, applied research, and sector promotion. Programs and services have grown along with the organization's membership. In 2021, the Washington State Nonprofit Conference attracted nearly 1000 participants and over 100 learning events served over 8,000 participants from Grays Harbor to Colville. We've played a crucial role in helping nonprofits navigate rapid change and crisis during the pandemic.

The organization's annual budget has grown to over \$1.5 million, with a staff of 13. Support for NAWA's work comes from private foundations, the Washington State Office of the Secretary of State, conference and workshop fees, business sponsors, and our over 650 members. NAWA has established itself as a truly statewide organization, grown its impact, and created the infrastructure to support future growth.

Learn more about Nonprofit Association of Washington at <https://nonprofitwa.org>.

Board Member Summary

Nonprofit Association of Washington seeks board members who bring a powerful combination of visionary leadership, social networks, nonprofit experience, and business savvy to help us grow to the next level of organizational and sector-level excellence. Board members will work closely and collaboratively with NAWA's Executive Director (ED), staff, fellow volunteers, and partners to advance the nonprofit sector in Washington State. The Board along with its ED will shape and communicate the vision and strategic direction of NAWA, acquire resources equal to its vision, and ensure that the organization is well managed, equitable, and accountable to the membership.

NAWA is a network organization, highly dependent on a wide array of partners to accomplish its work. The board is instrumental in developing and maintaining relationships along with its staff. Board members should be committed to growing our membership.

Board members are instrumental in shaping the strategic direction of NAWA as it moves from a start-up to an influential player in nonprofit, government, and philanthropic circles. An understanding of the strengths and needs of the nonprofit sector is required, as well as an openness to ongoing learning from our members and partners. We believe that a diverse board that brings multiple perspectives and life experiences is essential to good governance.

Key responsibilities

- **Equity:** Ensure equity is an organizational priority to 'recognize and eliminate systemic racism and marginalization and to promote inclusion and antiracist practices.'
- **Strategy development:** Along with the ED, develop and implement a strategy to grow NAWA and

achieve our mission of a strong nonprofit sector where “nonprofits have what they need to succeed.”

- **Program oversight:** set the vision and strategic direction of the organization and monitor our progress.
- **Executive alliance:** Support and evaluate the ED and foster a healthy organizational culture.
- **Fundraising:** Board members are expected to make an annual monetary contribution to the organization at a level they deem meaningful. Board members should encourage nonprofits to become members. Board members can support staff efforts to solicit funds from a variety of sources and ensure that the organization has the resources to accomplish its work.
- **Financial review:** Ensure maintenance of sound financial records, operation within budgetary constraints and compliance with legal and regulatory standards
- **Service:** Board members are initially elected to serve a two-year term and may serve up to three consecutive terms. Board members are expected to:
 - Attend board meetings (up to 3 in person – except when COVID prevents in-person meetings – and up to 6 by teleconference per year) and attend an annual in-person board retreat. As a statewide association, some board meetings will require travel. Board members may request reimbursement for all travel and lodging costs.
 - Participate in various ad hoc projects and/or serve on one or more committees (equity, policy, board development, executive).
 - Advocate for NAWA and promote its programs and activities. Participate in NAWA's events and advocacy campaigns as appropriate to their time and availability.
 - Join Nonprofit Association of Washington and/or advocate that nonprofits you are affiliated with become members.

Profile of the Successful Candidate

The successful candidate will be an inspiring volunteer who is able to represent the organization and work well with a wide range of partners while also building a strong board and staff team and a healthy organization. We are committed to have a board that represents the racial, cultural, age and geographic diversity of our state, and invite candidates from the public, private and nonprofit sectors. As of Winter 2020, we are particularly seeking to add people of color, men, young professionals, and rural residents. We also would like to add regional representation from Northwest Washington, Eastern Washington, and the Olympic Peninsula.

We are seeking candidates with the following qualifications:

- Deep knowledge and/or passion for the nonprofit sector in Washington state
- Collaborative leadership style
- Demonstrated commitment to equity & brings an equity lens to the work of the board
- Highly trustworthy
- Philanthropic and oriented to service
- Ability to travel statewide for up to three meeting per year (travel, lodging and other costs that may create barriers to participation, such as childcare, can be paid by the organization.)

In addition, we are seeking to add the following skill sets to our board:

- Experience in public policy advocacy
- Experience working for equity and social justice
- Willingness to help us connect with new partners and invite others to join our organization
- Financial management expertise
- Legal expertise
- Marketing and communications expertise, including facility with social media

Join Us!

To apply: If you are interested in exploring board membership at Nonprofit Association of Washington, we encourage you to apply by submitting your resume and a letter or email detailing your interest and how you hope to contribute to laura@washingtonnonprofits.org. Questions directed to Laura Pierce are welcome prior to application.