

The Haven Shelter and Services, Inc.
Board FAQ

1. How does someone get appointed to The Haven's Board of Directors?

The Haven's Nominating Committee is responsible for finding Board candidates that meet the needs of the Board. Every effort is made to see that each county that we serve is represented on the Board, that the race, gender, and age make-up of the Board is reflective of the community that we serve, and that the various areas of expertise necessary to run an effective Board of Directors are represented. The Nominating Committee recruits, interviews, and makes recommendations to the Board.

2. When does The Haven's Board meet?

The Haven's Board of Directors meets at 6:00 PM on the first Thursday of the following months throughout the year: July, September, November, January, March, May and June. Though in-person participation is preferred, some of the meetings may be virtual, and when necessary, a virtual option to attend can be made available.

3. What other meetings would I be expected to attend?

The Haven's Board of Directors is a "working board" meaning that directors are expected to be active in some way in moving the mission of the organization forward between regular meetings. All committees must be chaired by a director. As the need arises, the Board may establish other committees.

4. What would the time commitment be?

Regular Board meetings occur in July, September, November, January, March, May, and June. Committees meet in the other months, as needed. In addition to meetings, Board members can expect to spend time preparing for meetings, following up on tasks for special projects, and supporting fund raising and awareness activities. We estimate that on average, Board members will likely dedicate between 50 and 60 hours per year to The Haven.

5. Is there a financial obligation for Board Members?

Each Board member is expected to make an annual donation to the organization. Many grantors consider this a concrete sign of support and want to know that every board member makes a financial contribution. There is no minimum contribution requirement. We ask each board member to give according to what s/he feels is meaningful and doable.

6. What are the terms of service for Board Members?

A Board term is three years. At the end of the first term, a Board member can elect to serve a second three-year term. After two terms, s/he is not eligible to serve on the Board for a period of one year.

7. What are the fund-raising obligations of a Board Member?

Approximately 40% of The Haven's operating budget is funded by state and federal grants. The other 60% must be raised through donations, fund-raisers, foundation grants and thrift shop receipts. It is vital that Board members find how their particular skills can best be used to raise the necessary funds to keep shelter and support services available for survivors of domestic and sexual abuse in our community. Below are some examples of how Board members can support fund-raising efforts.

- Assist with and attend, when possible, fund-raising events throughout the year.
- Help connect Development staff with individuals or foundation grantors who might be willing to provide financial support.
- Help the Development staff build and maintain relationships with donors.
- Volunteer to help sit at booths at various fairs and events throughout the service area.
- Volunteer at the thrift shop.
- Volunteer at the shelter.
- Share information about The Haven and its needs with individuals and groups with which you are associated in the community.

8. What training is provided to Board Members?

One of the most important things that all Board members can do for the organization is to know enough about The Haven, the work that we do, and the needs that we have, to be able to share our story in the community. Training is provided to help Board members have the basic information and comfort level necessary to understand the population we serve, promote our work, and garner community support.