



Want to provide hope for families?

Do you have knowledge about neurodiversity?

Do you appreciate the Arts? Can you add a diverse perspective?

We are looking for Volunteer Board Members!

Samara Learning Center is comprised of the following:

- **Samara Alternative Day School**: an Oregon Department of Education (ODE) approved alternative school for kids who are neurodivergent (Dyslexic, ADHD, Autistic, etc.)
- **M.A.P.L.E. Tutoring**
- **Elective Collective** (enrichment classes, such as Stop Motion Animation & Baking 101), mostly through Bend Parks and Rec.'s Playbook
- **After-school Care Program (SAP)**, focusing on kids who are neurodivergent

Samara's motto is, "Soar with your strengths; manage your weaknesses." We apply this concept to the kids, staff, board members, and the business plan. We are seeking board members with diverse skills, experience, and perspectives.

In collaboration with Executive Director and Samara Staff, the board is responsible for:

1. Recruiting, mentoring, and maintaining competent Board Members
2. Protecting Assets
 - a. Fundraise (develop, attend/participate in fundraising)
 - b. Ensure and review adequate financial resources; allocate, approve, and review budget for staff and programs
 - a. Ensure effective business planning; enhance the brand, and market to a larger community
3. Ensuring Legal and Ethical Integrity
 - a. Advocate for Samaras' mission
 - b. Assist in accountability (financials, work performance, etc.)
 - c. Evaluate program's effectiveness

Like many organizations, our Board grew smaller during the pandemic, but those who remained have helped Samara persevere and grow. Staff have achieved larger grants, wider community connections, and exponential growth helping more kids find their pathways to success. We are looking for new volunteer Board Members to assist us in continuing this momentum. If interested, please complete the application below, and return it to kristina@samaralearningcenter.org by May 27th. Please feel free to reach out and ask any questions.



Samara's Volunteer Board of Directors Application Form

- Bimonthly (odd months) 1.5 hour teleconference meeting, 2nd Saturdays 8:30-10:00 am
- Bimonthly (even months, or as needed) committee meetings
- Fundraising events

Thank you for your interest in joining our non-profit board! Use this form to provide useful information about yourself, to ensure the best match, and let us know why you would like us to consider you for our Board of Directors.

Your Name:

Preferred Pronouns:

Preferred Phone Number:

Mailing Address:

Email Address:

Briefly describe why you would like to join our Board of Directors:

Please list any current organizational affiliation(s):

Which of your skills would you utilize on the board? (check all that apply)

- | | |
|---|--|
| <input type="checkbox"/> Board Development | <input type="checkbox"/> Strategic Planning |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Staffing/HR | <input type="checkbox"/> Program Development |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Financial Management | <input type="checkbox"/> Fundraising |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Evaluation | <input type="checkbox"/> Training |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Marketing | <input type="checkbox"/> Community Networking |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Volunteer Management | <input type="checkbox"/> Facilities Management |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Legal Oversight | |

Other skills(s) of yours that you would like to utilize?

What would you like to personally gain from participation on the Board, e.g., What types of experiences, skill development, or what interests would you like to cultivate, etc.?

If you join the Board, you agree that you:

- 1.) Can provide at least 1.5 hour bi-monthly in attendance to Board (8:30-10:00 am, 2nd Sat. of odd months) via teleconference.
a.) *Note: we are open to discussing a change in day/time if the group agrees.*
- 2.) Can provide at least 1 hour bi-monthly in attendance Committee meetings (usually even months scheduled at the committee members' convenience)
- 3.) Can respond to occasional emails
- 4.) Do not have any conflict of interest in participating on the Board.
a.) *Note: We understand in Central Oregon we have a small community with limited resources, so if a conflict of interest arises, you agree to communicate in good faith that conflict and excuse yourself from decision-making/voting in regards to the area of that conflict. For example, Samara needs a fence around our garden, and you own a fencing company. You would be welcome to place a bid to Samara to provide the service, but you would not be part of the discussion or vote on which company/bid we choose.*

(initial) _____ I agree

Could you commit to a two-year Volunteer Board Term? If not, how long?

Yes No (how long?)

If chosen and you have accepted to be part of Samara's Volunteer Board of Directors, there are two upcoming dates that we highly encourage you to attend. If you are not able to attend, we will provide the information covered.

- 1.) New board Meet and Greet Wednesday 6/5 from 5:30-6:00 PM here at Samara.
Would you be able to attend? Yes No
- 2.) Board training the morning of Monday, June 17th led by Jan McGowan, nonprofit consultant, to assist in Samara's growth. We'd prefer you'd be able to attend in person, but a teleconference is possible. Childcare for children who are potty trained and older would be possible upon request. Would you be able to attend? Yes No

If you are not selected as a member of the Board, or if you decide not to join, would you like to be a volunteer to assist our organization in various ways that match your skills and interests?

Thank you for filling out the application. Please turn it in to kristina@samaralearningcenter.org by May 27th. Please feel free to reach out and ask any questions.