

YSPP Youth Suicide Prevention Program

JOB DESCRIPTION FOR YSPP BOARD MEMBER

In order to continue strategic service to the community, we are actively recruiting Board Directors for the Youth Suicide Prevention Program of Washington State.

The next several years promise to be exciting ones for the Youth Suicide Prevention Program. The organizational priorities of building awareness, offering training, and supporting community action continue to make an impact on reducing teen suicide attempts in Washington. As fiduciary agents of the organization, the Board of Directors will play a central role in this important work. Individuals with legal, fiscal, marketing and/or fundraising experience are well qualified to be nominated for a board position. As you consider this opportunity, we ask that you review this board member position description. Our board is active and we anticipate new board members will contribute to the board with passion and commitment to advance the YSPP's mission.

A primary responsibility of a board member is to participate in the development of fundraising and major decision-making at board meetings held at least six times a year. Another key responsibility is to be active on an ongoing basis in a committee of the board. Board members are assigned to a committee by the president based on the individual's skill set and current needs of the organization.

Since its founding in 2000, YSPP has become recognized as an effective provider of education and support to youth at risk for suicide, having real impact within the community. We invite you to become a part of this growing tradition.

Expectations:

1. Attend regular meetings of the Youth Suicide Prevention Program's Board of Directors, which are each approximately two hours in duration. The board meets at least six (6) times per year. Be accessible for personal contact in between board meetings.
2. Provide leadership to board committees. Each board director is expected to serve as an active, ongoing member of at least one committee. This requires a minimum of 6 meetings per year plus individual committee task completion time. Presently committees include Governance, Finance, Fundraising, and Marketing/Outreach. Committee meetings are typically held during the months without a scheduled board meeting and are conducted by telephone.
3. Commit time to developing financial resources for Youth Suicide Prevention Program. This includes making a personally meaningful financial gift as well as supporting other fund development activities of the YSPP in a manner appropriate for board directors.
4. Prepare in advance for decision-making and policy formation at board meetings; take responsibility for self-education on the major issues before the board.
5. Responsibly review and act upon committee recommendations brought to the board for action.
6. Participate in the annual board director self-review process.
7. Participate in the annual board development and planning retreat usually held in June of each year.
8. Participate in one YSPP training within the first year. Board members are also encouraged to attend non-profit board member training opportunities as available.
9. In general, utilize personal and professional skills, relationships and knowledge for the advancement of Youth Suicide Prevention Program.

Note: This is a volunteer, non-paid position, though the organization does compensate for travel to meetings for board members who live within the state, but outside the Puget Sound area.