



Information about Board Membership

Contacts: Sissi Sondgroth
Board Membership Co-Chair
Email: ssondgroth@rwbaird.com
Cell: (206) 730-5452

Jessica Unckles
Board Membership Co-Chair
Email: jessica.unckles@gmail.com
Cell: (425) 870-3817

Reasons to Join the NW Children's Foundation Board

Use Your Talents

NW Children's Foundation Board Members are active participants in NWCF's work, and the contributions of their personal skills, interests, creativity and passion are crucial to its success. Being of value is a good feeling!

Grow Your Skills

The NWCF Board helps set the organization's strategic direction. Learn and grow by engaging in planning, strategy discussions and decisions, managing projects, and participating in or heading various committees.

Work With Great People

Engaged teamwork is a key component of NWCF Board service. The fun and connections come naturally when terrific people come together.

Learn About Philanthropy

From its inception, NW Children's Foundation has intentionally served as a training ground for great philanthropy. Board Members are supported as they become more knowledgeable and experienced as donors, grant makers and child welfare advocates. Grow while you give back to and help shape our community.

Be Inspired

Many Board Members will tell you that their favorite part of Board service is personal visits to agencies who have applied for NWCF grants. Hearing stories of heartbreaking need and seeing programs in action to address it reinforces the life-changing impact of NWCF's work.

Make A Difference

NWCF Board Members are privileged to work on behalf of the young and vulnerable members of our society who desperately need our help. By partnering with our donors, grantee agencies and other funders, we are making smart investments now that will change the future for our entire community.

Here's an overview of what's involved in NW Children's Foundation Board membership:

Active Participation in Governance and Grantmaking, including:

- ❑ **Monthly board meetings** – most are Monday evenings, August through June; some meetings are replaced by a retreat or party.
- ❑ **Board retreats** – one on a Saturday in the fall; in some years a second in the spring.
- ❑ **Site visits and grant assessment** – grantmaking participation includes application reviews, site visits and a subcommittee meeting. Board Members participate in the winter or spring grant cycle, or both.
- ❑ **Communications** – read and make timely responses to NWCF-related emails.
- ❑ **Committee work** – in addition to the grant review work, Board Members are encouraged to become involved in at least one other committee.

Financial Leadership:

- ❑ **Make a personal contribution** to NWCF's Annual Fund and support its fundraising events. (Our average FYE 23 board-member giving averaged around \$6k and gifts ranged from \$500 to \$40k. We appreciate individual capacities to give vary but hope every Board Member's annual gift will be a **"stretch gift" within the context of his/her own finances**. These contributions indicate a significant personal commitment to the mission and values of NWCF and give power to Board Members' ability to ask others to give as well.)
- ❑ **Designate** their gifts to be available for NWCF's annual operating expenses.

Fundraising Support:

- ❑ Support the Annual Fund by **soliciting friends and colleagues** for donations.
- ❑ Support the Annual Gala & Auction by **procuring items, attending the event, filling a table, and participating in Fund-A-Need**, to the best of their ability.
- ❑ Support other events benefiting NWCF as appropriate.

Mission and Engagement:

- ❑ Support NWCF's mission, and work to **stay informed** about its history, goals, challenges, and current operations.
- ❑ Actively engage in NWCF's outreach efforts to **expand awareness** of NW Children's Foundation and its mission; be an ambassador and **advocate for improvements** in our community's response to and prevention of child maltreatment.

NW Children's Foundation works to do the following on behalf of all Board Members:

- Make judicious and **respectful use of their time**.
- Provide a **thorough orientation to NWCF, with ongoing training and education to assist them in becoming effective Board members and smart philanthropists**.
- **Respond** to their ideas, questions, and concerns about their commitments (above).
- **Provide** directors and officers liability **insurance** with a liability limit of \$1,000,000.