



*We're so excited you're interested in becoming a part of  
The Firefly Gathering Board of Directors!*

Serving on the Board of Directors (BOD) is an important role, and we're honored that you would consider donating your time to such an important mission. Below are details which may help you decide if applying for a position on the board is right for you.

### **THE FIREFLY GATHERING MISSION**

Our mission is to share skills of outdoor and traditional living, natural medicine, crafts, and community resilience in Southern Appalachia to promote healthy, connected, and sustainable livelihoods on Earth.

### **THE ROLE OF THE BOARD**

The BOD is primarily responsible for setting policies, supporting the organizational and administrative efforts of Firefly's Executive Director and staff, and helping to shape the non-profit's overall direction.

This is a particularly important time for Firefly to have a strong leadership team, as we are a newly recognized non-profit and currently have a lot of work to do! An effective BOD also engages heartily in practical roles, including fundraising efforts. The board of directors:

- Upholds the nonprofit's mission
- Establishes priorities
- Crafts strategies
- Ensures that plans and programs are implemented
- Spreads the good word about Firefly Gathering
- Uses personal and professional connections to gain access to potential donors
- Actively participates in fundraising campaigns

Without a committed BOD to tackle these tasks, a non-profit can quickly run adrift, without clear goals or any specific plans or funding to achieve them.

### **WHAT WE'RE LOOKING FOR**

The most important thing in this work is having a board that is *fully engaged*. The BOD meets quarterly, and each member is also expected to serve on two committees, which also typically meet quarterly. You need to be willing to donate between **5-8 hours per month** of your time for this work.

We meet virtually throughout the year and in-person at the gathering each year. At this time most members are located in the Southeast. You do not have to be based in the Asheville area, but you do need to be comfortable using technology to communicate, including the GoogleSuite and conference call lines.

We'll be considering new, complete, properly submitted applications at our next quarterly meeting. We hope to have folks who are able to commit for a **full 3 years**.

A BOD with a range of expertise, experience, and demographics is important to Firefly in order for our leadership to represent the diverse community that we serve. Here are some skills and demographics we are looking for in particular for our board:

Skills/Expertise:

- Fundraising
- Communications/marketing
- Social justice advocacy
- Nonprofit management
- Financial
- Board experience

Demographics: We encourage applications from all backgrounds, skill sets, abilities and life experience, and are particularly enthused to solicit applications among those who self-identify with the BIPOC, LGBTQAI+, and Elder (40+) communities, as well as others from traditionally underrepresented backgrounds and personal histories.

## **WHAT YOU GAIN**

Board members do not receive financial compensation. We do work hard to make sure people feel appreciated in their board roles. We offer a free pass to the Gathering for each board member, along with a discounted guest pass as a small thank-you. What you *really* gain is access to a whole community, which is priceless! Everyone who works with Firefly is dedicated to the vision, and is committed to seeing the organization through this important transition. You'll learn a lot about organizational management, as well!

## **APPLYING**

Please email C.J. O'Reilly ([cj.oreilly@fireflygathering.org](mailto:cj.oreilly@fireflygathering.org)), Firefly Board President, or Carrie Hill ([ms.carrie.hill@fireflygathering.org](mailto:ms.carrie.hill@fireflygathering.org)), Secretary, with any questions about serving on the board and to apply. We very much look forward to discussing this opportunity with you!