

## Simple Changes Board of Directors – Member Position Profile

*The mission of Simple Changes is to enrich the lives of individuals with disabilities as well as their families and communities through equine assisted activities.*

Contact: [info@simplechanges.org](mailto:info@simplechanges.org)

Simple Changes is a nonprofit (501(c)3) organization ([www.simplechanges.org](http://www.simplechanges.org)). We are a PATH Intl. Premier Accredited Center and are a member center of the Therapeutic Riding Association of Virginia. Simple Changes opened in 2005 based on the social science and medical evidence that riding and working with horses, with the guidance of certified professionals, significantly improves the lives of individuals with physical, emotional and developmental disabilities.

Simple Changes provides several types of equine assisted activities including recreational riding, hippotherapy, equine assisted learning and equine assisted mental health therapy. Current participants come from Northern Virginia and have a variety of disabilities and challenges, including autism spectrum disorder, genetic syndromes, cerebral palsy, dementia, brain injuries, and post-traumatic stress disorder.

Like all Boards of non-profits in Virginia, Simple Changes' Board is responsible and accountable to the Commonwealth of Virginia for the organizational and financial health and management of Simple Changes. The Board meets on a quarterly basis and is charged with advising, governing, guiding and supporting the organization to carry out its mission. Board members serve renewable 2-year terms. According to our by-laws, the Board cannot be larger than nine members. Currently, Simple Changes has seven Board members, including its executive director and program director. We are seeking new Board members to complement the current seven.

### Board Responsibilities

Members of the Board share the following responsibilities while acting in the interest of Simple Changes. Each member is expected to make recommendations based on his or her experience and vantage point in the community:

- Fundraising
- Promotion and outreach
- Legal guidance and responsibility
- Financial management including approval and oversight of the annual budget
- Oversight of program planning and evaluation
- Oversight of policies and procedures including personnel evaluation and staff development
- Review of organizational and programmatic reports
- Willingness to raise or contribute \$5000 per year

### Qualifications

- Passion for Simple Changes mission
- Ability to raise money for Simple Changes
- At least three to five years of professional experience
- Ability to attend board and other meetings in-person, via teleconferences, or web-based communications
- Connections to the local community
- Experience in at least one of the following areas: Fundraising; Financial management and/or budgeting; Non-profit regulations; Strategic planning; Marketing & Communications; Non-profit management
- Ability to volunteer time to organize and support Simple Changes events