

Simple Changes Board of Directors – Member Position Profile

The mission of Simple Changes is to enrich the lives of individuals with disabilities, their families and communities through exceptional therapeutic programs, especially equine assisted activities.

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 and neurological divergence.

Simple Changes provides several types of equine assisted activities including adaptive riding, hippotherapy, equine assisted mental health and learning and recreational riding. Current participants come mostly from Northern Virginia.

Simple Changes is a nonprofit, IRC Section (501)(c)(3) organization (www.simplechanges.org). We are a PATH Intl. Premier Accredited Center and a member center of the Therapeutic Riding Association of Virginia.

The Board of Directors 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, or more often as needed, and is charged with advising, governing, guiding and supporting the organization to carry out its mission.

It is assumed that Board members will donate financially to the organization personally or by bringing in other funding of at least \$5,000 per year.

Board members serve renewable 2-year terms. According to our by-laws, the Board cannot be larger than nine members. Currently, Simple Changes has six Board members, including its executive director and program director, who will soon step off the Board, leaving us with five spots to fill.

Board Responsibilities

Members of the Board share the following responsibilities while acting in the interest of Simple Changes. Each member is expected to serve on committees

based on his or her experience, skill set, and vantage point in the community, including:

- Fundraising
- Marketing and community engagement
- Legal guidance
- 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 \$5,000 per year
- Demonstrated commitment to the mission
- Partnering with the Executive Director
- Setting and executing the strategy for the organization
- Succession planning for key staff

Qualifications

- Passion for Simple Changes mission
- Ability to raise money for Simple Changes
- At least three to five years of professional experience
- Commitment to attend board and other meetings in-person, or via teleconferences, or web-based communications
- Connections to the local community
- Experience in at least one of the following areas: Board Governance, Fundraising; Financial management and/or budgeting; Non-profit regulations; Strategic planning; Marketing and communications; Nonprofit management
- Ability and commitment to volunteer time to organize and support Simple Changes events
- Willingness to exercise leadership role in one or more committees or select Simple Changes' activities