



Nevada Hands & Voices

Board of Directors Commitment Declaration

The Nevada Hands & Voices Board of Directors' purpose is to provide governance, leadership, and stewardship over NVHV as the organization and its employees provide unbiased support services statewide to families with children who are Deaf and Hard of Hearing and professionals who work with them. Our mission at NVHV is to be a parent-driven, non-profit organization that exists to support, encourage, and educate families of Deaf and Hard of Hearing children, so that they can be empowered to make choices that will enable their children to achieve their full potential. It is with this mission in mind that we require board members to commit to service that sustains the operation and growth of the organization. Board responsibilities include:

Governance & Stewardship:

- Ensure that all goals and activities of the organization are based upon the philosophy of unbiased methodology or approach.
- Provide oversight and inspiration to the activities and operations of the organization.
- Give direction to the short- and long-term planning efforts of the organization.
- Give guidance and approval to the organization's budget.
- Ensure dedication to, and use of assets for, the benefit of the public we serve.
- Ensure that the organization is responsive to the perspectives and views of the membership.
- Assist in the ongoing recruitment of potential individuals and/or service sectors to serve on the Board.

Leadership:

- Provide public awareness about the organization and its mission.
- Foster collaborative connections between other advocacy and support organizations, public and private agencies, and other state Hands & Voices chapters to influence system- change.
- Actively support the organization through direct financial contribution and/or voluntary inkind service.
- Be members in good standing of Nevada Hands & Voices with membership paid at due date.



Commitment Declaration:

To fulfill these service obligations, all Board members are asked to commit to the following expectations. These expectations are also part of the Nevada Hands & Voices By-Laws which describe the function and purpose of the Board of Directors.

1. Attend all conference calls and face-to-face Board Meetings (85% attendance is expected). Attendance at annual retreat is also required
 - a. Inform the executive committee of the Board of Directors of any inability to attend meetings (no more than 3 consecutive absences) or fulfill board assignments in a timely manner
 - b. Respond to all electronic communication in a timely manner
2. Hire/support/evaluate the Executive Director
3. Assure sustainability of the Board, recruiting board members and securing officers of the Board
4. Constructively participate in discussions; providing input and reflection that supports the mission and vision of Nevada Hands & Voices
 - a. Review and approve the annual budget
 - b. Review and approve the strategic plan
 - c. Review and approve major organizational decisions, commitments, and plans including expenditures
 - d. Evaluate progress toward program and financial goals
 - e. Provide leadership on organizational and programmatic goals
5. Provide letters of support, review funding proposals and grants, and/or other educational submissions that may benefit the organization
6. Participate in at least two activities that are part of the current strategic plan, including but not limited to participation on committees
7. Make a monetary annual donation (give or get) of \$250 to keep the organization within the 100% Board "giving" criteria (this is a requirement of most grant funding sources)
8. Other supporting functions
 - a. Fundraising
 - b. Planning
 - c. Parent and Professional Relationships
 - d. Others as needed

I have read, understand, and accept these responsibilities as a member of the Nevada Hands & Voices Board of Directors. I understand that I am subject to all relative organizational policies set forth in the Nevada Hands & Voices Organizational Manual.

Signature

Date