



United Way of Greater Houston

United Way
NONPROFIT
CONNECTION

QUESTIONS FOR YOUR CONSIDERATION AS A PROSPECTIVE BOARD MEMBER

You may want to use the following questions as a guide as you assess possible board opportunities:

Ask questions about the organization's programs

- What is the organization's mission?
- How do its current programs relate to the mission?
- Can I visit the organization to observe a program firsthand?
- Does the organization have a strategic plan that is reviewed and evaluated on a regular basis?

Ask questions about the organization's financial status

- Is the financial condition of the organization sound?
- Does the board discuss and approve the annual budget?
- How often do board members receive financial reports?

Ask questions about the organization's clients or constituencies

- Who does the organization serve?
- Are the organization's clients or constituencies satisfied with the organization?

Ask questions about the structure of the board

- How is the board structured?
- Are there descriptions of the responsibilities of the board as a whole and of individual board members?
- Are there descriptions of board committee functions and responsibilities?
- Who are the other board members?
- Is there a system of checks and balances to prevent conflicts of interest between board members and the organization?
- Does the organization have Directors and Officers liability insurance coverage?

Ask questions about individual board members' responsibilities

- What are the ways that you think I can contribute as a board member?
- How much of my time will be required for meetings and special events?
- How are committee assignments made?
- What orientation will I receive to the organization and to the responsibilities of board service?
- Does the organization provide opportunities for board development and education?
- What is the board's role in fundraising?
- Will I be expected to make a specific annual financial contribution?
- What role will I play in soliciting donors?

Ask questions about the board's relationship to the staff

- Is the board satisfied with the performance of the executive staff?
- How do board members and senior staff typically work with each other?

Once you are satisfied with the information you have received, it is time to evaluate your own interest in serving on the board. Ask *yourself* the following questions:

- Am I committed to the mission of the organization?
- Can I contribute the time necessary to be an effective board member?
- Am I comfortable with the approach and tone of the organization's fundraising efforts?
- Can I contribute financial support consistent with the organization's expectations of board members and with my own means and priorities?
- Can I place the organization's purposes and interests above my own professional and personal interests when making decisions as a board member?

Selected background information can provide a useful overview of the organization, the board's work, and the responsibilities of board members. Helpful material includes:

- The organization's annual report
- The most recent audited financial statement
- The long-range program and financial plan
- A list of current board members, titles, and all affiliations
- A description of board members' responsibilities
- A board organization chart
- A staff organization chart
- The organization's newsletter, brochure, or other publications
- Newspaper or magazine articles about the organization
- A brief biography of the chief executive

****Information excerpted from BoardSource Knowledge Center (www.boardsource.org)***

1) Albert Schweitzer Fellowship Houston Galveston

3701 Kirby Dr Suite 600 (77098)
(832) 922-3886

Executive Director: Gabrielle Hansen, PhD

www.asfhg.org

The Albert Schweitzer Fellowship - Houston Galveston is a 501(c)(3) non-profit organization dedicated to training the next generation of professionals to serve and empower vulnerable people to live healthier lives and create healthier communities. We achieve this by supporting our graduate student Fellows from all universities across Houston-Galveston to create self-designed, year-long community service projects with the goal of sustainability. Graduates of the Fellowship become Fellows for Life, and continue to make a positive impact on the health of underserved locals as leaders in our communities.

2) Alliance for Multicultural Community Services

6440 Hillcroft Ave (77081)
(713) 776-4700

Executive Director: Miriam Diria

www.allianceontheweb.org

For more than 30 years, Alliance for Multicultural Community Services has transformed the lives of countless refugees in Houston. During the resettlement process, refugees face many challenges, including adjusting to a new culture, navigating the city, and learning English. Alliance facilitates successful resettlement transitions by providing comprehensive services that lead to self-sufficiency. Alliance is a unique, community-based resource center for refugees, immigrants, and low-income families that inspires people to achieve economic independence and success in the United States.

3) Alzheimer's Association Houston & Southeast Texas Chapter

6055 South Loop East (77087)
(713) 314-4132

Executive Director: Richard Elbein

www.alz.org/texas

The Alzheimer's Association works on a global, national, and local level to enhance care and support for all those affected by Alzheimer's and other dementias.

4) ArtBridge Houston

3311 Richmond Ave. Suite 212 (77098)
(713) 527-9850

Executive Director: Shelly Stewart

www.Artbridgehouston.org

ArtBridge is investing in the past, present and future of homeless & at-risk kids.

- The Past: working through emotional hardship
- The Present: reigniting their imaginations
- The Future: providing positive tools for self-expression that can be used for years to come

5) Big Brothers Big Sisters

500 Dallas Street, Suite 2900 (77002)
(713) 271-1414

Executive Director: Pierce Bush
www.bbbstx.org

Big Brothers Big Sisters has operated under the belief that inherent in every child is the ability to succeed and thrive in life. As the nation's largest donor and volunteer supported mentoring network, BBBS makes meaningful, monitored matches between adult volunteers and children, "Bigs" and "Littles", in communities across the country. We develop positive relationships that have a direct and lasting effect on the lives of young people.

6) Capital Investing in Development and Employment of Adults Houston, LLC

2101 Crawford st., Suite 211 (77002)
(512) 350-4656

Executive Director: Robert Loiseau
www.capitalideahouston.org

Capital Idea is the only workforce intermediary of its kind in Houston. We recruit and train motivated adults stuck in low paying jobs and in the cycle of poverty and offer them a way to enter high paying middle skilled jobs through education at community colleges. We pay all college related expenses, and our graduates' average starting salaries exceed \$20 per hour. We sponsor healthcare education, STEM, and training in skilled, technical trades. Our graduates receive comprehensive support services throughout their education and graduate at three times the rate as other community college students. Our graduates include many fields, from registered nurses to pipefitters.

7) Career and Recovery Resources, Inc.

2525 San Jacinto (77002)
(713) 754-7082

Executive Director: Dr. Vernus C. Swisher
www.careerandrecovery.org

Career and Recovery Resources, Inc. is a nonprofit multi-service United Way of Greater Houston agency established in 1945 by B'nai B'rith as the Jewish Vocational Guidance Services. Our mission is to help people identify and overcome barriers to employment. Our vision is to be the premier agency providing services for people with barriers. The agency empowers job seekers with job readiness training, career guidance, job placement assistance, job retention counseling, and employment-related supportive services.

8) Catholic Charities of the Archdiocese of Galveston-Houston

2900 Louisiana (77006)
(713) 874-6737

Executive Director: Cynthia N. Colbert
www.catholiccharities.org

For more than 70 years, Catholic Charities – guided by God's love – has provided food, clothing, shelter, and a network of support services to people of all ages and from all walks of life and religious backgrounds. We also promote social justice, serving as a voice for the poor and vulnerable. 93¢ of every dollar directly benefits clients. Annually, we provide help and create hope for more than 77,000 people as they create better lives for themselves and their families.

9) ChildBuilders

2425 Fountain View Drive, Suite 210 (77057)
(713) 481-6555

Executive Director: Trish King
www.ChildBuilders.org

ChildBuilders trains individuals to deliver our solutions to children and youth of Greater Houston to measurably influence their awareness, beliefs, and attitudes to promote healthy decision-making skills which are proven to prevent risky behaviors and abuse. The programs we make available to teachers, counselors, nurses, day-care, and health-care workers include: Personal Safety Curriculum, Relationship Education, Parenting Preparation Education, and Social & Emotional Learning.

10) CHILDREN AT RISK

2900 Wesleyan Ste. 400 (77077)
(713) 869-7740

Executive Director: Dr. Robert Sanborn
www.childrenatrisk.org

CHILDREN AT RISK is a non-partisan research and advocacy organization dedicated to addressing the root causes of poor public policies affecting children. Using the tools of advocacy, CHILDREN AT RISK works on a broad range of children's issues, including education, human trafficking, health and nutrition, and parenting.

11) Citizens' Environmental Coalition Educational Fund

1900 Kane St, Ste 111 (77007)
(713) 524-4232

Executive Director: Rachel Powers
<http://www.cechouston.org>

A coalition of well over 100 environmental groups in the region, CEC has connected our environmental community since 1971.

12) DiscoverU

P.O Box 4059 (77021)
(832) 757-1090

Executive Director: Phillip Nevels
<http://www.discoverus.org/>

DiscoverU provides economically disadvantaged high school students with the resources and support necessary to participate in life-changing learning experiences beyond the traditional classroom and school year. These experiences, called "Fantastic Learning Opportunities," are college and career preparatory programs that position students to discover the world of opportunities that await them after high school, and develop personal, social, and emotional skills essential for college and career success.

13) Education Foundation of Harris County

6300 Irvington Blvd. (77096)
(713) 696-8290

Executive Director: Douglas H. Kleiner
www.efhc.org

The Education Foundation funds learning programs that inspire discovery, promote creativity and problem-solving, build confidence, and encourage each student to reach for the stars and envision a future beyond the classroom. Innovative programs include the All Earth Ecobot Challenge and Houston: Economic Engines of the Future 2050.

14) Family Houston

3120 Southwest Freeway (77098)
(713) 802-7876

Executive Director: Charly Weldon
www.familyhouston.org

Through its many programs and outreach services, Family Houston builds stronger families by teaching the life skills necessary to face financial, health, relationship, and other critical challenges. Whether it's career counseling, teaching parenting skills, or enrolling a veteran for benefits, our programs and services help strengthen families - leading to a healthier, more stable community.

Today, Family Houston serves low-income children, families and adults. Our clients represent the diversity of the city, with a wide range of ages and ethnicities.

15) Fifth Ward Enrichment Program, Inc.

4014 Market Street, Suite W145 (77020)
(713) 229-8353

Executive Director: Charles L. Savage
www.fwepinc.org

FWEP is a community-based youth development and empowerment program designed to pre-empt negative environmental influences on adolescent inner-city males. An all-male project staff of Site Coordinators, supported by part-time, male college students case-manage and coordinate after-school, weekend, and summer activities that expand the youths' knowledge and redirect their energies onto positive pathways. Structured academic supports, educational enhancements and social activities include tutoring, test prep sessions, life skills workshops, guest speakers, entrepreneurial training, experiential learning labs, field trips, leadership retreats, community service, civic engagement projects, cultural events, and parent-child activities.

16) Hope for Youth

PO Box 573024 (77257)
(713) 240-7409

Executive Director: N/A
<http://www.hopeforyouth.org>

Hope for Youth (HFY) is a nonprofit 501(c)(3) para-church ministry that provides activities and programs designed to give Houston's disadvantaged youth a fighting chance for a better future through healthy relationships with Christian adult leaders and a deepening relationship with Jesus Christ. A unique characteristic of HFY is that we seek out transient youth, including those from the Star of Hope homeless shelters, and proactively maintain relationships with them regardless of where they may move throughout Houston. We seek to be a point of consistency within their lives, bringing stability, purpose, and hope for the future.

17) Houston Blues Museum

2307 LaMonte Lane (77018)
(832) 725-2195

Executive Director: NA
www.houstonbluesmuseum.org

The Houston Blues Museum serves the local community by providing enrichment and adults' and children's educational programs that fulfill the museum's mission and strengthen its relationship with local residents, as well as provide support for the continued preservation of this essential cultural history. The museum sponsors exhibits by collaborating with institutions such as The Heritage Society, Houston History Alliance, Discovery Green, The Houston Symphony, GHCVB Visitors Center, The African American Library at The Gregory School, and The Society for the Performing Arts. We're preparing a campaign to outfit a bus and become a mobile museum!

18) Musiqa

1119 Waugh Drive #1 (77019)
(713) 524-5678

Executive Director: Brian C. Hodge
www.musiqahouston.org

Musiqa is dedicated to the performance of contemporary classical music with a focus on new compositions. It is one of the country's leading contemporary music ensembles, recently having been awarded the 2016 Chamber Music America/ASCAP Award for Adventurous Programming. Since its founding in 2002, Musiqa has presented over 200 performances and the works of over 150 nationally- and internationally- renowned composers. Our concerts are unique artistic experiences that pair fresh, modern music with other contemporary art forms such as film, theatre, art, or dance. Through extensive education programming, Musiqa provides music-learning activities to over 6,000 school children in Greater Houston.

19) Nabor House Community

9090 Katy Freeway Suite 400 (77024)
(713) 724-2467

Executive Director: Barbara Allen
www.naborhousecommunity.org

Nabor House Community:

ELEVATES low-income families with a path out of poverty by providing quality affordable childcare so parents can work or go to school.

EDUCATES children ages 2 months to 4 years old through center-based activities, indoor and outdoor play, music and movement, and hands-on activities.

MOTIVATES entry level early childhood workers by creating a culture of learning around the topics of child development and best practices enabling them to provide quality early childhood classrooms and experiences for their students.

20) Passages, Treatment for Women

7722 Westview Drive (77055)
(713) 957-4910

Executive Director: Ellen Kirby Joe
www.passagesforwomen.com

Small nonprofit that delivers counseling and housing services to women addicted to alcohol and/or drugs. Many are also dual-diagnosed.

21) Positive Coaching Alliance

2000-A Edwards Street (77007)
(281) 733-9936

Executive Director: Albert Johnson III
<http://positivecoach.org/chapters/houston/>

Changing the culture of youth sports from the win-at-all-cost ethic of the professional sports entertainment business. Youth sports offer a virtual classroom for teaching life lessons, but only if the adults who work with athletes recognize and seize the many teachable moments provided. Research shows participation in youth sports improves academic performance and school attendance, results in better behavior and decreases risk-taking behavior, such as experimenting with drugs and alcohol. But kids are dropping out of sports, and if kids don't stay in sports, they won't reap these benefits.

22) Second Chance Life Ministries Inc.

13119 Cottingham St. (77048)
(832) 272-7424

Executive Director: Betty Haynes
www.sclminc.org (under construction)

SCLM offers an opportunity to make a positive change in the lives of low to moderate income families in our community. We know how important it is to invest in our youth and sponsor several events throughout the year to give them hands-on experience in gardening, music camp, computers, budgeting, swimming, and entrepreneurship. SCLM has been in partnership with Prison Fellowship for over 16 years to assist children and their care providers with one or both parents incarcerated. We also provide food, clothes, and toys.

23) SIRE Inc.

24161 Spring Drive (77447)
(281) 389-3040

Executive Director: Joe Wappelhorst
www.sire-htec.org

At SIRE, we strengthen bodies, encourage learning, and nourish the spirits of hundreds of people with disabilities every week. Therapeutic horsemanship is an equine assisted activity for the purpose of contributing to the physical, emotional, and cognitive well-being of individuals with special needs. At SIRE, the diagnoses we see most often are autism, cerebral palsy, and developmental delays. The physical, emotional, and psychological toll that the differing diagnoses impact varies; therapeutic horsemanship is one program that can benefit all. Although our client ages can range from three years to octogenarians, over 60% of our clients are children. We also serve those associated with the military, wounded veterans, and their families. We serve clients from all over the Greater Houston area, an 11-county region.

24) Spaulding for Children

6925 Portwest Drive, Suite 110 (77024)
(713) 681-6991

Executive Director: Vikki Finley, President and CEO
www.spauldingforchildren.org

Spaulding for Children's mission is to provide children in need of a loving home with the joy of having one. Spaulding for Children is a no-fee adoption agency that works closely with the Department of Family and Protective Services (DFPS). Spaulding for Children is dedicated to building and sustaining strong, nurturing families for children who have endured abuse, neglect, or abandonment. Our vision is to be the premier provider of adoption, foster care, and related services in Texas. Because of Spaulding for Children, there could be a loving family for every child who needs one.

25) Target Hunger

1022 Turnberry Park Lane (77373)
(713) 320-7332

Executive Director: Lemel Jones
www.targethunger.org

The mission of Target Hunger, a United Way Agency, is to alleviate hunger and its root causes in the Houston neighborhoods we serve. What began as a small, community based organization in 1989, has grown into one of the largest organizations that distribute food to families in need in the Greater Houston area. Target Hunger operates a system of seven food pantries, 12 educational/community gardens, 15 senior home delivery routes, and a free breakfast program that serves more than 11,000 people each month. We distributed just over 3.9 million pounds in 2015, which is equivalent to approximately 4.6 million meals.

26) Texas One Voice: A Collaborative for Health and Human Services
2020 North Loop West, Ste. 200 (77018)
(713) 333-2232

Executive Director: Jacqueline Pontello
www.onevoicetexas.org

One Voice Texas is a collaborative where 100+ Houston non-profits join forces to advocate for policies that advance the lives of our clients and the work of our organizations. Simply put, there's strength in numbers. Priority areas are Children & Youth, Healthcare, Behavioral Health, and Housing/Homelessness—and OVT convenes monthly workgroups to build local consensus in these critical areas. One Voice works daily to make the voices of frontline nonprofits heard at City Hall and the Texas Legislature, heard as budgets are being drafted and in advance of critical legislation, and heard as state and federal agencies consider agency rules.

27) The Rose
12700 N. Featherwood, ste 260 (77034)
(281) 464-5123

Executive Director: Dorothy Gibbons
www.therose.org

Since 1986, The Rose has provided access to care to both insured and uninsured populations. Through two Breast Diagnostic Centers and Mobile Mammography program that covers 35 counties, we provide digital mammograms, diagnostic procedures, and patient navigation into treatment. Three insured women offset the costs of one uninsured woman. Last year, 7,500 uninsured women were served. The Rose is fully accredited by the American College of Radiology, has a 4-star rating from Charity Navigator with a 100% rating in transparency. The Rose collaborates with leading medical organizations and is the exclusive mammography provider for the Veterans Administration.

28) Virtuous Star, Incorporated
PO BOX 841726 (77584)
(832) 455-4420

Executive Director: Pernilla Turner
www.youarevstar.org

Virtuous Star, Inc. "VSTAR" is a 501(c)(3) nonprofit organization that offers in-school and after school programming in underserved communities across the City of Houston and surrounding areas. Since our inception, we have impacted over 3,500 lives. We are searching for board members who will assist us in reaching more female youth through our programming and fulfilling our mission.

29) Volunteers of America, TX
4808 Yale Street (77018)
(713) 460-0781

Executive Director: Angela King
www.voatx.org

Volunteers of America, Texas is a faith-based, nonprofit organization that lifts the most vulnerable in society out of the shadows. We step forward to help individuals find strength, healing and their full potential through services, including: addiction treatment, prevention and recovery programs; affordable housing for seniors, low-income families and adults with disabilities; community re-entry programs for those transitioning from prison; housing and support for adults with intellectual and developmental disabilities; and a continuum of support services to assist our clients and address the needs of the whole person.

30) Wesley Community Center, Inc. of Houston, Texas

1410 Lee St (77009)
(713) 821-8912

Executive Director: Diana Garbis

www.wesleyhousehouston.org

Wesley Community Center has been a social service agency with the mission of helping people help themselves and each other since its inception in 1904. Over the past 110 years, we have expanded our services to meet the needs of today's society through Early Childhood Education, Out-of-School Elementary and Youth Programming, Emergency Rental and Utility Assistance, Food Programs, Case Management, Senior and Social Services, and Economic Development Services through our Financial Opportunity Center which helps individuals become self-sufficient.

31) YMCA of Greater Houston

2600 North Loop West (77092)
(713) 758-9173

Executive Director: Paul McEntire

www.ymcahouston.org

The YMCA of Greater Houston is one of the Houston community's leading nonprofits committed to helping people and communities to learn, grow, and thrive. We were founded 130 years ago and our community contributions are both far-reaching and intimate—from influencing our nation's culture during times of profound social change to the individual support we provide an adult trying to lose weight. By nurturing the potential of every child and teen, improving the city's health and well-being, and supporting and serving our neighbors, the Y ensures that everyone has the opportunity to become healthier, more confident, connected, and secure.

32) Young Audiences Inc. of Houston

4550 Post Oak Place Suite 230 (77027)
(713) 520-9267

Executive Director: Mary Mettenbrink

www.yahouston.org

Young Audiences of Houston is the largest and leading provider of arts education in the region. Every year we serve 208,500+ children and youths through workshops, residencies, and performances in dance, music, theatre, and the visual arts. Our roster of 130 teachers go out to 51 school districts in the area as well as hospitals, juvenile detention centers, libraries, and community centers across nine counties in the Greater Houston region. Young Audiences is also the managing partner and fiscal agent for Houston Arts Partners and the Arts Access Initiative.

33) Young Learners School

3333 Bering Dr (77057)
(713) 771-7200

Executive Director: CEO

www.younglearners.org

Young Learners School (YLS) is a 501(c)(3) nonprofit organization that is effectively closing the academic gap for Houston's economically disadvantaged children entering kindergarten. We accomplish this by providing at-risk children with the same educational opportunities provided by local school district pre-kindergarten classrooms, but within a traditional child-care setting. By bringing degreed and certified educators into Head Start and licensed day care centers, YLS makes daily educational instruction accessible to children who would otherwise not receive it. Instruction is provided tuition-free and ensures that at-risk children will be on par academically with their more affluent peers when they start kindergarten.