

Selection Criteria for LDSS Board Members

Local Departments of Social Services Board Members hold a powerful volunteer position representing their community. LDSS Boards implement numerous aspects of the Code of Virginia related to Social Services, fulfilling important responsibilities and making decisions which greatly impact their community members.

Type of Board (circle one): Administrative Advisory

Preferred Qualities of a LDSS Board Member

Availability An educated, engaged Board is best prepared to represent and advocate for the community's citizens. Board members must have the availability and interest needed to complete training, attend Board meetings, and serve as an active, engaged member of the Board.

Advocacy Board members should be ready to embrace the role of champion, community activist, mythbuster and strong supporter of vital social services work in their community. Board members serve as champions for our most vulnerable citizens and therefore must understand the purpose, cost, and gains of services and programs, and be prepared to represent those in need.

Diversity A diverse board is rich in experiences, knowledge and ideas. Members from a variety of ethnicities, cultures and backgrounds (individuals with accounting and budgeting experience, teachers, non-profit leaders, community activists, parents, CEOs, etc.) bring a range of perspectives, proficiencies and skills. A highly inclusive Board can greatly benefit the LDSS and the community at large.

Dedication Each Board member's involvement has a direct impact on the people we serve. All of our citizens deserve to be represented by dynamic, vigorous, contributory and high-performing Board members, eager to innovate and improve social services in their community.

Expectations

Review and sign the Pre-Service Agreement.

Complete Action Items within three months of beginning service.

Attend all meetings. If an absence is required, notify the Board Chair and Local DSS Director.

Be involved in the local department's initiatives, budget, planning, goals and communications.

Accountability

If a Local Board member does not meet the established expectations, he/she may be removed from the Board by the entity which nominated the member, or by the State Board.

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Process Flow and Roles

Local Director, Regional Director or Board Chair provides Selection Criteria for LDSS Board Members to Board of Supervisors/City Council.



Board of Supervisors/ City Council identifies and selects appropriate Board Member. Pre-Service Agreement is provided. Board member is sworn in.



Board of Supervisors/City Council informs Local Director and LDSS Board Chairperson regarding newly appointed Board member.



Local Director informs Regional Director regarding newly appointed Board member. Regional Director will schedule and deliver Board member training as needed in Region.



Local Director provides Pre-Service Agreement (via email or live meeting) to new Board member and encourages completion within three months. Local Director attends all Board meetings and works collaboratively with Board to plan and achieve goals.



New Board member attends training, completes Action Items on Pre-Service Agreement, signs and submits the Agreement.



Board member upholds responsibilities and expectations.