Board Member Job Description

Who We Are:

Feeding America Riverside | San Bernardino (FARSB) began in April 1980 as Survive Food Bank, distributing about 10,000 pounds of food per month and partnering with about 20 local nonprofit agencies. Today, FARSB distributes over 3.3 million pounds of food monthly and partners with nearly 250 local nonprofit agencies.

FARSB is one of 200 food banks affiliated with Feeding America, the National Food Bank Network. FARSB serves the Riverside and San Bernardino Counties, *aka the Inland Empire*. There are over 800,000 people who live below the poverty line in the Inland Empire and over 684,000 people who are food insecure. Our food bank is the largest hunger-relief organization in the Inland Empire, with over 470,000 people who rely on us each month.

Our Mission:

Our mission is to alleviate hunger in the Inland Empire. We envision a community where everyone has access to an adequate and nutritious food supply.

Who YOU Are:

FARSB calls forth passionate, dedicated future board members from diverse backgrounds. We strive to be able to create a board that centers our equity constitutes — tribal communities, communities of color, immigrant and refugee communities, transgender and gender nonconforming, and single mothers and caregivers that will provide their skills and knowledge to attain our shared goals. We understand that hunger is a pressing issue fostered by systemic barriers like racism, sexism, and cissexism. We aim to create an inclusive community with representation, support, and strong connections for underrepresented groups. Together, we aim to build a safety net that eliminates hunger in the Inland Empire.

The individuals who have personally experienced the harsh reality of hunger and understand its underlying causes are the ones who hold the power to drive the necessary change and eliminate these systemic barriers. **It is the power of lived experience.** We highly value the transformative influence of lived experience, an essential quality we seek in our prospective board members.

Potential candidates should have skill sets in: Human Resources, Marketing, Public Relations, Grocery/Consumer Goods, Community Outreach, Advocacy & Public Policy, Law, Media/Entertainment, or Supply Chain Management.

At FARSB, we seek dedicated local leaders to oversee finance, management, and performance. In the Inland Empire, our residents have faced numerous systemic barriers impacting their education, employment, housing, and healthcare, including racism, sexism, and cissexism. We seek individuals passionate about eliminating hunger in the Inland Empire who bring fresh ideas and a diverse skill set that extends to community outreach, fundraising, and marketing, among other areas.

Expectations of the Board:

- Believe in and actively advocate for Feeding America Riverside | San Bernardino's values, mission, and vision.
- Hold Feeding America Riverside | San Bernardino to a high standard of performance and integrity. Assist in evaluating your participation, the board, the CEO, and the entire FARSB organization.
- Select the CEO and evaluate their performance.
- Disclose potential or actual conflicts before and during board meetings. Sign an annual conflict–of–interest form and update it during the year if necessary.
- Work with fellow board members to fulfill the obligations of board governance, fiduciary responsibilities, and membership.
- Participate in the board's recruitment efforts by recommending qualified and capable individuals.
- Attend bi-monthly board meetings, committee meetings, and food bank events regularly.
- Review the annual budget and monthly financial statements to further understand and analyze the organization's financial standing.
- Participate actively by reviewing or bringing materials to board discussions as the board embraces dissent and diversity until decisions are reached.
- Support board decisions by speaking publicly about the decisions as 'one voice' of the board.
- Engage in fundraising and resource development as appropriate, such as attending the annual Can Tree fundraising event and joining the staff on donor visits.
- Support Feeding America Riverside | San Bernardino financially by donating yearly, which is personally significant and serves as a model to the community.
- Engage with Feeding America Riverside | San Bernardino social media by reposting, liking, or commenting on a post as often as possible.
- Connect Feeding America Riverside | San Bernardino with potential donors and volunteers
- Agree to step down from the board position if unable to fulfill these expectations.

Requirements:

- Term: Board members are elected for an initial three-year term that can be renewed for a second three-year term, depending on performance and the individual's desire to do so.
- Meetings: Board members are required to attend board meetings. Meetings are held bi-monthly on the last Thursday. Meetings generally run from 9:00 AM to 10:30 AM and are held remotely via video call, with (1) in-person meeting every fiscal year. Board members are expected to prepare, participate, and contribute informed opinions at meetings.

- Committees: Board members must serve on at least one committee. At the present time, committees include Executive, Audit, Investment, Fundraising, and Governance. Board members must participate actively in discussions, assist with committee reports, and follow through on assignments.
- Experience: Board members should have experience and expertise in an area of benefit to the Food Bank and willingly serve as a resource to the board and staff.
- Leadership: Over the course of their tenure, board members should be willing to take on leadership responsibilities. Currently, there are four board leadership positions: Board Chair, Vice Chair, Secretary, and Treasurer, each elected for a two-year term.
- Values: Every board member should be committed to Feeding America Riverside San Bernardino's mission to "alleviate hunger in the Inland Empire" and to building and modeling the values of diversity, inclusion, and equity as we advance that mission.
- Financial Support: Each board member is expected to financially support the Food Bank to the best of their ability and to participate in fundraising efforts including attending events, encouraging others to contribute financially, and soliciting major gifts. Board members are expected to be effective spokespersons who actively promote the organization in our community.
- Volunteering: Board members are strongly encouraged to participate in one or more volunteer activities such as food sorting, packaging, and distribution, and to encourage others to volunteer as well.

We are looking for future trailblazers to work alongside us to confront systemic oppression and poverty and find results so our community prospers. **Here at FARSB, we believe that food is a fundamental human right for everyone.**

For more information, please visit our website at Feedingie.org/Board or contact HR at hr@feedingamericaie.org.