



Committee Members

Vini KD Emery
Montpelier

Kate Jerman
Burlington

Llu Mulvaney-Stanak
Burlington

Marcos Stafne
White River Junction

Richard M. Wizansky, Ed.D.
Guilford

Vermont Community Foundation Liaisons

Elisabeth Marx
Kevin Wiberg

Advisory Committee Member Position Description

The Samara Fund (Samara) is a community-directed fund that helps ensure lesbian, gay, bisexual, transgender, and queer (LGBTQ+) Vermonters are connected, healthy, appreciated, safe, and empowered. We make grants and scholarships annually based on recommendations from committees of LGBTQ+ volunteers from around the state.

About the Samara Committee

The current committee is composed of five LGBTQ+, white Vermonters, from across the state. We work in sectors of higher education, mental health, non-profit, and professional consulting and coaching on a variety of capacity building strategies. As a committee, we are committed to expanding the diversity of the social identities represented on the committee.

Equal Opportunity Statement

The Samara Fund is committed to representing the diverse LGBTQ+ community and is proud to be an equal opportunity organization. We encourage applicants from diverse racial, ethnic, and cultural backgrounds; women, non-binary, and gender diverse individuals, veterans; and individuals with disabilities to apply. All eligible applicants have an equal opportunity in all areas of consideration.

Position Summary

A Samara Advisory Committee Member is part of the small team of four to eight LGBTQ+ Vermonters who provide vision, leadership, and action for the fund. You will be part of making funding decisions for grants, helping inform the Samara Scholarship process, and ensuring the long-term financial success of the fund.

Expectations of the Committee as a Whole

As the leadership body of the fund, the Committee is responsible for:

- Setting the annual goals for the fund, informed by the mission and vision/purpose
- Strategic and organizational planning
- Prioritizing diverse membership of our LGBTQ+ community on the committee
- Prioritizing use of fund assets
- Fundraising and resource development
- Approving and monitoring the fund's grant and scholarship programs
- Enhancing the fund's public image
- Assessing its own performance as the leadership body for the fund
- Selecting from among its members a facilitator for each meeting

Expectations of Individual Committee Members

Each individual committee member is expected to:

- Know the fund's mission, programs, and needs
- Prepare for, attend, and conscientiously participate in committee meetings
- Participate in the grantee selection process
- Serve as an advocate and ambassador for the fund; identifying and securing the resources and partnerships necessary for the fund to advance its mission
- Give a meaningful personal donation of money or other resources of value (ex. skills) annually
- Faithfully read and understand the fund's financial statements
- Complete the Vermont Community Foundation confidentiality agreement and maintain confidentiality about all internal matters of the fund
- Complete the annual Vermont Community Foundation Conflict of Interest Disclosure Form and comply with its provisions

General Calendar of Activity

- Monthly Meetings
- June-July: Grants Review
- December-January: Committee Recruitment

How to Apply

Apply online: vermontcf.org/JoinSamaraCommittee

Please contact Elisabeth Marx with questions: emarx@vermontcf.org

Applications are due December 18, 2020.

Due to Covid, all committee business and meetings are currently conducted online. A reliable internet connection is necessary for participation in the committee at this time.

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