

Plant Powered Metro New York
Board of Directors Responsibilities

June 2019

As a new organization soon to be fiscally sponsored by a 501(c)(3) tax-exempt organization, Plant Powered Metro New York is building its first Board of Directors to provide oversight and raise funds for our efforts. With a mission to catalyze the local movement for vibrant health through whole food, plant-based nutrition, there has been tremendous demand for our work across the metro area as people are increasingly looking for new information around chronic illness prevention and treatment as well as support for dietary transition. Within our first three months of operation as a metro-wide organization, our active volunteer leadership has grown from five founding leaders to 16, yielding dozens of public educational events and significant emerging partnerships with wellness centers, social service agencies, faith-based communities, and health care organizations. Our organizational objective is to build a strong infrastructure of support for volunteers in the field, allowing us to hire dedicated staff and provide funding for emergent projects. In these early stages, we are actively employing a model of organizing that seeks to leverage the diverse talents and connections of our organizers rather than pursue a single focus.

Responsibilities of the Board of Directors will be as follows:

- Provide feedback on planning and goal-setting conducted to date, and engage in future planning
- Provide fiduciary oversight on financial and legal issues
- Seek out opportunities for PPMNY to gain exposure on the regional and national levels, and to build partnerships with community organizations or leaders who are receptive to our health message
- Seek out major funders, both individuals and institutions, through charitable gifts and grants, to provide the first funding required to bring PPMNY activities to a place of stability, ideally operating with a minimum of \$100,000 in the first year
- Each provide a gift, and/or solicit gifts, of at least \$5,000 annually
- Help to identify when is the right time to pursue our own, independent 501(c)(3)
- Spend 5-10 hours/month on their board service; this will be an active, working board
- Convene for meetings on a quarterly basis and commit to tasks between meetings

PPMNY seeks candidates for the Board of Directors who bring the following:

- Professional experience and connections in the fields of health care, public health, food systems, health/food justice, education, hospitality, government, finance, and technology, among others
- Existing relationships with potentially mission-aligned funders
- Prior experience on nonprofit boards
- Interest in, and support of, a model of organizing that leverages principles and best practices in social network theory, including a willingness to allow for emergent, alongside planned, action, and to put some organizational decision-making in the hands of core organizers
- Racial, socioeconomic, gender, ability, age, geographic, and other diversity representative of the New York metropolitan area

Those interested in supporting our mission who cannot commit time or provide a give/get of \$5,000 are invited to serve on our Community Advisory Board, or on our Medical Advisory Board, if a licensed clinician. Major donors with limited time will be invited to join a patrons' circle and have separate opportunities to engage in and provide feedback on PPMNY's work.

To discuss the possibility of board service, please contact Lianna Levine Reisner, PPMNY Network Director, lianna@ppmny.org.