

BRIGHT BEGINNINGS

2010-2011

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*Designate
Bright Beginnings!*

United Way #8379
CFC #17053

BOARD MEMBER JOB DESCRIPTION

Mission

Bright Beginnings, Inc., a nationally-recognized child and family development center, effectively responds to the special needs of young children and families living in homeless environments. Established in 1991 by the Junior League of Washington, the center provides year-round, all-day comprehensive education, therapeutic and support services for more than 150 homeless infants, toddlers and preschoolers in Washington, DC each year, while helping their families transition out of homelessness. Bright Beginnings supports children to reach important milestones through safe, nurturing, developmentally-appropriate childcare and helps their parents to achieve self sufficiency and end their homelessness.



Bright Beginnings has been widely recognized for our commitment to helping children succeed, and recently earned our second accreditation as one of the nation’s premier child and family development centers by the National Association for the Education of Young Children (NAEYC), an accolade achieved by only 8% of early childhood centers across the country.

Position Description

Bright Beginnings’ Board of Directors supports our work and provides mission-based leadership and strategic governance. Bright Beginnings has an extremely engaged Board of Directors providing expertise and time to ensure programs and services effectively address the challenges and needs of homeless families with young children. The Board of Directors has the principal responsibility for fulfillment of our mission and the legal accountability for our operation. While day-to-day operations are led by Bright Beginnings’ Executive Director, the board-executive relationship is a partnership, and the appropriate involvement of the Board is both critical and expected. Specific board member responsibilities include:

Leadership, Governance and Oversight:

- Provides fiduciary, legal and strategic oversight and maintains legal and ethical integrity.
- Brings strong commitment to Bright Beginnings’ mission and dedication to homeless families.
- Actively raises funds on behalf of the organization and ensures adequate resources to fulfill our mission.
- Makes personally significant contribution each year to the organization.
- Represents organization to external audiences and constituencies, acting as an ambassador to enhance public standing and visibility.
- Attends 75% of board meetings and actively participates in completing the board’s responsibilities, including serving on one or more committees.

Qualifications:

- Executive-level experience (preferred industries include business, education, finance, legal, marketing or technology);
- Previous experience and active participation in soliciting funds for a nonprofit is strongly preferred;
- Ability and willingness to leverage business connections and personal networks for fundraising and visibility efforts; and
- Previous experience on a nonprofit board.

Term: One 3-year appointment with two additional 3-year appointments possible.

To apply, please forward your resume and a cover letter detailing your interest to Jonna Holden, Center Administrator and Lisa Mould, Governance Committee Chair at jholden@BrightBeginningsInc.org.