

## 2016 Associate Board Candidate Application

Thank you for your interest in Housing Forward's Associate Board. We're glad you want to be part of Housing Forward's solution to homelessness.

### **About us:**

Housing Forward is the primary provider of supportive housing in west Cook County. Our solution is comprehensive and long-term, not just a quick fix, which benefits our clients and also the communities in which we operate.

Our agency was founded in 1992 with the creation of an overnight Emergency Shelter program that addressed the growing problem of homelessness in Oak Park and the surrounding suburbs. Today, we serve the communities of west Cook County and the west side of Chicago, an area with a population larger than many mid-size cities.

Housing Forward's comprehensive solution to homelessness leverages the impact of 1,000 volunteers, more than a dozen shelter host sites, nearly 100 congregations and service groups, and 17 partner agencies to help in delivery of services. Our programming is designed, implemented and evaluated by a highly credentialed staff.

We've sustained year-to-year growth over the past five years, with our operating budget more than doubling from \$1.1 million (2009) to \$4.3 million (projected 2016). The Associate Board and its activities will be integral to our future success.

**Our Vision:** the end of homelessness

**Our Mission:** to transition people from housing crisis to housing stability

**Our Values:**

- client-centered services delivered with dignity and respect
- collaborative relationships
- open communication and information-sharing
- community support
- integrity, passion, perseverance and the pursuit of excellence in our work

**About the Associate Board:**

The new Associate Board is an awesome opportunity for you to participate in the fundraising efforts of Housing Forward while developing new skills and broadening professional and social circles. You'll be part of an exciting and passionate team of young professionals focused on the vision to end homelessness.

Here's a description of what it means to be an Associate Board member:

- Attend meetings as well as committee/planning sessions, 1 year minimum commitment
- \$250 financial commitment (give or get) through sponsorships, attending events, getting guests to attend events, etc.
- Participate in the implementation & fundraising efforts of the October event
- Serve as ambassadors in the community and connect us to resources

If you'd like more information about what we do, visit our website or Facebook page at [www.housingforward.org](http://www.housingforward.org) or [facebook.com/HousingForward](https://facebook.com/HousingForward).

Now that you know a little about us, it's time for us to learn about YOU.

Name _____	Title _____	
Company/Organization _____		
Address _____	City _____	Zip Code _____
Cell Phone: _____	E-mail: _____	

So, our first question is "Why?" Why do you want to be on Housing Forward's Associate Board?

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Describe your personal/professional experiences that are relevant to your participation on the Associate Board.

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Please describe any previous board experience or leadership positions you have held.

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What other organizations are you involved in now, or have you been involved in recently (including volunteer groups, church or social groups, etc.)?

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Please attach a copy of your resume and any other information you'd like to add that might assist us in the evaluation of your application. All materials can be faxed or emailed to:

Housing Forward  
Attn: Janet Gow  
1851 S. Ninth Avenue  
Maywood, IL 60153

[jgow@housingforward.org](mailto:jgow@housingforward.org)  
Fax: 708-338-1745  
Phone: 708-338-1724 x 262

We thank you for your interest in Housing Forward's Associate Board.