

Friends of Deer Hollow Farm

Board of Director Member Overview



Friends of Deer Hollow Farm (FODHF) is a volunteer 501(c)(3) nonprofit organization founded in 1994 to preserve Deer Hollow Farm. FODHF Mission is to:

- Preserve Deer Hollow Farm, an historical area and working farm, and
- Support the farm's environmental education program for the benefit of schools and the community by raising funds through donations, grants and public events.

The Board is composed of a maximum of 13 volunteers, who serve for at least one three-year term, with a second term if desired. The Board's primary mission is raising money for the farm through individual donations and fundraising campaigns, writing grants and public events. The board conducts its work through four board meetings per year and operating committees.

Since its founding in 1994, FODHF has raised over \$2.5M in funding for the 160-year-old teaching farm:

- Field trip scholarships
- Animal care and feed
- Farm operations support
- Farm enhancement projects

Field Trip Scholarships

FODHF provides field trip scholarships for nearly half the 5,000 elementary students from numerous Schools and Cities across the Silicon Valley. This allows children from low-income areas to participate in the Farm's renowned educational programs.

Animal Fund

FODHF supports 100% of the costs for animal acquisition, care and feed covered through the animal fund. The animals are an integral part of the educational programs and beloved by children and adults alike.

Farm Operations

FODHF shares operating costs among many entities, and this shared model better ensures the Farm's future. The farm is funded by Midpeninsula Regional Open Space District, the City of Mountain View, Santa Clara County Department of Recreation and FODHF.

Farm Enhancement Projects

FODHF funds Farm improvement projects recommended by the Farm staff which support the education program, structures and maintenance equipment.

Board Member Requirements

The Board welcomes new members to support its mission: raising money for the Farm. Most of FODHF funding comes from individual donors as part of our year end Become a Friend Campaign, along with grants from community organizations, foundations, and government entities as well as three fundraising events at the farm.

Donor relations and fundraising experience, grant writing and public outreach/advocacy are important Board member skills, along with serving as an ambassador for the Farm. Marketing and PR are also key skills as Friends publishes a newsletter, manages www.deerhollowfarmfriends.org as well as social media presence on Facebook and Instagram. And finally finance and legal expertise is also welcome. An overriding requirement is a passion for preserving the farm.

Board members must be 18 years old. Other requirements include:

- Contribute about 10 hours a month
- Donate \$250 per year to FODHF
- Attend four Board meetings a year, and
- Work on at least one committee, ideally two.

More details are available in our Board handbook.

Work In Committees

The board conducts its work through four board meetings per year and operating committees. Email, telephone, online meetings and physical meetings are used to communicate. The six committees include:

- Grants & Lobbying
- Donor Relations & Outreach
- Finance
- Marketing Communications
- Merchandise & Events
- Volunteer Farm Projects

The Board also welcomes volunteers to serve only on committees.

For more information, please contact our Board President Lubab Sheet-Davis at lubab@deerhollowfarmfriends.org.

