



Wanasah is Recruiting New Board Members

Wanasah is seeking community members interested in serving on our Board of Directors on a volunteer basis.

Who we are:

[Wanasah](#) is a new non-profit mental health agency created to address the urgent mental health and problematic substance use needs of Black youth and their families through the provision of effective Black-centric mental health services in the community.

We recognize the need for inclusive, trauma-informed care with meaningful incorporation of spirituality and community voice in its programming. Our aim is to provide Black youth with high quality, evidence-based mental health and addictions care that values their unique culture and experience. We are a space where Black youth and their families recognise themselves.

What we do:

We provide counselling, case management and crisis supports to Black youth aged 12 to 25 and their families living in Toronto's Regent Park. Our services incorporate an anti-racist, anti-Black racism and anti-oppression framework that integrates principles of intersectionality.

Our vision: Safe and inclusive communities where Black youth with mental health concerns live with dignity and a sense of purpose.

Our mission: To improve access to effective and holistic mental health services for Black youth and their families in Toronto.

Our Board:

Our 4-member Board is expanding by recruiting four new members with a passion for our mission and vision. In selecting new members, an effort will be made to maintain a two-thirds representation of Directors who identify as Black to represent the community we serve.

The Board is particularly looking for individuals who possess one or more of the following characteristics:

- Strong board and governance experience
- **Financial management and/or accounting skills and the interest to take on the role of Secretary-Treasurer**
- Human Resources management
- Public relations and communications
- Fundraising
- Legal background

- Knowledge of the mental health and addictions health system

We are also seeking to build on the diversity in our current board, and encourage qualified candidates with the following experience/identities to apply:

- Black
- Youth (age 18 to 25)
- Ethno-racial
- LGBT2SQ
- People with disabilities
- Individuals living/having lived in Regent Park and the surrounding area

All Directors are expected to exhibit the following qualities:

- **Proven commitment to resisting anti-Black racism and working within an anti-racist and anti-oppression framework**
- An understanding of Board governance
- Ability and willingness to participate regularly and commit the necessary time for Board meetings, orientation and on-going education, committee work and fundraising activities
- Ability to ask questions at a strategic level
- Ability to be a team player
- Effective interpersonal skills
- High integrity
- Conflict resolution orientation
- Ability to present views effectively
- Willingness and ability to listen

Term: Directors commit to a minimum two-year term which may be renewed for a second term.

Time Commitment: It is expected that Directors will devote a minimum of 6-8 hours per month to Board activities. The Board meets a minimum of 12 times a year, currently on a Tuesday evening.

How to apply:

Interested candidates are asked to submit a letter of interest and resume to info@wanasah.ca. Please include 'Board Application' in the subject line of your email. The deadline for applications is **Sept 3, 2021**.

For more information, contact the Board Nominations Committee at: leslie.shanks@wanasah.ca

We thank all applicants for their interest in this position, however we will only be contacting those selected for interviews.