

# Community Leaders Wanted! BOARD OF DIRECTORS MEMBERSHIP

*Multiple seats available  
Nominations accepted through May 28, 2021*



Downtown Evening Soup Kitchen (DESK) is currently accepting nominations for membership on our Board of Directors. Ideal candidates will be passionate and committed to DESK's mission.

## **Mission and Background**

DESK serves people experiencing homelessness or living in poverty by providing food assistance and services that promote health, community, and equity. In the last year-and-a-half, we took a long look in the mirror. We've put our heads together to consider what isn't working for homelessness services in New Haven, and we developed a plan that would enable us to address those problems in a way that is collaborative, equitable, and progressive, and that doubles-down on what DESK already does well: *food and community*.

The people we serve need a "drop-in center," where they can walk in and access resources, like healthcare, employment, or addiction services, or get assigned to a shelter bed that night. DESK will provide the space and the food; our partners will provide the specialized services. After searching for more than a year, DESK finally found the right location and the right building. We've purchased a modest building on State Street, two blocks from the New Haven Green. As such, as DESK continues to expand and grow, we invite passionate and committed people to join the organization as Board Members. DESK's Board of Directors is comprised of a small group of dedicated individuals who are highly engaged in the community, each bringing at least one area of specialization or knowledge to their Board service.

***Interested candidates should mail a cover letter and résumé to Sofia Morales at [sofia.morales@yale.edu](mailto:sofia.morales@yale.edu) with "Board Member Application" in the subject line.***

## **Core Requirements and Responsibilities of Board Members**

- **Network Cultivation and Community Outreach** – Serve as both representatives of and ambassadors to the general public, helping to establish a broad base of support across the community.
- **Programmatic Oversight** – Responsible for determining ethical, appropriate, and impactful program and service provision.
- **Strategic Planning** – Responsible for setting the mission, vision, and values of the organization and determine the long-term plans for achieving goals and ensuring organizational sustainability.
- **Fiduciary Responsibility** – Responsible for providing financial oversight to the organization, including adherence to relevant laws, appropriate expenditures, and ethical fundraising practices.

## **Skill Sets and Backgrounds Welcomed**

- Diversity of voice and background
- Representation from underserved communities and neighborhoods in New Haven
- Fundraising and strategic development professionals
- Financial and accounting professionals
- Project management, real estate, and construction professionals

## **Anticipated Commitment**

Board service is an *unpaid* volunteer position with an expected commitment to a three-year term. Members typically attend one Board meeting and one committee meeting a month.

For more information about DESK, visit us online at [www.deskct.org](http://www.deskct.org)

*DESK values greatly the role of diversity in organization and strongly encourages applications from people of all backgrounds and lifestyles.*