

TDS Board Member Job Description

Mission

The mission of Tanzania Development Support (TDS) is to improve the quality of life of youth, especially girls, in the Mara region by supporting primary and secondary school improvements and other community-identified priorities.

Key Accomplishments

Now in its 10th year, TDS has had several accomplishments including the construction of a girls' dormitory and a library and resource center, supporting a women-owned organization to develop water filters for clean drinking water, providing scholarships to girls, and most recently, implementing a career pathways program for over 200 students.

Position

The Board Member will support the work of Tanzania Development Support and provide mission-based leadership and strategic governance. Currently, day-to-day operations are led by Kurt Thurmaier, Founder and Board President, and a part-time Managing Director. Specific Board Member responsibilities include:

Leadership, governance and oversight

- Serving as a trusted advisor to the Board President, Vice-President, and other Board members as they develop and implement TDS' strategic plan
- Supporting the development of, and reviewing outcomes and metrics created by TDS to evaluate its impact; and regularly measuring its performance and effectiveness using those metrics.
- Reviewing agendas and supporting materials prior to Board meetings
- Approving TDS' annual budget, and material business decisions; being informed of, and meeting all legal and fiduciary responsibilities
- Assisting the Board President in identifying and recruiting other Board members
- Partnering with the Board President and other Board members to ensure that resolutions are carried out
- Serving on committees or task forces and taking on special assignments
- Representing TDS to stakeholders; acting as an ambassador for the organization
- Ensuring TDS' commitment to a diverse board that reflects the community it serves.

Fundraising

- TDS Board members will consider TDS a philanthropic priority and make annual gifts that reflect that priority. So that TDS can credibly solicit contributions from foundations, organizations, and individuals, TDS expects to have 100 percent of Board Members make an annual contribution that is commensurate with their capacity.

Board term/participation

TDS Board members will serve a three-year term to be eligible for re-appointment for additional terms. Board meetings will be held every two months. Board members typically spend approximately 12 hours per month on TDS related activities.

Qualifications

This is an extraordinary opportunity for an individual who is passionate about TDS' mission and who has a track record of board or other civic leadership. Selected Board members will have experience in business, government, philanthropy, or the nonprofit sector. His/her accomplishments will allow him/her to attract other well-qualified, high-performing Board members.

Ideal candidates will have the following qualifications

- Experience in business, government, philanthropy or the non-profit sector
- A commitment to and understanding of TDS' beneficiaries, preferably based on experience in similar communities or with organizations that serve similar communities
- Affinity for cultivating relationships and persuading, convening, and building consensus among diverse individuals
- Personal qualities of integrity, credibility, and a passion for improving the lives of TDS' beneficiaries
- Skilled in one of the following areas: fundraising, technology (e.g. website development, database skills etc.), nonprofit management

Service on TDS' Board of Directors is without remuneration, except for administrative support in relation to Board members duties.

If you're interested in joining us, please contact us at bdsearch@tdsnfp.org