



# Hands & Voices, New Mexico Board Member Application

Hands & Voices, New Mexico (HVNМ) is looking for families/professionals/consumers from all over the state to serve on our board. Your application will be considered and voted upon by the acting Board of Directors. You will be notified in writing of your acceptance to a two-year term. We are asking for a commitment from those wishing to serve as board members to minimally include:

**1. You understand and adhere to our core beliefs:**

***Mission:** HVNM is a parent-led nonprofit organization providing resources, peer support and advocacy in an unbiased manner to families with children who are deaf or hard of hearing.*

***Vision:** We envision a world where children who are Deaf and Hard of Hearing have every opportunity to achieve their full potential.*

***Motto:** “What works for your child is what makes the choice right!”*

**2. You can support communication choices** made by individuals and families that are different from your own personal belief system, and you will not allow bias to interfere with your function and participation on this board.

**3. You will regularly participate in scheduled HVNM Board meetings**, in person or via remote electronic communications system, with no more than two consecutive absences. Board meetings may be held at different locations in the state. If you are unable to attend, you will contact the Board President.

All board members must be members in good standing and must participate in 75% of the board meetings in a calendar year either in person or via remote communication. We have four quarterly board meetings and two semi-annual board development meetings (usually same day as regular board meeting).

Contact Carmen Armenta, Executive Director, at [carmen@hvnм.org](mailto:carmen@hvnм.org) if you have any questions.



● **Board Member Application**

Hands & Voices NM  
 PO Box 90804  
 NM 87199  
[www.hvnm.org](http://www.hvnm.org)

<b>Name:</b>		<b>DOB:</b>	
<b>Mailing Address:</b>		<b>Date Submitted:</b>	
<b>Phone/Text#:</b>		<b>E-mail address:</b>	
<i>Professionals:</i>			
<b>Title:</b>		<b>Organization Name:</b>	

**Please initial after each required statement:**

- I have read the commitment requirements and I understand and accept them as a part of the HVNM Chapter Board. \_\_\_\_\_
- I understand that by submitting this application, I voluntarily consent and authorize HVNM to complete a background check on me if I am selected as a board member nominee. \_\_\_\_\_

**Please initial after each applicable statement:**

- I am a parent/family member of a child who is Deaf/Hard of Hearing (D/HH). \_\_\_\_\_
- I am a professional in the D/HH field. \_\_\_\_\_
- I am a D/HH individual. \_\_\_\_\_

**References:**

Please list three or more references with at least one personal and one professional:

<b>Name of Reference:</b>	<b>Indicate Professional or Personal:</b>	<b>Complete Contact Information (Phone and Email):</b>	<b>Years Known:</b>
1.			
2.			
3.			

*Please answer the following questions:*

1. What do you know about HVNM? Why are you interested in committing your time and energy to our board?

2. Tell us about your personal philosophy of communication choices.

3. How will you support a family's or individual's communication choice that is different from your own personal belief system about modality/methodology? *What experience do you have with working with different communication methods? Please explain:*

4. Board members bring experience, wisdom, strategic thinking, talents, and skills. Can you tell us about yours?

5. All board members are expected to assist with fundraising activities, including, but not limited to, writing grants, requesting donations from businesses, and actively participating in group fundraisers. Can you tell us about your experience and comfort level with fundraising?

6. What qualities do you think make a good nonprofit board member? What qualities do you possess that would be an asset to our organization?

## Hands & Voices, NM Board of Directors Commitment Declaration

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The HVNM Board of Directors' purpose is to provide resources, peer support and advocacy in an unbiased manner to families with children who are deaf or hard of hearing. To fulfill these service obligations, all board members are asked to commit to the following expectations.

1. Attend 75% of conference calls and face-to-face board Meetings
  - a. Inform the President of inability to attend meetings or fulfill board assignments in a timely manner.
  - b. Respond to all electronic communication in a timely manner.
2. Hire/support/evaluate the Executive Director
3. Assure sustainability of the board, recruiting board members and securing officers of the board
4. Constructively participate in discussions; providing input and reflection that supports the mission and vision of HVNM
  - a. Review and approve the annual budget
  - b. Review and approve the strategic plan
  - c. Review and approve major organizational decisions, commitments, and plans including expenditures
  - d. Evaluate progress toward program and financial goals
  - e. In conjunction with executive staff, provide leadership on organizational and programmatic goals
5. Provide letters of support, review funding proposals and grants, and/or other educational submissions that may benefit the organization
6. Participate in at least two activities that are part of the current strategic plan per calendar year
7. Be a HVNM member in good standing
8. Other supporting functions not listed above

I have read, understand, and accept these responsibilities as a member of the HVNM Board of Directors. I understand that I am subject to all relative organizational policies set forth in the HVNM Bylaws, and Policies and Procedures Manual.

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Signature

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Date

## **Recommended representation:**

- Parent of a D/HH child as President and Vice President
- State Department of Education (DOE) representative of Deaf/Hard of Hearing programs as Advisory Board VIP
- Professional representation from New Mexico School of the Deaf
- Adults who are D/HH
- Teacher(s) of D/HH children
- Educational audiologist/Pediatric audiologist
- Representative(s) from Institutions of Higher Education (universities, colleges)
- Parents/family members of children who are Deaf/Hard of Hearing
- Parents/family members of children with unilateral or conductive hearing loss
- Parents of preschoolers, elementary-aged, junior high & high school students
- Individuals who represent Deaf culture & community
- Individuals who represent Hard of Hearing community
- Individuals who have expertise with oral communication methodologies
- Individuals who have expertise with manual communication methodologies
- Professionals from Part C/infants & toddlers

## **HVNM Measures of Success**

### **Goals:**

- An improved quality of life for children who are deaf and hard of hearing and their families.
- Improved educational outcomes in America for children who are deaf/hard of hearing through deaf education reform.
- Effective advocacy efforts through parent/professional training.
- A national movement which will embrace the Hands & Voices motto that “What works for your child is what makes the choice right!”