



# DIVERSE CITY FUND

## SO YOU WANT TO BE A DIVERSE CITY FUND BOARD OF INSTIGATORS MEMBER

### *A Quick Guide to Board Member Expectations*

**DIVERSE CITY FUND AT A GLANCE** Diverse City Fund (DCF) works to nurture community leaders and grassroots projects which are acting to transform DC into a more just, vibrant place to live. Through our grantmaking, we identify, support, and connect people in communities of color who are engaged in change work. We support the development of community-level social change by funding projects that have less access to traditional funding sources. Funding decisions are made by a Grantmaking Team, composed of community activists of color who are rooted in DC, that evaluates grant applications and makes grant awards.

**OUR VISION** A just DC in which communities of color flourish, systems are equitable and sustainable, and the people who are most impacted by injustice build power, develop their own solutions and create continuous change.

**OUR MISSION** Diverse City Fund is a grantmaking organization dedicated to racial justice that invests financial and social capital for social justice. We fund and support efforts in Washington, DC, led by and rooted in communities of color to realize liberation, spark solutions, organize against oppression of all kinds, and create systemic change.

**OUR VALUES** Diverse City Fund values the following in how we approach our work:

- Intersectional analyses. Intersectionality considers how various forms of oppression and privilege – i.e., race, gender, ability, access to resources, age, nation status and more overlap, interact and affect experience and outcome
- Strategies for advancing social change that address the root causes of injustice
- The expertise, decision-making, and leadership of people directly affected by injustice
- The work of local, grassroots, people-powered, people of color and immigrant-led groups
- Transparency and accountability in social justice philanthropy

**A DIVERSE CITY FUND INSTIGATOR** Diverse City Fund is led by a volunteer Board of Instigators (BOI) in collaboration with our Operations Manager staff person. The BOI strongly reflects and represents the values of the Diverse City Fund. BOI members are volunteers who are dedicated to our mission and are interested in sharing their unique “super powers”, networks and time with the rest of the Board, grantee partners, and staff. Primarily, BOI members:

- Work as a team to identify and use their *superpowers* to help us grow strategically;
- Are so excited by our work that they look for any opportunity to shout it from the rooftops;

- Act as our ambassadors to their professional and personal networks;
- Are always on the lookout for potential funding opportunities or access to resources;
- Maintain Diverse City Fund's financial health, including approving annual budgets;
- Are eager to participate in Diverse City Fund community events and programming;
- Co-creating a highly engaging, collaborative, productive and enjoyable organization culture;
- And just being AWESOME in general!

**MEMBER'S COMMITMENT** BOI member terms are at least two year and depending on the time of year, members contribute 5-15 hours of work and participation per month. The commitment includes:

- Attending eight board meetings per year in addition to at least one of the two strategic planning retreats held yearly (usually in February and October). Currently, BOI meetings are held on the fourth Thursday of every month from 6:30-8:30 pm. Attendance is very strongly expected.
- Participation in an ongoing committee (Communications and Impact, Steering Executive, Grantee Relations, Fundraising and Financing) and/or working group
- Support with fundraising efforts, including annual Grantee Celebration, hosting house parties, and donor cultivation.
- An annual donation to Diverse City Fund. Each member chooses the size of their donation but as a group the board strives for 100% giving. As well as a willingness to fundraise individually or in partnership with other board members.

*In considering board members, Diverse City Fund does not discriminate on the basis of race, ethnicity, religion, income, sex, national origin, sexual orientation, age, gender identity, or disability.*

During this process please feel free to reach out to Diverse City Fund at [info@diversityfund.org](mailto:info@diversityfund.org)

