



## **Board Candidate Overview and Application**

April, 2022

Thank you for your interest in becoming a candidate for Epilepsy Foundation of Connecticut Board of Directors. We anticipate advancing your candidacy and we encourage you to engage in further discussions with current Board members and senior staff as you build a greater understanding of the Epilepsy Foundation and our mission.

### **About Epilepsy**

Epilepsy is a chronic, unpredictable neurological condition categorized by intermittent electrical and chemical disturbances in the brain that produce seizures. Over a lifetime, one in 10 people will have a seizure, and one in 26 will be diagnosed with epilepsy. There are more people living with epilepsy than Parkinson's disease, multiple sclerosis and cerebral palsy, combined. Yet, epilepsy receives one-tenth the research funding than any one of those disorders. 4 out of 10 people with epilepsy will continue to experience uncontrolled seizures despite available treatments. In Connecticut alone, there are more than 36,000 people affected by epilepsy. People who have seizures are at greater risk for multiple serious complications which is why the effort to prevent seizures and related problems are so important. A great fear is SUDEP, Sudden Unexplained Death in Epilepsy which takes an estimated 1 in 1000 lives each year of those living with epilepsy.

### **About Epilepsy Foundation of Connecticut**

EFCT is an affiliate of the National Epilepsy Foundation dedicated to helping to improve the quality of life for people affected by epilepsy and their loved ones. We strive to lead the fight to overcome challenges, end stigma, accelerate therapies to stop seizures, find cures, and save lives. EFCT is a leading source of education, advocacy, support, information and recreation for those living in Connecticut with epilepsy. The Epilepsy Foundation of CT has served the community for over 30 years and anticipates to continue for many years to come.

## Board of Directors Application Form

Please complete this application. Use additional pages if required. Please attach your resume or CV.

### GENERAL INFORMATION

Name:	
Home Address:	
Phone:	Fax:

### EDUCATION

University/College Graduated from:
Highest Academic Degree:

### PROFESSIONAL INFORMATION

Current Employer:		
City:	State:	Zip Code:
Phone:	Email:	
Years on the job:	Present Title:	
Position Responsibilities:		
List any accomplishments or awards received.		

### Work History (Past 10 Years)

EMPLOYER	POSITION/TITLE	NUMBER OF YEARS

**Epilepsy Information**

1. Do you have epilepsy? \_\_\_\_\_
2. Do you know someone with epilepsy? \_\_\_\_\_
3. Are you familiar with the Epilepsy Foundation of Connecticut and our programs and services? \_\_\_\_\_

Please give a brief history of your personal experience or connections to epilepsy. \_\_\_\_\_

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<b>What skills and knowledge are you able to bring to the Board?</b>	<b>Very Experienced</b>	<b>Some Experience</b>	<b>Little or No Experience</b>
Advocacy and Government Affairs			
Fundraising			
Board Development (recruitment, training, evaluation)			
Program planning and evaluation			
Recruiting, hiring, and evaluating personnel			
Financial management and control (budgeting, accounting)			
Communication, public and media relations			
Medical/Healthcare/Epilepsy			
Public Speaking			
Organizational Development			
Information Technology			
Writing/Journalism			
Venture Capital/Private Equity			

1. Please provide details for items checked as 'very experienced' or 'some experience'. \_\_\_\_\_

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2. Why do you want to become a member of the Board of Directors? \_\_\_\_\_

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3. Do you currently serve, or have you served in the past on any other boards or are you a member of any civic and/or professional organization? (Please list the name of the organization and years served.) \_\_\_\_\_

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4. Please list any other information you would like the board to know as your application is considered. \_\_\_\_\_

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Signature:	Date:
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**Thank you!**

## Board of Directors Roles and Responsibilities

### Commitment Letter

As a member of the Board of Directors, I agree to:

- Abide by the Bylaws and Articles of Incorporation of EFCT
- Ensure EFCT meets all legal and corporate requirements of the State of Connecticut.
- Attend all regular meetings of the board unless prior notice is given.
- Set the strategic direction for the Epilepsy Foundation of Connecticut.
- Serve on at least one committee of the Board.
- Actively participate in the discussions at all EFCT meetings.
- Actively participate in the special events that occur yearly by purchasing tickets, recruiting attendees, donating auction items, providing in-kind services, etc.
- Make a financial contribution that is personally significant. See Giving Policy for additional information.
- Actively participate in at least 1 fundraising event or effort. Participating can mean purchasing special event registration/tickets, actively serving on the event committee, and/or supporting outreach efforts towards prospective individual or corporate donors, etc.
- Make Thank You calls to donors when asked.
- Review and approve the annual budget, the addition of new Board Members, changes to the Articles of Incorporation and the Bylaws and approve the sale, lease or exchange of a significant portion of the assets.
- Ensure effective fiscal controls and accountability to donors and constituents.
- Participate in board development training when requested.
- Avoid any conflict of interest or appearance of a conflict.
- Promptly communicate by phone or email when requested.
- Act as an ambassador of EFCT in the community.

I have read, understand, and agree to uphold what is expected of me as a member of the Board. If, for any reason, I become unable to uphold my responsibilities, I will give notice of resignation to the President of the Board immediately.

Name:	
Signature:	Date:

## **Giving Policy for the Board of Directors**

### **Introduction**

In today's competitive fund-raising climate, knowledgeable donors look at the level of financial support by Board members in determining the level of their own contributions and, in some cases, whether to contribute at all. The personal financial commitment of board members strengthens our efforts to obtain critically needed funding from corporations, foundations, and individuals.

Members of the Epilepsy Foundation of Connecticut's Board of Directors already make substantial contributions to the foundation in terms of their leadership as it translates into time, professional and programmatic activities, and a variety of fundraising efforts. The value of these contributions does not go unnoticed. However, as a non-profit organization, the Epilepsy Foundation of Connecticut will continue to be asked about the incidence of personal giving by the board of Directors.

### **Forms of Giving**

Members of the Epilepsy Foundation of Connecticut's Board of Directors are required to make a financial contribution that is personally significant to the Epilepsy Foundation of Connecticut, on an annual basis. This can be a onetime contribution or spread out over the course of the calendar year. For purposes of this Board Giving Policy, personal financial contributions shall include gifts in the form of:

- Cash (or check)
- Stock or other securities
- Real Estate or personal properties

### **Sources of Giving**

For purposes of this policy, gifts from a Board member's family foundation will be considered a personal contribution.

Similarly, a contribution from a Board member's family-owned or family-controlled business will be considered a personal contribution.

Gifts obtained from an employer on behalf of a Board member will not be a personal contribution. However, to the extent a Board member's employer matches a personal contribution; the board members shall be credited for the matching gift.