

Important Information About the Garden of Peace Advisory Committee

The Massachusetts Victim & Witness Assistance Board is seeking applications from individuals interested in serving on the Garden of Peace Advisory Committee. Applications are due April 10, 2019.

Background

On January 17, 2019, the Victim & Witness Assistance Board (VWAB) officially assumed responsibility for the administration and management of the Garden of Peace. Massachusetts General Laws Chapter 258B, Section 4(e) provides that the VWAB establish a Garden of Peace Advisory Committee.

The purpose of the Advisory Committee is to provide ongoing advice to the VWAB on matters such as:

- maintenance, capital improvements, and potential expansion of the Garden;
- outreach, education, community engagement;
- fundraising; and
- other issues as determined by the VWAB.

Eligibility and Composition

The VWAB will appoint an Advisory Committee consisting of:

- no more than five members;
- serving staggered terms;
- including at least two survivors of homicide, at least one with a loved one whose name is engraved in the Garden; and
- at least one service provider for victims of homicide.

Other Application Factors

- Strong consideration will be given to applicants who live or work in Massachusetts at the time of appointment.
- At the discretion of the VWAB, telephone interviews may be required.
- Prior to appointment, candidates may be subject to a background check.

Post-Appointment Conditions

- Advisory Committee members will serve without compensation but will be eligible for reimbursement for in-state travel including mileage and parking.
- Members must attend quarterly meetings in-person in Boston or other centrally located Massachusetts locations. Remote participation at meetings by is not permitted.
- Meeting frequency is subject to change with reasonable notice.
- The Advisory Committee and its members will be subject to the provisions of the Commonwealth's Open Meeting laws and Conflict of Interest laws.
- Service of Advisory Committee members is at the discretion of the VWAB.

Additional Information

- Advisory Committee members will have a unique opportunity to provide input into the future of the Garden of Peace.
- Committee members must be willing to maintain some flexibility as the role of the Committee evolves.
- MOVA will serve as staff to the Advisory Committee including developing agendas, facilitating meetings, and serving as an intermediary with the VWAB at the VWAB's regular meetings (typically eight per year). Advisory Committee members are welcome to attend VWAB meetings but are not required to do so.

Continue to application on next page.

**Application to the Victim & Witness Assistance Board for
Appointment to the Garden of Peace Advisory Committee**

Due: April 10, 2019

Name: _____

Email: _____ Phone: _____

Mailing address: _____

City/town of employment (if mailing address above is not in Mass.): _____

Please answer all questions. Feel free to add comments beyond the space provided.

1. Have you previously served on the Garden of Peace Board of Directors? Yes No

If Yes, please specify years served, from _____ (YYYY) to _____ (YYYY)

2. Are you a survivor of a homicide victim? Yes No

If Yes, what is your relationship to the victim? _____

Is your loved one's name engraved in the Garden of Peace? Yes No

Is there anything you would like to tell us about your loved one? *This is not required.*

If *No*, you do not identify as a survivor, please describe your connection or prior experience, if any, with the Garden of Peace and/or survivors of homicide.

Continue on reverse side.

3. Please explain why you are interested in serving on the Garden of Peace Advisory Committee.

4. Please describe a skill and/or perspective you would bring to the Advisory Committee and the Victim & Witness Assistance Board, and how or why it would be useful.

5. Please use the space below if you would like to add any information about yourself and/or your interest in serving on the Garden of Peace Advisory Committee. If you neither live nor work in Mass., please also describe your connection to Mass.

I have read and understand the information about the Garden of Peace Advisory Committee and am submitting this application for the VWAB's consideration of appointment.

Signature

Date