

# Ignite Afterschool Board Member Description



## *Join Ignite Afterschool's Board and Ignite the Power of Afterschool!*

*For every young person in Minnesota who participates in an afterschool program, there are three waiting for a program to be available (America After 3PM, 2020) while decades of research show that young people who participate in afterschool programs do better in school. Minnesota also has race-based access gaps that result in inequitable participation across the state (MN Student Survey). As Minnesota's statewide afterschool network, Ignite Afterschool builds partnerships, leads advocacy efforts, and facilitates professional development opportunities to close this gap so every young person in every community can have opportunities to lead and discover their passion through afterschool and summer learning.*

*Ignite seeks board members with a variety of professional and life experiences who can bring new insight and ideas to our work advancing high-quality afterschool programs in Minnesota. We encourage individuals of all professional backgrounds to apply, especially those with experience in public policy, youth development, policy advocacy, communications, law, or finance. Young people and parents are encouraged to apply!*

*Ignite Afterschool is committed to being an anti-racist organization and strives to be a more deeply intentional antiracist afterschool intermediary through our work in policy, education, and partnerships. Individuals interested in applying to a board position should also share these ideals. Please consider this opportunity for yourself and share it broadly with your network. Please find a Volunteer Board Member Description and other valuable information below.*

## **Who is Ignite Afterschool**

**Vision** Every youth in every community will benefit from the power of afterschool.

**Mission** To unite Minnesota's afterschool community and strengthen afterschool programs through partnership, education, and advocacy.

### **We believe...**

- **Every young person deserves opportunity to realize their fullest potential.** We provide many different ways and places for young people to learn so they can develop their talents and ignite their passions.
- **Young people have many strengths, abilities and assets.** We value youth voice, leadership, and the many meaningful contributions young people make to our community.
- **Afterschool programs are important and impactful.** When we are intentional about quality, our work positively impacts young people's growth and development.

- **Community, family and culture are fundamental to a young person's identity.** We create welcoming, inclusive environments where young people of all backgrounds and abilities can feel safe, freely express and discover their identity, and belong to a supportive community of peers and adults.
- **We are stronger together.** Whole communities must act together to provide the full range of resources and experiences young people need to be successful.

### **Our 2022-2025 Strategic Plan Goals**

Ignite Afterschool envisions more young people can thrive and pursue their passion because we have narrowed race, income, and geography-based disparities by expanding access to high quality afterschool and summer programs as well as the quality and continuous improvement supports for those programs. We do this by communicating effectively, convening and connecting, working together, and being responsive.

1. Lead policy change through advocacy, issue education, and coalition-building.
2. Expand Ignite Afterschool's capacity and grow, connect, and engage a statewide network through strengthened strategic partnerships.
3. Invest in quality youth work through coordinated continuous improvement, professional development, and other support for the network.
4. Center and expand equity and anti-racism efforts at Ignite, within the network, and across Minnesota's afterschool field.

### **Our Network**

Ignite Afterschool is a network of over 1700 youth workers/advocates representing program providers, intermediaries, funders, and businesses across the state of Minnesota. As a network, we come together to advocate with and on behalf of young people and support program providers in becoming the best version for young people. Partners contribute their knowledge, experience, time, connections, and resources to support the mission.

### **Board Member Description**

Title: Director/Member

Term: 2 years (Board Members may serve up to 3 consecutive terms.)

### **Expected Meetings/Attendance**

Board members are expected to attend all scheduled Board meetings (6 per year), and are encouraged to attend relevant conferences, fundraisers, presentations, statewide gatherings, committee meetings, and other important events.

- Typically, the Third Thursday from 3:30-5pm every other month. Committees meet on the opposite months on the Third Thursday from 3:30-4:30pm.
- We offer travel stipends to board members who want to attend board meetings in-person. We always offer a virtual video call in option as well.

- Board members would be elected and participate in board orientation in late fall 2024 and would start their service in January 2025.

### **Board of Director Specific Duties**

- Approach
  - Be well-informed on issues and agenda items in advance of meetings.
  - Listen respectfully to other points of view.
  - Contribute skills, knowledge, and experience when appropriate.
  - A commitment to young people
  - A commitment to anti-racism
- Planning
  - Monitor, support, and work to implement Ignite Afterschool's strategic framework.
  - Ensure adequate resources, manage resources, and approve the annual budget.
  - Set and approve financial, and operational policies.
- Personnel
  - Select, support, and review the executive director's performance.
- Organization
  - Determine and understand the organization's mission and purpose.
  - Monitor key strategies for impact to achieve Ignite Afterschool's goals.
  - Assess and continuously improve the Board's own performance.
- Youth, Afterschool Provider, and Public/Community Relations
  - Be a champion for afterschool programs.
  - Ensure the organization is accountable to young people, program providers, and others served by Ignite Afterschool.
  - Interpret and promote Ignite Afterschool and its services to the community.
  - Develop and maintain relationships with relevant contributors, community groups, and key stakeholders.

### **To Apply**

Complete the online application by noon on November 1, 2024. For questions, contact Ignite Afterschool Board Secretary Rachel Oberg-Hauser at [roberghauser@gmail.com](mailto:roberghauser@gmail.com).