



## **REACH Advisory Board Members Duties & Roles**

**About Us:** Wilderness Youth Project (WYP), founded in 1999, nurtures smarter, healthier and happier children who feel a sustained connection to nature and are peaceful, self-aware community members. **The REACH Fellowship** is a youth development program of WYP, focused on post secondary education, career exploration, outdoor adventure education, personal development, food and financial literacy, and community involvement for first generation students. Fellows are accepted into REACH during their Junior year of high school and remain in the program for 2.5 years, graduating from the program the summer after their first year of post-secondary education.

For more information, please visit [www.REACHFellowship.org](http://www.REACHFellowship.org)

### **Overview/Background:**

Members of the REACH Advisory Board (AB) are community volunteers who infuse the REACH Fellowship program with energy, ideas, vision, and just plain hard work.

The AB started after Wilderness Youth Project assumed fiscal sponsorship responsibility of the project from the Orfalea Foundation in 2015. There are currently 4 members serving and we are seeking an additional 3-4 members to help us round out our team of advisors.

The REACH AB is a slightly different governing board than a non-profit Board of Directors because the REACH fellowship is a fiscally-sponsored program of Wilderness Youth Project (WYP). Therefore, the WYP Board of Directors hold the roles of the broader organization (such as selecting and evaluating the Executive Director, reviewing and approving annual operating budgets, financial audits and the Strategic Plan.

The REACH AB therefore guides the REACH program specifically in more focused areas such as strategy, budgets, staffing and program improvements. REACH AB members are emissaries of the REACH Fellowship in the community. We hope that AB members will talk about and promote our goals among friends and colleagues and help to recruit new supporters.

## **Responsibilities of AB Members**

**Human Resources** – Board members have two key responsibilities in this area:

1. Board membership (which includes recruiting new board members, recognizing and nurturing existing board members, and providing existing board members with opportunities to grow and develop as leaders);
2. REACH Program Director accountability (which includes hiring, establishing the salary and ongoing evaluation of the REACH Program Director);

**Planning** – Board members have two key responsibilities in this area:

1. Setting and reviewing the organization's Strategic Plan goals;
2. Evaluating the organization's progress towards Strategic Plan goals.

**Finance** – Board members have two key responsibilities in this area:

1. Ensuring financial accountability of the organization for the REACH program;
2. Overseeing an annual process of budget development, approval and review;

**Community Relations** – Board members have three key responsibilities in this area:

1. Ensuring that the organization's programs and services appropriately address community/client needs;
2. Marketing the organization's services/programs;
3. Ongoing public relations, (which includes an awareness that board members are always emissaries of the organization in the community);

## **Minimum Job Requirements**

- A demonstrated interest or experience in the program's goals.
- A willingness to expand knowledge of board responsibilities through orientation and ongoing education.
- A willingness to represent the organization to the community.
- Five to nine hours per quarter distributed as follows:
  - 2 hour AB meeting once a quarter
  - Availability to help with special projects when needed by REACH staff or AB duties (such as helping us recruit a new Program Director in fall 2021)

If you are interested in supporting the REACH Fellowship in this volunteer capacity, please contact Samantha Alvarez at [samantha@myreachfellowship.org](mailto:samantha@myreachfellowship.org)



**Wilderness  
Youth Project**