## **Washington Autism Alliance Board of Directors Member**

Board members are the fiduciaries who steer the organization towards a sustainable future by adopting sound, ethical, and legal governance and financial management policies, as well as by making sure the nonprofit has adequate resources to advance its mission. Your role as stewards of Washington Autism Alliance (WAA) involves fundraising as well as advocating for our mission. Board members provide strategic foresight, oversight, and insight: as if they are up in the crow's nest scanning the horizon for signs of storms or rainbows to explore, perhaps with a pot of gold at the end!

## **Engagement Expectations**

Board engagement is key to a healthy organization, a strong Board of Directors and a positive individual board member experience. Setting annual engagement goals is a great first step to ensure board members are prepared to share their skills, experience, and resources in service to the mission. At WAA it is expected that each member of the board sets annual goals that include: board leadership, making a personally significant contribution, extending their network in service to the organization, and advocating for client needs.

## **Fundraising**

At WAA we believe every member of the staff and board are community engagement ambassadors and fundraisers. Most charitable nonprofits rely upon the generosity of donors for some or all of their funding and WAA is no different. Consequently, generating investments in WAA is an activity of major importance. Fundraising capacity is just one of many muscles that WAA needs to be in "top form" to advance its mission.

To learn more about board service, please contact Arzu Forough <u>Arzu@WashingtonAutismAdvocacy.org</u>