



Guide for Prospective Board Members



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Dear Prospective Board Member,

Thank you for expressing interest in serving as a Director on Anew: Building Beyond Violence and Abuse's Board of Directors. We think it's important to let you know about our organization, the work we do, the expectations we have for your service as a board member, and what you can expect from us. Our success starts with you!

This packet serves as your guide to learning more about Anew: Building Beyond Violence and Abuse and its Board of Directors. Should you have any questions about this guide or serving on the Board, in general, please contact Chief Executive Officer Jennifer Gabrenya at jennifer.g@anewdv.org.



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Agency History & Purpose

Anew: Building Beyond Violence and Abuse (Anew) has been providing services to victims of domestic violence for more than 40 years. Anew was formed in 1980 as South Suburban Family Shelter due to the results of a needs assessment survey conducted in the southern suburbs of Chicago. This survey revealed that, at that time, there were between 500 and 700 known victims of domestic violence and there were no services available for them. Since that time, Anew has been providing services to support survivor's efforts to become and remain safe, gain control over their lives and become self-sufficient. Anew provides an array of services that wrap around the issue of domestic violence by additionally working with those who have harmed their partners and offering extensive prevention education and awareness activities to stop to cycle of abuse.



1980



2021

The original South Suburban Family Shelter evolved quickly into something much, much more than the initial envisioned shelter services. In 2019, our board of directors embarked on a rebranding process. We held focus groups with constituents, clients, and the community at large as well as administering several surveys to garner feedback. The feedback we received was in line with what we were also feeling: our name did not relay the services we provided and to who. The change to Anew: Building Beyond Violence and Abuse reflects the evolution of services that we provide. The new name encapsulates all that we do to help those impacted by domestic violence and more accurately describes the work we do to educate the community and stop domestic violence in its tracks.

Principles & Values

OUR PRINCIPLES

- Anew works to end domestic violence by providing services to those who have been harmed, those who have done harm and by working in the community to prevent harm.
- Change is possible for our participants, our community and ourselves.
- Participants are the experts of their lives; we meet them where they are while providing support, education, and skills along their journey.
- Anew recognizes that trauma impacts our participants, staff and the community at large and responds with policies, procedures and practices that are trauma-informed.



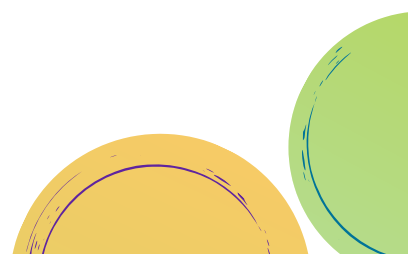
- We support change and engage in all aspects of this process.
- We provide safety through trust and confidentiality.
- We promote inclusivity and embrace diversity.
- We value others through respect and dignity.
- We act with integrity and uphold accountability and transparency.
- We foster teamwork through collaboration and open communication.
- We commit to ongoing innovation, education and growth.



Mission & Service Delivery

The mission of Anew: Building Beyond Violence and Abuse is to provide comprehensive, coordinated services to families in which domestic violence exists without imposing any one solution. Anew uses a service delivery model designed to encourage and support victims' efforts to regain control over their lives and decrease the violence in their lives.

SERVICE DELIVERY

- Crisis Intervention
 - Anew offers a 24/7 bilingual hotline for domestic violence survivors, providing urgent support and access to the emergency shelter program.
 - The hotline offers safety planning, counseling, referrals, and support services.
 - Anew's emergency shelter provides a safe temporary residence for survivors and their vulnerable family members who are in immediate need of safety.
 - A typically shelter stay is 1 to 2 nights.
 - Essential necessities such as food and clothing are provided at the shelter.
 - Counseling
 - Anew provides individual and group counseling for adult domestic violence survivors and child survivors/witnesses.
 - The focus of counseling is on empowering and supporting the survivor.
 - Counselors have a master's degree in counseling or social work.
 - Childcare services are provided for survivors attending counseling with their children.
 - Court Advocacy
 - Anew offers legal advocacy at the 6th Suburban District Courthouse in Markham.
 - Advocates assist domestic violence survivors in navigating the legal system.
 - They provide information on legal rights under the Illinois Domestic Violence Act.
 - Advocates help survivors obtain Orders of Protection and provide court support regarding both civil and criminal court systems.
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Service Delivery, Continued.

- Community Education

- Anew provides outreach, education and training programs to increase awareness of domestic violence and available services for survivors and their families.
- Prevention education is offered to children from preschool to high school covering topics such as, Hands are not for hitting, Family violence and Teen dating violence.
- Anew is certified to provide the state required training for domestic violence advocates and partner abuse program facilitators.
- Training is offered to professionals throughout the community to help them better respond to domestic violence survivors.

- Housing Programs

- The Sanctuary provides transitional housing for homeless women with children who have experienced domestic violence.
- Sanctuary families receive temporary, rent-free housing and onsite support.
- The Rapid Re-housing (RRH) program assists families in finding their own apartments and offers rental assistance for one year.
- Intensive case management and counseling services are provided in both programs.

- Partner Abuse Intervention

- The Partner Abuse Intervention Program (PAIP) is a vital part of Anew's response to domestic violence.
- PAIP provides group-based psycho-educational programming for individuals who have used violence in their intimate relationships.
- The program follows the nationally accredited Duluth Model to promote self-reflection, better decision-making, and ending intimate partner violence.
- PAIP consists of 30 two-hour classes co-facilitated by a male/female team,
- The program aims to hold participants accountable and ensure active engagement.

Role & Expectations

Individual members of the Board of Directors shall be required to:

Serve without compensation for their services, except that the Board of Directors may authorize reimbursement of reasonable expenses incurred by any Director in the performance of her or his duties.

Not have any interest in any contract or activity relating to the operations of the Corporation, nor in any contract or activity to furnish services or supplies to the Corporation.

Contribute personally to the financial support of the Corporation an amount not less than \$500.00 separate from ticket sales, ads, live and silent auction items, tables, sponsorships and contributions made by solicited family/friends during our fiscal year (July 1 – June 30).

Actively participate in fundraising on behalf of the corporation as outlined on the following page. Secure or “get”, financial support for the Corporation in an amount not less than \$2,000.

Be involved in community activities and presentations on behalf of the Corporation.

Serve on at least one standing committee:

- Executive Committee
- Governance Committee
- Finance Committee
- Development Committee
- Ad Hoc Committee (convened when necessary for a specific purpose or project)

Attend a minimum of 4 out of 6 board meeting per year.

Complete 20 hours of domestic violence training offered by the Corporation free of charge.



Agency Testimonials

"As a minister, my role aligns with Anew's mission of helping people--particularly helping people in some of the most critical and life determining moments that they will ever face. Many survivors reach a point where their situation is truly a life-or-death situation. Domestic violence is traumatic, and that is why it is important to have an organization like Anew in the south suburbs."

Pastor Jeffery Smith
Board President

"When I first came to Anew 14 years ago, I was a victim. Now, I am a survivor. They helped me so much to help me rediscover my life, rediscover who I was as a woman... and rediscover who I was as a mom."

Former Client of Anew

"...Anew's staff and services provide hope to people that might think and feel that their situation is hopeless and that there is no alternative. The fact that you can provide a wealth of encouragement and self-empowerment to those impacted by DV, and especially because Anew serves all demographics... The fact that Anew exists and has services to offer makes me 'Team Anew all day, everyday'."

Cherilyn Richardson
Board Secretary

"I would not be here today without Anew. They were, and still are, a great pillar in my life. There was a very dark time in me and my children's lives, and Anew was like a white light that shined in our lives."

Former Client of Anew

"The work that Anew: Building Beyond Violence and Abuse does, is what keeps me inspired. I enjoy being an active part of the work, in addition to the relationship I have with the staff. I also get to support the agency by bringing together other groups that I belong to."

Marydale Donald
Former Board Member

