PFLAG Cleveland Advisory Board
An overview

Why do non-profit organizations need an advisory board?
Non-profit 501(c)(3) organizations are required by law to have an advisory board. The board bears the primary responsibility for ensuring that a charitable organization fulfills its obligations to the law, its donors, its staff and volunteers, its clients, and the public at large.

What is the structure of the PFLAG Cleveland Advisory Board?
The board is comprised of four elected officers (president, vice-president, secretary and treasurer) who serve two-year terms, and general advisory board members who serve three year terms. Some members of the board take on special jobs, for example, newsletter editor or membership chair, others serve in a general capacity. There are opportunities to be an "intern" board member for students. When the term of a general board member is nearing the end, the member schedules an informal discussion with the PFLAG Cleveland VP to discuss a renewal of participation, if desired, and commencement of another three-year term. Occasionally, members resign from the board before the end of their term due to personal reasons. This is understandable and acceptable. Detailed descriptions of the roles and responsibilities of advisory board members are available. Virtual advisory board meetings are 60-90 minutes long in the evening on the 1st Tuesday of each month.

How are members of the PFLAG Cleveland Advisory Board nominated and selected?
Current members of the advisory board can nominate potential new board members. PFLAG members and community LGBTQ+ allies can self-nominate. Nominated board members are selected by a majority vote of the current board.

What are the expectations of board members?
The most important thing a board member can do is to be excited about the organization and believe strongly in our mission of support, education and advocacy. Board members are ambassadors - they build relationships within the community. One reliable source of revenue for the chapter are contributions by our board members. While there is no set minimum, PFLAG Cleveland seeks 100% participation in giving as this is viewed positively by potential grant funders. Board members should contribute a gift that is meaningful to them and within their own personal financial situation. Fundraising can include both "giving" and "getting." Lastly, attendance at the monthly support group meeting is encouraged.

Summary: We seek to make participation on the board rewarding and fun. The board is comprised of a dedicated team of caring leaders representing various backgrounds who are committed to advancing LGBTQ+ equality in NE Ohio!

For more information, contact:
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