

THE UPPER VALLEY FOOD CO-OP BOARD OF DIRECTORS

The Upper Valley Food Co-op is a community-owned grocery store with a rich history of building resilience. In the 1970s, a determined group of citizens seeking to make minimally packaged, whole food available for all ultimately created the Co-op's founding By-Laws. In the decades since, our Board of Directors, staff, volunteers, and member-owners have been shaping our Co-op and educating our community, helping to create a cooperative local foods economy for the Upper Valley that supports people and the planet.



What does a Director do?

The Board oversees policy, directs the vision, and represents our Co-op in the cooperative world. The building and the store itself are managed completely by staff – they're the experts! The Board has established policies and a monitoring schedule to ensure that obligations to the Co-op members and the staff are fulfilled. Individual Directors represent the collective membership and guide the cooperative to benefit our community. We also learn a lot from each other, enjoy delicious food, tell stories, and have fun.

Join the Board of Directors!

Our Co-op is part of a strong community food system. The store is vibrant and bustling. No matter what happens in this crazy world the Co-op is ours; we own our building. There is security in all of that, but there is still a lot of work needed to build a resilient future. Joining the UVFC Board is a great way to continue the Co-op tradition of educating our community and caring about our food system to build the future we want. Join our Board of Directors and 'pay it forward' with us.

Board Member Qualifications

- You must be (or become) a current member of the Upper Valley Food Co-op.
- You must be able to meet time and duty expectations (described below).
- You must have regular access to a computer and email.

Board Member Expectations

- Prepare for and attend board meetings (11 to 12 per year); terms are three years.
Regular meetings are currently held on the fourth Tuesday of each month, 6-8 PM.
- Participate on committees or working groups as needed.
- Attend conferences, retreats, or professional development opportunities as needed.
- Represent the Board at Co-op or community events a couple times per year.

Board Member Benefits

- Receive a 20% discount on all store purchases.
- Enjoy a complimentary meal from the Co-op at monthly Board meetings.
- Receive training in cooperative business, policy governance; attend conferences.

How Do I Join?

Directors are elected by member ballot each fall and serve a three-year term.

1. Let the nominating committee know that you're interested in joining the Board and we'll set you on the right path. You can leave a note with your contact info with a staff member at the Co-op, or contact us by email: board@uppervalleyfood.coop.
2. Plan to attend a Board meeting, get to know the Directors, and learn more about how the Co-op operates. Feel free to contact us for pertinent articles or explore www.cdsconsulting.coop/resources.
3. Return your completed Board application, found in the full Board candidate packet, before the deadline (usually mid-July) to be considered as a candidate in the coming election. If approved as a candidate, you can run as a nominee on the ballot in the annual election, held in the fall. Member votes are tallied at our Annual Meeting in October. *For a copy of the full Board of Directors Nominee Packet, email the Board at board@uppervalleyfood.coop.*

The Upper Valley Food Co-op's "Ends Policy" is the Board's big-picture vision for our Co-op, adopted in 2016. Join the UVFC Board to lend your skills and vision!



UVFC Ends Policy:

Our Co-op will be central to a resilient and connected Upper Valley community. Because of all that we do, people in the Upper Valley will have:

- Access to healthful, affordable food
- A supportive market for local farmers and producers
- Education and resources for sustainable, healthful practices
- A place for community connection

The Upper Valley Food Co-op is a community-supported natural foods market, which promotes the local economy, is committed to sustainability, and enriches lives through education.

www.uppervalleyfood.coop