



## An Invitation to Raise Names for New NETWORK Board Members

NETWORK is seeking new Board members to serve on the NETWORK Lobby and NETWORK Advocates Boards and we are inviting all NETWORK members to participate in a "name-raising" process to help identify potential candidates.

If you know someone, including yourself, who would excel in this role (described below), please complete the name-raising form at [www.networklobby.org/nameraising](http://www.networklobby.org/nameraising) **no later than March 4, 2024.**

Earlier responses are appreciated.

**What Is Name-Raising?** Unlike a traditional nomination process, name-raising is a method of discerning the gifts and talents of a person who might best match the qualities needed on the NETWORK Boards at a given time. This process involves discernment on the part of those who are raising the names of potential Board members, the potential Board members, and the Boards themselves.

**About NETWORK:** A national network of social justice advocates – and the organization behind Nuns on the Bus – NETWORK educates, organizes, and lobbies for economic and social transformation. Founded in 1972 by Catholic sisters, we engage in the ongoing work to become a multicultural anti-racist organization, value women's leadership, appreciate people from religious and secular backgrounds, and affirm members of the LGBTQ+ community.

**Seeking Racial Diversity:** As we engage in the work of racial justice, we seek to have people of color in all leadership positions, including on the Boards. We remain committed to all forms of diversity, including but not limited to – race and ethnic heritage; economic background; ministry or occupation; geography; age; ability; LGBTQ+ identity; and affiliation (or not) with a community of women religious.

**Skills/Experience:** NETWORK believes that a well-developed Board will include members with a variety of skills. Who comes to mind when you think of someone with one or more of these gifts?

- ✓ A creative and strategic thinker committed to the mission of NETWORK
- ✓ Demonstrates a knowledge of Catholic Social Teaching and recognizes the importance of Catholic sisters in that tradition\*
- ✓ Has a demonstrated commitment to and experience in/knowledge of social justice and racial justice issues.
- ✓ Possesses fundraising and/or friend-raising experience and/or finance background, as well as a comfort with (or willingness to learn about) organizational budgets\*\*
- ✓ Previous experience serving on a non-profit Board is preferred

*\*Please note that candidates are not required to be Catholic or possess all of these qualifications to have their name raised for a seat on the Board.*

*\*\*NETWORK Board members serve in a dual capacity, as members of both the 501(c)(3) and 501(c)(4) boards.*

## Qualifications

- ✓ Must be or become a member of [NETWORK Lobby for Catholic Social Justice](#);
- ✓ Must be able and willing to attend and participate actively in two Board meetings a year and monthly virtual committee conference calls. Committees are: Development, Finance, and Governance & Administration.

Founded by Catholic sisters and rooted in Catholic social justice, NETWORK is open to all who share our passion for gospel justice; therefore, **you are not limited to raising only the names of Catholic people.**

## What Is the Time Commitment?

- ✓ Two three-day Board meetings per year in DC, plus travel time (hybrid option available)
- ✓ Mandatory half-day board orientation session for new members at the first meeting
- ✓ Online monthly committee conference calls with pre-meeting review of materials
- ✓ Additional assignments from committee work
- ✓ If chosen, a new Board member would be asked to serve a three-year term with the option of renewal

**The Call to NETWORK Members:** We ask you to consider prayerfully persons you know whose gifts could enhance the NETWORK Boards.

*Who do you know with a passion for racial and social justice?*

*Do you know of justice-seekers who fit the demographics, skills, and experiences we seek?*

*Who comes to mind when you think of someone with the qualities listed?*

*Who would have the time to commit to NETWORK's mission?*

In the coming days, please take time to consider people whom you believe would be an asset to the NETWORK Boards. Speak to those persons who come to mind and let them know you are raising their names as possible candidates for a position on the Boards. Finally, complete the name-raising form at [www.networklobby.org/nameraising](http://www.networklobby.org/nameraising) no later than **March 4, 2024**.

Once name-raising is complete, the Boards will enter into discernment at their spring meetings to complete this selection process. **New members begin their service with the Boards in Fall 2024.**

The NETWORK Boards are grateful for the gifts of time and discernment you offer on behalf of this endeavor and are hoping for a robust response from our membership as we seek to fill these positions on our Boards.

If you have any questions, you can contact us at [nameraising@networklobby.org](mailto:nameraising@networklobby.org).