



# JOIN AN ADVISORY BOARD!

## Frequently Asked Questions

### What is an Advisory Board?

- An advisory board is a group that works with an organization to provide guidance and make recommendations on strategy and policy.
- Advisory boards may also be known as a council, committee, commission, panel, or task force.

### Why Join an Advisory Board?

- Fulfill a civic responsibility, help shape policy, and give back to your community.
- Meet people who share your interests.
- Donate your professional and personal skills.

### How do I Find an Organization?

- Google it! Search for “San Diego,” + “your area of interest”+ “organization.”
- *Idealist* connects people who want to do good with opportunities for action and collaboration: <https://www.idealist.org/>
- Search your local government website. For County of San Diego advisory boards, see: <https://www.sandiegocounty.gov/content/sdc/cob/bcac/howtoserve.html>

### What if I don't have Expertise?

- Most nonprofits welcome volunteers who are passionate about their mission, even if the volunteer doesn't have a background in the area.
- “Lay members” bring diverse life experiences and the perspective of a community member.



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## Three Steps to Join an Advisory Board and Serve Your Community

### 1. Identify Your Passion

- What are your interests: children, seniors, environment, animals, health, education, etc.?

### 2. Find an Organization

- Search for nonprofit organizations or government advisory boards working in your area of interest.
- Does the organization's mission statement align with your interests?

### 3. Get Involved!

- Attend an advisory board meeting.
- Start as a volunteer or join a committee.
- Apply to become an advisory board member.