

Sweet Geeks Foundation

Opportunities. Empathy. Well-Being



Sweet Geeks Foundation is currently searching for one to two new members to join our board of directors. We aim to bring more diverse perspectives to our leadership team and seek individuals with lived experiences that align with our funding areas. This volunteer opportunity involves providing guidance on community needs, assessing grant proposals, and participating in the grant voting process.

Mission:

The Sweet Geeks Foundation is deeply committed to nurturing opportunities, fostering empathy, and enhancing overall well-being. Our primary focus is to actively champion youth development programs and offer vital assistance in alleviating the financial burden of cancer within the underserved communities of Southern California.

Background:

Sweet Geeks Foundation was established in 2021 by Isabella (23 years old) and Connor (20 years old) Jones in honor of their father, Kevin, who passed away from lung cancer in June of 2020. As someone who spent most of his life engineering both software and cars, Kevin was a self-proclaimed “geek.” Beyond those two huge passions of his, he also loved to work with kids as a mentor at local youth-based organizations and loved taking friends, family, and oftentimes strangers with him on wild, unplanned adventures on a whim. He was notorious for being almost too sweet, going out of his way to brighten people’s days in any way that he could. Thus, the name “Sweet Geeks” was born. Creating Sweet Geeks was a way to turn his legacy into action and create a ripple effect of kindness in our community, just like he always managed to do.

Funding Areas:

Sweet Geeks Foundation proudly provides grants for a wide variety of youth development programs and grants for individuals currently battling cancer in Southern California.

Organizations providing youth development services and programs, including but not limited to after-school/enrichment programs, tutoring, mentoring, social-emotional learning, arts, steam/stem activities, literacy initiatives, girl empowerment programs, youth diversion, and services for unhoused youth, catering to individuals aged 5 to 24 years old.

Currently, we have provided cancer relief grants to nine individuals who are battling cancer.

Recent Youth Development Grantees: [Calibrate](#), [Dreams for Schools](#), [DIY Girls](#), [Sunny Side 5](#), [Thomas House Family Shelter](#), [SoLa I Can Foundation](#), [STEM Advantage](#), [The Book Truck](#)

Board Member Criteria:

- **Mission Alignment:** Prospective candidates should share the foundation's mission and values, demonstrating a commitment to our purpose and goals.
- **Expertise and Skills:** Seeking candidates with youth development or cancer relief experience and knowledge of community needs in funding areas.
- **Diversity:** We value candidates from diverse backgrounds, encompassing age, gender, race, experience, perspectives, and demographics.
- **Commitment:** Candidates available to attend virtual meetings every quarter and contribute actively to foundation activities.
- **Collaboration:** We prioritize selecting candidates who can effectively collaborate with other board members, staff, grantees, and stakeholders, fostering positive team dynamics.
- **Family Dynamics:** Seeking candidates familiar with family dynamics, conflicts, and governance structures (optional).

Please submit names of potential board members by Friday, May 10th, 2024. New board members will be selected at the August board meeting and onboarded at the November 2024 meeting.

If you are interested or need more information, please contact Theresa Gartland, Executive Director at theresa@sweetgeeksfoundation.org or 323-384-3847.

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