

others on hosting events, calling folks to say thank you and writing promotional materials.

A Fundraising Committee information session will be held via teleconference on Thursday, April 12th at 8:30 PM ET / 7:30 PM CT / 6:30 PM MT / 5:30 PM PT. To find out how to join

the teleconference or for more information about the committee, contact Pam McGonigle at pmcgonigle@albinism.org.

Your Voice, Your Vote, Your NOAH!

NOAH Board of Directors Elections Coming This Fall

By Jeanine Stearns, Governance Committee Chair

In the past, NOAH elected a full board of directors every two years, but in this year's election, NOAH will adopt a process similar to the U.S. Senate. Beginning with the 2012 election, half of the board seats will be elected every two years on a rotating basis. This change creates a more cohesive board and ensures better continuity of focus for the albinism community.

How do I make my voice heard?

The NOAH Governance Committee prepares candidate profiles which are mailed to active NOAH members. You must be a current member in order to vote. **Remember to renew your membership** so that your voice is heard in this important process. You will receive more information closer to the election date.

What does the board do?

Members of the board of directors are charged with advising, governing, overseeing policy and direction, as well as assisting with the

leadership and general promotion of NOAH to support the organization's mission and needs. In other words, through a vast array of programs and services, the board ensures that the albinism community has access to information, that professionals have access to education and that the general public is given accurate information about albinism.

Make a Difference: Serve on the Board!

Candidates should be active members who have recently served on a NOAH committee. To learn about the duties and responsibilities of the board, or if you are interested in running for the board, you can attend a session at the NOAH National Conference this summer or contact Jeannine Stearns, Chair of the Governance Committee at jstearns@albinism.org.



Keep NOAH Running: Serve on a Committee!

Here is a list of the active committees and their contacts.

If you have questions about serving on a committee, you can contact the committee chair or NOAH's Executive Director, Mike McGowan or any member of the NOAH Board of Directors.



Adult Services Committee

– Plans and executes NOAH programs and projects to provide information and support to adults with albinism, including biennial adult weekends and social programs.

Chair: Open, contact Mike McGowan, mmcgowan@albinism.org.

Advocacy Committee – Acts and speaks on behalf of NOAH to fight myths and misconceptions about albinism including areas of public policy. **Chair:** Brooke Fox, bfox@albinism.org.

Albinism Awareness Committee – Provides outreach to the albinism community, enhances public awareness and educates professionals about albinism. **Chair:** Open, contact Mike McGowan, mmcgowan@albinism.org.

Budget & Finance Committee – Oversees all financial aspects of the organization. **Chair:** Michelle O'Connor, moconnor@albinism.org.

Conference Committee – Plans and executes the biennial NOAH National Conference and regional mini conferences. **Chair:** Mike McGowan, mmcgowan@albinism.org.

Diversity Committee – Plans and executes NOAH programs and projects unique to the needs of minorities with albinism. **Chair:** Ja-Nae Epps, jepps@albinism.org.

Editorial Committee – Supports NOAH's mission to provide information to the albinism

community by producing digital and printed materials including a quarterly magazine, advocacy materials and other NOAH publications.

Chair: Rita Jackson, rjackson@albinism.org.

Fundraising Committee

– Oversees overall fundraising, including fundraising by the board of directors.

Chair: Pam McGonigle, pmcgonigle@albinism.org.

Grants Committee – Processes and awards all NOAH grants and scholarships. **Chair:** Tim Laughlin,

tlaughlin@albinism.org.

Information Technology Committee

– Selects, acquires and monitors NOAH's business applications. **Chair:** Tim Laughlin, tlaughlin@albinism.org.

Parent Services Committee – Plans and executes NOAH programs and projects to provide information and support for parents of children with albinism, including the Rapid Response Program, the New Parent Toolkit program as well as other initiatives. **Chair:** Sheila Adamo, sadamo@albinism.org.

Youth Services Committee – Plans and executes NOAH programs and projects to provide information and support for young people with albinism, including NOAH Family Camp, input to social programs and workshops for young people at the national conference. **Chair:** Open, contact Mike McGowan, mmcgowan@albinism.org.

A sincere thanks to everyone who works to promote NOAH's mission, either by serving on the board of directors or participating in the committees that are vital to NOAH's continued success!