

# **SAFE Network Membership**

## **Policy**

It is the policy of SAFE WA to develop and maintain a Network Membership

## **Procedures**

1) SAFE WA defines criteria for network membership as follows:

A family or youth organization that is ran by parents or caregivers of children who struggle with mental, emotional and behavioral challenges or is youth guided; who provide support to families or youth in the form of partnering and advocacy, parent to parent, family to family to improve impact on families, youth and the systems that serve them.

2) The above described criteria (XII. 1) must have a structured organization, i.e. Non-Profit, a steering committee, an advisory committee or be a parent/youth lead component of a provider agency.

3) Organizations that are interested in Network Membership must submit a Network Membership application.

4) The application will be reviewed in preparation for a face to face chat with the applicant, before being voted on by current Network Members, optimally, at a Network Meeting or if necessary using other available technology such as email or teleconference call.

5) If the current Network votes by Majority to accept the organization for Network Membership, a recommendation will be carried to SAFE WA Board of Directors by the Network/Board Liaison. If the Network votes by Majority not to accept the application then the Network/Board Liaison will notify applicant of this decision.

6) Upon the Network/Board Liaison carrying a recommendation forward to the Board of Directors, the application will be reviewed and voted on by the Board of Directors, optimally, at a Board of Directors Meeting or if necessary using other available technology such as email or teleconference call.

7) If the Board of Directors votes by Majority to accept or not to accept the organization for Network Membership the Network/Board Liaison will notify the Current Network and then notify the applicant of the decision.

8) Network membership is an annual membership and will be reviewed annually.

9) Network Member Organizations will appoint one representative and one alternate, each may attend meetings, however, only one vote per organization is allowed and only one representative per organization will be reimbursed for travel.

10) The responsibilities of Network Members include but are not limited to:

Members responsibly represent and effectively communicate with their constituency.

Members commit to attend every activity, meeting and event or provide an alternate if not able to attend.

Members are willing to represent SAFE WA on various internal and external committees.

Members provide data and/or evaluation information that are required and/or support the existence of SAFE WA.

Members must, at all times, uphold the SAFE WA Charter.