

Thank you for your interest in serving on our Board of Directors!



[Board of Directors Application Form](#)

Questions? Email bodrecruitment@openarmsps.org



OPEN ARMS PERINATAL SERVICES is a nationally recognized community-based organization that supports, educates, and empowers over 600 families annually, from pregnancy to birth and into early parenting, nurturing healthy foundations that last a lifetime.

We are the first community doula program in the nation to be accredited through [Health Connect One](#), a national leader in advancing equitable, community-based, peer-to-peer support for pregnancy, birth, lactation, and early parenting. Our families' outcomes exceed local and national benchmarks, and we have won numerous awards and maintain strong partnerships with public agencies including Best Starts for Kids, The Washington State Department of Children, Youth & Families, and the City of Seattle, and philanthropic funders such as the Perigee Fund, Melinda French Gates' [Action for Women's Health](#) and MacKenzie Scott's [Yield Giving](#).

Social justice and racial equity are at the heart of all that we do. We work in true partnership with the communities we serve, listening to their hopes and dreams for pregnant people, babies and new parents, and providing resources to help transform those dreams into reality. Open Arms primarily serves Black, American Indian/Alaska Native, Somali, and Latinx communities, and over 90% of our staff identify as people of color, many of whom are former clients.

Nationally recognized for providing culturally responsive, holistic support, Open Arms operates with an annual budget exceeding six million dollars supported by public funding, foundations, and individual donors.

We welcome candidates of all backgrounds and genders who bring skills, experience, and perspectives that will strengthen our Board of Directors, and especially value individuals who have worked with, volunteered for, or otherwise supported Open Arms and our mission.

Our board members have found that their involvement with Open Arms provides opportunities to engage with a diverse group of mission-focused individuals from numerous backgrounds and fields of expertise. Board members stretch themselves to develop new skill sets and experiences, leverage their volunteering to have a greater impact in our community, and become deeply involved in birth justice to make tangible differences in the lives of children and their families.

We are currently prioritizing candidates who have:

- a demonstrated commitment to racial equity and diverse communities
- prior nonprofit board or leadership experience in governance, organizational strategy, finance, and fundraising in support of diverse communities, perinatal health and reproductive justice
- lived or professional experience in areas such as healthcare doula/birthing services, social services, early childhood development, human resources, finance, or public advocacy
- previously served as staff members or doulas, and those who are or have been volunteers and/or donors

Responsibilities include serving as a thought partner in developing organizational strategy, building relationships with our stakeholders, keeping pace with emerging issues in maternal health, early childhood, and racial equity, approving the annual budget, and participating in the Executive Director annual performance appraisal.

OUR CORE PROGRAMS

- **[Birth Doula Services](#)** Prenatal, labor, birth, and postpartum support; education and resource navigation.
- **[Community-based Outreach Doula Program](#)** Cultural and language specific home visits from pregnancy to baby's 2nd birthday that foster parent-child bonding, reduce social isolation, and improve early learning and infant mental health.
- **[Lactation Support Program](#)** Lactation peer support counselors provide individualized lactation support that can span nine months and includes virtual lactation support classes and trainings.
- **[Family Support Services](#)** Connects families with wraparound resources and King County's Help Me Grow Community Connectors for children ages 0 – 5.
- **[Community Education & Engagement](#)** Community-based, culturally responsive education programs for families, including peer-support groups and childbirth education. Identifies and trains current and future birth workers of color as lactation specialists and doulas.