



**THE ARK**

**DOMESTIC VIOLENCE AND SEXUAL ASSAULT SHELTER**

# ***BOARD MEMBER APPLICATION***

***Advocacy, Respect, Kindness***

[arkshelter.org](http://arkshelter.org)

## THE ARK'S MISSION

To provide safe shelter and comprehensive resident and non-resident services through advocacy, referrals and education to support and empower victims of domestic abuse and sexual assault, one family at a time.

## ABOUT THE ARK

We are a center of care for victims of family violence and sexual assault. We offer a full array of services including shelter, non-residential, legal advocacy, support groups, accompaniment, and a 24 hour a day crisis hotline. We also have a prevention program that focuses on stopping the cycle of violence.

## A COMMUNITY ISSUE

The issue of family violence and sexual assault has been something secretive and quickly avoided by people for far too long. At The ARK we are working hard to step out of the shadows and shine a light on the issue. We want to help the community understand it is a community issue, not a private issue that should be dismissed. Family and sexual violence impacts schools, churches, neighborhoods, first responders, and the community at large. We need the support of everyone in our service area to **break the cycle and stop the violence!** Our community is better, safer and stronger when everyone knows that violence is knowable, predictable and preventable.

## HOW WE DO IT

- We are an active partner in the community.
- We offer comprehensive services that assist a client in moving to a life free of violence.
- We practice advocacy, respect and kindness.
- We cannot do our work alone and seek community partners to:
  - Provide services outside of our expertise
  - Serve on the Board of Directors
  - Volunteer
  - Donate

## BRIEF HISTORY

In 1984, the Noah Project of Abilene opened two outreach centers to better serve clients in their outlying counties. At that time, Noah Project had a combined service area covering 18 counties of West Central Texas. One outreach center located in Brownwood was called the Noah Project-Central Texas and began serving clients in 1985. In 1992, Noah Project-Central Texas became a full-service shelter center offering services and safety for victims.

In August 2000, Brownwood began as an independent entity under the name of Pecan Valley Regional Domestic Violence Shelter, Inc, dba, The ARK. To accomplish this The ARK managed to do business without state grant funding for the remainder of our first fiscal year. In 2014, we applied to the state of Texas to change our name officially from Valley Regional Domestic Violence Shelter, Inc, dba, The ARK to The ARK Domestic Violence Shelter, Inc. Our service area now includes Brown, Coleman and Comanche counties.

## GOVERNING BOARD OF DIRECTORS

The ARK is governed by a board of directors. Specific responsibilities for board members are outlined in the Board Policy Manual and By-Laws but an overview is provided below:

### TIME COMMITMENT

Board members are asked to participate in orientation and onboarding, monthly board meetings and annual board trainings, participate in a designated committee, and participate in agency activities such as fundraising activities and awareness events.

### TYPICAL BOARD MEMBER RESPONSIBILITIES

- **Ensure effective planning.** Boards must actively participate in an overall strategic planning process and assist in implementing and monitoring the plan's goals.
- **Ensure adequate financial resources.** One of the boards foremost responsibilities is to secure adequate on-going financial resources for the organization to fulfill its mission.
- **Provide proper financial oversight.** The board must assist in developing the annual budget and ensuring that proper financial controls are in place.
- **Be an ambassador for the agency.** The board should be able to articulate the organization's mission, accomplishments, and goals to the public and garner support from the community.
- **Hire, support and evaluate the executive director.** The board should ensure that the chief executive has the moral and professional support he or she needs to further the goals of the agency.
- **Ensure legal and ethical integrity.** The board ultimately is responsible for adherence to legal and ethical norms.
- **Maintain confidentiality.** Because of the serious and delicate nature of the work of The ARK, board members adhere to the highest standards of confidentiality procedures.

### TYPICAL BOARD MEMBER RESPONSIBILITIES

Board members have a duty to subordinate personal interests to the welfare of The ARK and those we serve. Conflicting interests can be financial, personal relationships, status or power.

## WHY SHOULD YOU SERVE?

- Have an immediate and lasting impact
- Gain an expertise in a complex issue
- Be an integral part of the solution that positively impacts our society
- Build valuable networks and relationships
- Grow and learn about non-profit leadership

THE ARK

# BOARD OF DIRECTORS

NOMINATION FORM

## BASIC INFORMATION:

Name of Nominee:

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Address:

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City | State | Zip:

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Date of Birth:

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background check required\*

Driver's License Number:

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Present Employment:

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Email Address:

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Cell Phone Number:

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Work Phone Number:

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✓ check phone preference

## EDUCATION/TRAINING:

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## WHY I WANT TO SERVE ON THE BOARD:

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## SKILLS, KNOWLEDGE & ABILITIES I WILL BRING TO THE BOARD:

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## OTHER BOARDS I CURRENTLY SERVE ON:

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## PLEASE LIST NAME AND NUMBER OF THREE PERSONAL REFERENCES:

1. 

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2. 

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3. 

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Many of our funders ask whether we have representation on our Board of Directors of the population we serve. The following question is asked for that reason and you may choose not to answer.

**Are you a survivor of dating violence, family violence and/or child abuse? Have you ever been homeless due to family violence or any other reason?**

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**If so, would you like this information to be kept confidential?**

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**Have you volunteered in the community? If so when and where?**

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We would appreciate your comments on the following questions even if you are not interested in serving on the Board of Directors.

**What are your perceptions of The ARK?**

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**Do you have any other comments or suggestions for The ARK?**

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Nominated by: \_\_\_\_\_

Presented for vote at meeting: \_\_\_\_\_

Date

Outcome:      YES      NO

**Office Use Only\***

