

## Vernita Gray Council for Philanthropy

### Overview

The mission of **Howard Brown Health** is to eliminate the disparities in healthcare experienced by lesbian, gay, bisexual and transgender people through research, education and the provision of services that promote health and wellness.



The **Vernita Gray Council for Philanthropy** is a passionate and dynamic auxiliary board made up of influencers and innovators who want to help further the mission and vision of Howard Brown through fundraising, engagement, and outreach. Named after Vernita Gray [pictured on left], the Council honors a longtime champion of the rights of LGBTQ people, African Americans, and women who served as a community volunteer, donor, and advocate.

The purpose of the Council is to train our council members to become agency champions and raise money for Howard Brown Health through:

- (1) Promoting public awareness of our healthcare services and ways to support the agency
- (2) Attending, promoting and selling tickets for fundraising events including Big Orange Ball and ChiQ.
- (3) Using creative fundraising strategies to bring in donations via online and peer-to-peer fundraising platforms including AIDS Run & Walk, Giving Tuesday and Give OUT Day.
- (4) Provide support for general outreach events and activities including the Annual Meeting and Pride 365.



### **Who is a candidate for the Council?**

Someone who is:

1. Passionate about equity in healthcare
2. Able to make a yearly annual give/get commitment of \$500 (not including event tickets, in-kind support or other purchases) during the fiscal year (which runs June through July)
3. Able to commit to a two-year term
4. Willing to attend at least four of six Council meetings each year AND willing to join one committee, and attend at least three committee meetings.
5. Able to create a peer to peer online fundraisers for our AIDS Run & Walk and share the Council's online fundraisers for Giving Tuesday and Give OUT Day
6. Able to sell tickets (including one for self) and promote Big Orange Ball, ChiQ and other agency fundraisers.
7. Committed to long-term success of Vernita Gray Council and Howard Brown; an interest in an on-going relationship with the agency.

## What committee(s) could I join?

**Executive committee** – Setting fundraising goals for the group and monitoring overall engagement. This committee is composed of officers including the chair, vice chair, treasurer, and each of the following committee chairs.

**Development committee** – Serve as host committee members for Big Orange Ball and support other agency fundraising events (i.e. ChiQ, Big Orange Ball, etc) with promotion, selling tickets and day of tasks (i.e. check-in, coat check, raffle tables, and more). Leading individual and team online fundraisers (i.e. AIDS Run & Walk, Giving Tuesday and Give OUT Day, etc.) Creating and running smaller fundraising events and opportunities for the agency. Lead the annual Broadway Youth Center (BYC) winter donation drive.

**Outreach committee** – Lead and support CommunitySharegrounds (our integrational partnership with Aging Services to connect with LGBT older adults through monthly discussions). Helping to promote agency events (ie Annual Meeting, Pride 365, FacebookLive events, etc.) and healthcare services. Supporting external programs, volunteering, and representing the agency at community events (such as MidsommarFest, Market Days, Pride Fest, Pride Parade, Bud Billiken Parade, and more).

**Membership committee** – Supporting the pulse of the group, this committee develops networking opportunities for Council members while also serving as the recruitment arm of the Council. Develop and implement recruitment strategies helping to grow the council.



## What is the time commitment?

Each member should expect to spend three to five hours a month supporting the Council through meetings, events, and engagement activities.

## How do I apply to the Vernita Gray Council?

Fill out the application and submit along with a resume, to Steven Solomon (Senior Individual Giving Officer | Howard Brown Health) at [StevenS@howardbrown.org](mailto:StevenS@howardbrown.org). Applications are accepted on a rolling basis.

**Questions?** Reach out to Steven at the email above.