

Membership Requirements

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.



Vernita Gray, namesake of the VGC

The **Vernita Gray Council for Philanthropy** (VGC) is composed of up to 25 influencers and innovators who want to help further the mission of Howard Brown Health. This auxiliary board specializes in fundraising, engagement, and outreach. Named after Vernita Gray, the VGC honors a longtime champion of the rights of LGBTQ people, African Americans, and women. She served as a community volunteer, donor, and advocate.

Meets on 2nd Tuesday of each month | 6-8pm

VGC Members are agency champions & raise money through:

- (1) Promoting public awareness of our healthcare services and **ways to support** the agency
- (2) Using creative fundraising strategies to bring in donations
- (3) Attending, promoting, and selling tickets for fundraising events
- (4) Providing support for general outreach events and activities

Who is an ideal candidate for the Council?

Someone who is:

1. Passionate about equity in healthcare
2. Able to commit to creating a diverse, equitable, and inclusive VGC which is vital to the long-term success of Howard Brown Health - we are committed to diversity as it relates to age, class, color, disability, ethnicity, gender identity and expression, national origin, orientation, race, religion, and all marginalized identities
3. Able to make an annual give/get commitment of \$500 (*excluding event tickets, in-kind donations, or other purchases*) during the fiscal year (*which runs July through June*)
4. Able to commit to a two-year term
5. Willing to attend at least two-thirds All Council Meetings each year AND willing to join one committee, attending at least two-thirds committee meetings
6. Able to create **peer-to-peer online fundraisers**, including AIDS Run & Walk, and share VGC's online fundraisers for Giving Tuesday and Give OUT Day
7. Able to purchase a ticket, promote and sell tickets for Big Orange Ball, ChiQ, Dish, and other agency fundraisers
8. Promote and attend Pride 365, FacebookLive and other agency events.

What is the time commitment?

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

What committee could I join?

Development – Promote and support fundraising events (i.e. Big Orange Ball, ChiQ, Dish, etc.) Lead individual and team online fundraisers (i.e. AIDS Run & Walk, Giving Tuesday, and Give OUT Day, etc.) Lead the Broadway Youth Center (BYC) winter donation drive. Create and implement other fundraising events and opportunities for the agency.

Membership – Recruit and onboard new members. Develop and lead membership engagement opportunities including socials. Guide diversity, equity, and inclusion work throughout all activities. Help to promote agency events (i.e. Pride 365, FacebookLive events, etc.) and healthcare services. Support external programs, volunteer, and represent the agency at community events (i.e. MidsommarFest, Market Days, Pride Fest, Pride Parade, Bud Billiken Parade, etc.)



How do I apply to the Vernita Gray Council?

Please fill out the [application](#) and submit along with your resume, to Steven Solomon at StevensS@howardbrown.org. Applications are accepted on a rolling basis.

Applicants are screened through a 30-minute meeting with Steven. Once completed, your application status is determined after a 30-minute interview with Membership.

Questions?

Steven Solomon (He/Him/His)
Senior Individual Giving Officer | Howard Brown Health
Staff Liaison for Vernita Gray Council for Philanthropy
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