



**FINANCIAL
EMPOWERMENT
NETWORK**

Financial Empowerment Network Open Board Positions

Position: Board of Directors (volunteer position)

Number of Board of Directors: 3 – 13 (currently 9)

Size of Staff: 3.5 FTE

Annual Operating Budget: approx. \$500,000

The Financial Empowerment Network (FEN) is seeking candidates to begin volunteer service in 2026 with any combination of the following:

- Interest or experience in at least one area: banking (either retail or corporate, especially with community affairs/CRA experience), local government or financial regulators, nonprofit or social services, financial education, financial counseling, or financial coaching, homeownership, or other related field
- Strong network(s) in related fields, such as workforce development, Tribal communities, policy advocacy, corporate philanthropy, banking, local community, or others, especially those not currently represented on FEN's board
- We invite anyone who would like to contribute to the vision of FEN to apply, and especially encourage candidates with one or any combination of the following:
 - Expertise in fundraising/development, legal, accounting/bookkeeping, communications/marketing, or community leadership
 - People of color
 - Those with lived experience of poverty, accessing safety net resources, or being unbanked
 - Have lived or work experience from across Washington state, specifically in Central or Eastern WA, Northwest WA, or the Olympic peninsula

Length of term: Two years. Terms may be renewed for 2 additional terms, for a maximum of 6 yrs.

Application Process: We are interested in learning your story and how you can connect with FEN! If you would like to be considered for a board position, please submit the following:

- A resume is encouraged but not required
- A letter of interest that includes how you meet the criteria listed in the position description

Materials should be sent to hello@fenwa.org by May 31st. We will reach out to schedule an informational interview.

About the Financial Empowerment Network

Our Vision: Together, we are creating a Washington where financial justice is fully practiced—where communities have the power, resources, and relationships needed to build generational pathways for financial thriving

Our Mission: FEN connects and equips advocates and providers to advance financial thriving across Washington

Our Values:

- Equity & Belonging – Center those most impacted and ensure they thrive
- Collaboration & Partnership – Move together, not alone
- Transparency & Integrity – Be honest, clear, and values-aligned
- Sustainability & Stewardship – Build what lasts, with care
- Community-Rooted Leadership – Follow lived expertise
- Abundance Mindset – Dream big, act boldly, share power

Our History: The Financial Empowerment Network (founded as the Seattle-King County Asset Building Collaborative) is dedicated to advancing financial thriving across Washington. Since FEN's inception in 2006, we have become a prominent force in the state for financial empowerment. After 12 years of fiscal sponsorship, in 2018 FEN obtained 501(c)3 status from the IRS and incorporated as a nonprofit. In July 2023, the Washington Asset Building Coalition merged with FEN. WABC has also been a long-time leader in the field. This merger has allowed us to reduce duplication, improve state-wide coordination and increase our impact across Washington. Since 2023 we have now grown to 4 staff members and continue to lead a variety of engaged and dedicated volunteer committees.

Our Work: The Financial Empowerment Network (FEN) has 3 principal initiatives:

1. Integration of Financial Empowerment into other Service Systems
 - a. Professional Development Financial Education Workshops
 - b. WA Financial Coaching Network
 - c. Customized training and technical assistance for organizations
 - d. Access to on-demand resources and tools
2. Building & Preserving Generational Wealth
 - a. Leadership support for local asset-building leaders across WA
 - b. Participation in legislative education, outreach and advocacy
 - c. Free Tax Preparation /EITC/WFTC
 - d. Homeownership and Foreclosure Intervention
 - e. Coordination of coalition within King County – temporarily suspended in 2025
3. Bank On Washington: Connecting un- and underbanked individuals and communities to safe, affordable and accessible financial services:
 - a. Networking and training events, including our annual Bank On Washington forum
 - b. Coordinating Bank On integration work to get financial services into the hands of communities who have lacked access – currently a project with the Dept. of Corrections
 - c. Encouraging financial institutions to obtain Bank On certification
 - d. Fostering connections between nonprofit and financial institution partners
 - e. Supporting the work of local Bank On coalitions across the state

The Financial Empowerment Network partners with organizations across sectors and geography to support them in providing quality financial empowerment services, avoiding duplication of services, creating system change, and making connections with each other to improve outcomes for their clients. Learn more about [who we are](#) and about [our impact](#)!

About the Board of Directors

Responsibilities of the Board of Directors: Together with other members of the board, each member is legally responsible for oversight of the financial viability, operations and activities of the FEN. Members are required to act in accordance with fiduciary duties of care, governance and legal

requirements of FEN. Individual responsibilities include:

1. **Governance:** participate in board development activities including promoting the work of FEN in the community, supporting the identification and recruitment of board members, participating in onboarding of new members, ongoing development activities, and evaluation of board performance; board members are also asked to participate in a minimum of one FEN committee, workgroup, or project each year.
2. **Financial:** assist in reviewing, approving, and monitoring the annual budget; ensure that proper financial controls are in place; review monthly and year-end financial reports.
3. **Fundraising and Partnerships:** assist in identifying potential funding sources and outreach efforts as needed; leverage resources, including support for operations and programmatic work; actively promote the Financial Empowerment Network. All board members are requested to make a gift that is significant to them annually.
4. **Personnel:** Select, support, and evaluate the Executive Director; review and revise FEN personnel policies and ensure compliance with equitable personnel policies and state & federal HR requirements.
5. **Strategic advising, planning & evaluation:** provide collaborative guidance and support to the Executive Director in accordance with the best interest of the FEN mission and strategic initiatives; review organizational and programmatic reports.

Board of Directors share these responsibilities while acting in the interest of FEN. Each member is expected to make recommendations based on his or her personal lived and professional experience.

Expectations of Board of Members: Board members are asked to commit to the following:

- Uphold and advance FEN’s vision, mission, values and goals
- Expanding knowledge of board roles and responsibilities, and financial empowerment through board sponsored orientation and ongoing education
- Get to know other board members and build a collegial working relationship that contributes to respectful collaboration, dialogue, and consensus.
- Attendance and participation: in general, board members will spend 2.5 – 6 hours per month on board work, distributed as follows:
 - Board members are expected to attend regularly scheduled board meetings. They are currently scheduled for **the 4th Friday of each month from 9:00-10:30 am via Zoom.** (1.5 hours/month)
 - Board members are asked to serve on at least one FEN committee, workgroup, or project group per year. Schedules vary, but committees and workgroups tend to meet monthly, with time and location determined by the committee members collectively. (1-3 hours/month)
 - While not required, occasional attendance at FEN events is helpful to keep the board connected to and informed about the needs and perspectives of our partner organizations across sectors. (1-2 hours/month)
 - Other special requests/tasks

Last updated 4/24/2026