

Medford Farmers Market Board Info 2020

The Medford Farmers Market has a volunteer Board of Directors that consists of 5-8 Medford citizens with varying backgrounds, including school teachers, city hall employees, businesspeople, and parents. Our objective each year is to fulfill the Market's mission of strengthening our diverse community of Medford, Massachusetts, through access to fresh, healthy, and local food direct from local farmers & producers.

We are currently **looking for community members to join the Board who believe in the importance of creating more access to fresh, healthy local food and supporting farmers and producers in our community**. In a few hours each month, we cover a variety of responsibilities such as finding and securing vendors, marketing and promoting the season, coordinating special events, inviting and organizing performers, staying active on other social media platforms, fundraising and grant writing, hiring staff, coordinating volunteers, creating and delivering educational programming, facilitating partnerships and sponsorships, accounting, and performing community outreach. The board will meet monthly for 2 hours in the off-season to begin planning our 2021 season. Board members also contribute as they are able during the weekly Thursday markets from June to October.

The board has operated since 2007 and manages an annual budget of approximately \$20,000. In 2020, we welcomed almost 6000 shoppers to 20 markets. We worked with 17 vendors and their staff over the season to implement Covid-safe practices and matched an average of \$276 in EBT benefits per week. The market is funded through vendor fees, annual grants, city support, and community fundraising. Thanks in large part to generous contributions from members of our community this past September, we were able to provide extra EBT/SNAP match dollars during this challenging season, while maintaining a strong financial position for 2021.

Major Board Responsibilities & Expectations

- Attend monthly board meetings to plan for the season and individual markets, assess how we're meeting our objectives, and review actions needed to coordinate the market
- Attend and help out at weekly MFM markets as able (at least 50% of market season)
- Join one of the committees which occasionally communicates and meets in between Board meetings, such as:
 - Vendor

- Marketing and Promotion
- City Hall Liaison
- Fundraising
- Help with special events, marketing, and social media promotion
- Become familiar with MFM bylaws, finances, COVID-19 safety concerns, and resource needs
- Become familiar with local community concerns and needs that the MFM helps to address, ie. food insecurity

Please email us at medfordfarmersmarket@gmail.com to share your interest in becoming a Board Member.