



# BOARD ELECTION GUIDE

*Includes*  
**2025 SEED**  
*Nominee*  
*Information*

# 2024 BOARD CANDIDATES

Open Harvest Co-op Grocery is owned and democratically governed by our owners, and each year they vote to elect representatives to serve a three-year term for the co-op. This year, we have four candidates running for four open seats. Below you'll find more information about the board and the election process. **The election runs from October 14th through October 31st. Owners in good standing can vote online or by in-store ballot.**



**Carla McCullough Dittman  
(incumbent)**

As a member owner and shopper for 24 years and a board director during the relocation, I have knowledge and experience that I feel would be valuable for our coop as we move forward in this new era. I am committed to providing our staff with a wonderful place to work and for our member owners and community to shop. I want to ensure we continue to thrive and be a gem in the heart of Lincoln.



**Rollin Metzger**

I am dedicated to supporting Open Harvest's continued growth and success, as it stands at the vital intersection of local food and community engagement. I envision a future where Open Harvest not only strengthens its role in promoting sustainable food practices but also serves as a central hub for community interaction and education. I am passionate about ensuring that Open Harvest continues to thrive, benefiting both our current community and future generations.



**Jarvis Green  
(incumbent)**

I would like to impact the community with healthier food. Food deserts shouldn't exist in my book. I think making a difference in the community starts at the board level to help bridge the gap between local farmers and consumers.



**Monica Snowden**

I have been a member of Open Harvest since the early 1990s because I highly value year-round access to organic and local food. Second, I enjoy collaborating with others to foster sustainable food systems. I understand that action taken now to grow sustainable food systems is essential to realizing climate justice. Building, maintaining, and growing sustainable food systems that are inclusive across lines of class, race/ethnicity, gender identity, sexual orientation, immigration and citizenship status, ability, and age, is vital to achieving food and climate justice.

# 2025 SEED NOMINATIONS

Vote for up to 5 organizations.



## Belmont Community Center

To identify and define the social, cultural, recreational, and educational needs of the residents of the Northwest Lincoln community and to cooperate in meeting these needs by establishing programs & services, to the extent of our resources, while coordinating with and complementing the programs of other agencies.

<https://belmontcommunitycenter.org/>

## Big Gumdrop Outdoors

BGO was founded to educate urban youth about nature and inspire them to explore the great outdoors. We believe it is vital for youth to have representation and see someone that looks like them in a field. This allows them to feel comfortable and confident within themselves to explore the unknown.

<https://www.bigumdropoutdoors.com/>

## Bluestem Montessori

Bluestem's mission is to foster creativity, independence, and ingenuity by providing a child-centric learning environment, hands-on activities, and integration with the community. Bluestem is educating our students to cherish community, value peace, chase their passions, and make a difference in their world.

<https://www.bluestemmontessori.com/>

## Brave Animal Rescue

Brave Animal Rescue is a nonprofit volunteer-based animal welfare organization dedicated to rescuing homeless kittens, cats, dogs, and puppies. By working with a network of volunteer advocates, foster caregivers, local veterinarians, and shelters, Brave Animal Rescue is able to help hundreds of animals every year.

<https://www.brave-animal-rescue.org/>

## Bright Lights

Bright Lights is a nonprofit organization that takes learning beyond the classroom by providing youth with unique, motivating, hands-on educational opportunities.

<https://brightlights.org/>

## CASA

CASA for Lancaster County recruits, trains and supports community volunteers who advocate on behalf of abused and neglected children in Lancaster County Juvenile Court.

<https://www.casa4lancaster.org/>

## Center for Rural Affairs

The Center for Rural Affairs is a nonprofit, mission-driven lender focusing on underserved communities, primarily to rural, Latino, Native, and other communities that mainstream finance doesn't traditionally reach. We are a Community Development Financial Institute, certified by the U.S. Treasury.

<https://www.cfra.org/>

## Center For Legal Immigration Assistance

The only nonprofit in Lincoln offering a comprehensive range of direct legal immigration services, CLIA is uniquely positioned to provide the support and expertise our community needs.

<https://www.cliane.org/>

## Food Fort

Food Fort began by simply seeking to meet the deeper needs of underserved youth in Lincoln. Over time, our meal services grew into the "avenue" we use to establish relationships with those we serve.

<https://lincolnfoodfort.com/>

## Friendship Home

Founded in 1978, Friendship Home has been in existence for 45 years, with its first permanent home in the summer of 1985. To meet the needs of domestic violence survivors and their children, Friendship Home's current facilities have expanded shelter options, including transitional housing and single-family shelters.

<https://friendshiphome.org/>

## Intertribal Spiritual Lodges

Our goal is to combine Indigenous cultural and spiritual education with life coaching within the areas of economic development, social, emotional, mental and physical health for the Indigenous Native American Indian community.

<https://intertribalspirituallodges.org/>



### Lincoln Bike Kitchen

The Lincoln Bike Kitchen is a community-building organization that provides bicycles and related resources to all people. We advocate for utilitarian bicycling as a vital part of a healthy, equitable and sustainable community. We connect cycling to broader environmental and social issues through outreach, and education.

<https://www.lincolnbikekitchen.org/>

### Lincoln Community Playhouse

The mission of LCP is to positively transform the lives of individuals and profoundly change our community by providing the finest quantity theatre experience in both process and production.

<https://www.lincolnplayhouse.com/>

### Live Yes Studios

We support adults with developmental, intellectual and physical disabilities by providing a structured day program with a professional studio environment. Our instructors work together with our resident artists to offer opportunities for learning, artistic growth, collaboration and gallery exhibition.

<https://www.liveyesstudios.com/>

### Voices of Hope

To provide services to victims and their significant others who are faced with the traumatic aftermath of sexual assault, domestic violence, stalking, human trafficking, incest and childhood abuse.

<https://www.voicesofhopelincn.org/>

### Wallspace LNK

With new exhibitions opening monthly and special events, screenings, gallery talks and receptions, this will be a place to experience and engage with art, artists and ideas. And it's got what every artist needs more of.

<https://wallspace-lnk.com/>

### Wildlife Rescue Team

WRT is dedicated solely to the rescue and rehabilitation of Nebraska's orphaned and injured wildlife, and its return to its natural habitat. Working under state and federal permits, WRT is a non-profit, independent, all volunteer organization, made up of caring individuals from all walks of life. They share a common bond, a love and respect for wildlife.

<https://www.wildliferescueteamincne.org/>

### Malone Center

Malone was founded in 1955 through a reorganization of the Lincoln Urban league. The league founders were determined to improve social and economic conditions and increase understanding between all races.

<https://malonecenter.org/>

### Nebraska Appleseed

Nebraska Appleseed fights for Justice and Opportunity for all Nebraskans by taking a systematic approach to complex issues-such as poverty, child welfare, affordable health care, and immigration policies.

<https://neappleseed.org/>

### Nebraska Devo

Nebraska DEVO is a skills-based developmental mountain biking program for kids ages 5 and up. Nebraska "DEVO" (short for development) has two locations in Omaha, two in Lincoln, and one in Norfolk.

<https://www.nebraskadevo.org/>

### Woven Charm

Our mission is simple yet powerful: to guide and support families who are currently navigating the NICU. Through our curated support packages, compassionate services, and unwavering support, we strive to be a beacon of hope and comfort during this challenging time.

<https://wovencharm.org/>



### Nebraska Sustainable Agriculture Society

Promoting agriculture and food systems that build healthy land, people, communities, and quality of life for present and future generations.

<https://www.sustainablenebraska.org/>

### Roper Elementary PTO

We developed PTBoard with a single mission: making parents' lives easier by keeping all their children's activities in one place. We work hard to know where and when all school activities are going on. We want to make it simple for you. PTBoard is here to solve these problems for you.

<https://roper.ptboard.com/>

### Sadie Dog Fund

Providing veterinary grants for dogs and families in Nebraska who are unable to cover the cost of veterinary treatment to save or improve the life of dogs in need.

<https://sadedogfund.org/>

### Stand In For Nebraska

Through direct advocacy featuring education, community-enhancing projects, and policy work, SIFN strives to work in deep and unyielding collaboration, toward realizing ML King Jr's unrealized "Beloved Community" vision.

<https://standinfornebraska.org/>

### The White Cane Foundation

We partner with Community Learning Center (CLC) Elementary Schools in Lincoln where a high percentage of students live below the poverty level. We are currently serving 15 of the 18 Title I Schools in Lincoln, Nebraska.

<https://thewhitecanefoundation.org/>

### Visionary Youth

VY strives to serve minority youth and families who are facing these challenges in ways that foster more opportunities for success. VY provides culturally relevant programming that is accessible, comfortable, and direct enough to ensure that basic needs are met while broad enough to foster hope, a future orientation, and connections.

<https://visionaryyouth.org/>

**LEARN MORE**  
about the candidates

Read each candidate's  
full response by  
visiting us online



**OPENHARVEST.COOP/2024-BOARD-ELECTION**