



CANDIDATE WELCOME LETTER
Silver Haired Legislature Elections 2022

Dear Potential Candidate,

Enclosed you will find copies of important information relative to Silver Haired Legislature that will help you determine if running for a delegate position is right for you.

Please be sure to return the requested and necessary documents, including your Intent to Run, to our office by Monday, April 11th, no later than 4:30pm.

Thank you for your interest in serving the older adults of Northwest Missouri.

Sincerely,

Young at Heart Resources
Silver Haired Legislature
Northwest Missouri Delegation

We are seeking highly qualified and enthusiastic people who support the vision, mission, goals, and priorities of the Silver Haired Legislature to serve as delegates or alternates for northwest Missouri.

The need for such members is imperative to the organizations continued success, growth, viability, development, and sustainability. The included details and guidelines are based on best practices and principles of nonprofits and the Missouri Silver Haired Legislature.

Candidate Considerations:

Source – Council of Nonprofits

DIVERSITY: Each member brings his/her own unique perspective to the organization. Diversity ensures that the agency not only reflects its constituency but is also able to relate and interact with each other and with their peers. With diversity in all areas, the organization is in a stronger position to deal with challenges and to consider opportunities. Diversity considerations should include gender and racial; geographic throughout the 18 counties, experience, expertise, and perspectives.

PARTICIPATION AND ATTENDANCE: Individuals who are elected to the Young At Heart Silver Haired Delegation should be active and committed. Candidates should be able to commit to attending meetings, participating as an active member, preparing before meetings, allowing time to study information received in informational packets, and becoming aware of and advocating for needs and interests of their peers in the 18 counties of Northwest Missouri.

LEADERSHIP, GUIDANCE, AND VISION: Substantial changes in how the organization advocates for clients in the future are anticipated, largely because of aging Baby Boomers and different needs and interests among the wide range of ages and geographical locations of seniors. Organization members need to share perspectives on issues and solutions related to the aging population, looking beyond today's model of identifying and meeting needs of seniors. They need to be comfortable providing input, guidance, and vision to promote and strengthen the organizations ability to serve and advocate for seniors, both now and in the future.

IMAGE AND STATURE: For more than four decades, Young at Heart Resources and the Silver Haired Legislature has maintained a high level of respect, integrity, dedication to its mission, and a reputation for creating innovative ways to respond to the needs of seniors. The Silver Haired Delegation members will need to be prepared to build on past momentum while promoting new ideas and initiatives.

SKILLS AND EXPERTISE: Current organization members should assess the makeup of the current delegates and alternates, to identify leadership/diversity gaps and help to seek qualified candidates for annual elections.

The Duty of Caring: Each member is expected to act in good faith and to actively participate in governance, through preparing for and attending meetings, asking appropriate questions, using unbiased judgment, and actively seeking the needs of seniors and Missouri citizens.

The Duty of Loyalty: Conflict of interest must be absent. Each member must put the interests of the organization ahead of his or her personal interests by disclosing any potential conflict of interest, not using organization activities and/or opportunities within the organization for personal gain.

SILVER HAired LEGISLATURE MISSION STATEMENT

Provide legislative and regulatory education for Silver Haired Delegates to support their endeavors to inform themselves, their constituencies, and the general public of the governmental decision-making process.

Promote community and legislative advocacy by increasing the awareness and participation of Missouri residents aged 60 or older in governmental decision-making.

Assess the legislative needs and priorities of older Missourians by convening a forum modeled after the Missouri General Assembly.

Provide a service that encourages and develops individual and group participation and leadership concerning local, state, and national legislation.

YOUNG AT HEART RESOURCES VISION STATEMENT

To empower and provide older adults of Northwest Missouri the opportunity to live safe, healthy, independent lives in the home environment of their choice.

YOUNG AT HEART RESOURCES MISSION STATEMENT

The mission of Young at Heart Resources is to promote systems that maintain and enhance the quality of life for older adults in the home environment of their choice.

This is done by listening to the needs of, identifying and coordinating resources, planning, developing and implementing programs, services, and systems for older adults and their caregivers.

Young at Heart Resources strives to ensure effective, efficient use of resources, and supports individual choice and informed decision making.

**DECLARATION OF INTENT TO RUN
Silver Haired Legislature - 2022**

Intended Office

Date of Birth

Printed Name

Home Address

City & Zip

County

Phone Number

Email Address

Please submit a statement (250 words or fewer, typed) describing why you are declaring your intent to be a candidate for the Young at Heart Resources Silver Haired Legislature – Northwest Missouri Delegation. Your statement may be mailed with this form and other required documents (see below) or emailed to our office.

To be considered valid, the election packet you return to Young at Heart Resources must include:

- Declaration of Intent to Run (this form)
- Candidate Statement & Biography (please note, this will be published for voters' benefit prior to and during elections) – topics to consider including are education, work experience, history of volunteering and advocacy, if applicable, as well as why you desire to run

Please return your election packet to:
(Deadline is April 11, no later than 4:30pm.)

Young at Heart Resources
Attn: Michael Stopka
PO Box 265
Albany, MO 64402 OR
mstopka@yahresources.org

Candidate Signature

Date Signed