

VIETNAMESE COMMUNITY OF MASSACHUSETTS

Mission Statement and Organizational Structure

MISSION STATEMENT

The Vietnamese Community of Massachusetts is a 501 (c)(3) non-profit that serves as the umbrella organization for 36 independent Vietnamese-American associations and organizations. Our mission entails the following objectives:

- To promote collaboration among the various organizations and associations within the Vietnamese community of Massachusetts as a means to support and strengthen the community through unified efforts
- To protect the rights of Vietnamese Nationalist refugees by actively seeking solutions for the challenges and disadvantages faced at the local level
- To advocate for human rights and democracy for Vietnam
- To develop mutually beneficial relationships with state and federal governments as well as with other ethnic communities
- To nurture the sense of pride and responsibility towards preserving and promoting the Vietnamese culture and heritage

STRUCTURE AND MEMBERSHIP

- I. Board of Directors
 - a. Membership: Chair, Vice-Chair and Secretary
 - b. Responsibilities and powers
 - i. Research, deliberate and decide on the execution of the activities relevant to the community
 - ii. Have the right to delay or veto the Board of Executives with a majority of 2/3 after consultation with the Board of Overseers and Board of Advisors
 - iii. Have the right to preserve or abolish activities that deem unbeneficial to the community
- II. Board of Executives
 - a. Membership: President, Internal Vice-Chair, External Vice-Chair, General Secretary, General Treasurer and Subcommittee Chairs
 - b. Responsibilities and powers:
 - i. Be the sole legislative and executive structure in coordinating and implementing resolutions of the Board of Director that abide by the mission, vision, and principles detailed in the Constitution of the Vietnamese Community of Massachusetts
 - ii. Coordinate and utilize resources within the Vietnamese Community of Massachusetts in organizing and serving the public
 - iii. Communicate with government entities and relevant organizations regarding community issues
 - iv. Have full autonomy in coordinating, organizing and resolving all issues related to activities within the community
 - v. Organize all major national festivals and participate in the activities of member organizations on behalf of the Vietnamese Community of Massachusetts

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- vi. Organize elections for the Board of Directors and Board of Executives according to the approved terms
- vii. Have the power to select assistant members, sub-committee and committee chairs as necessary

III. Board of Overseers

- a. Membership: Three members who have been recommended by the Board of Directors and have received approval at the Convention of the Vietnamese Community of Massachusetts
- b. Responsibilities and powers
 - i. Clarify the Constitution of the Vietnamese Community of Massachusetts when necessary
 - ii. Oversee all activities and members of the Board of Executives
 - iii. Propose impeachment for any members of the Board of Executives whose actions have violated the Constitution

IV. Board of Advisors

- a. Membership: members proposed by the Board of Directors, have exhibited expertise related to the activities of the community, can be of any nationality, and be at least 25 years of age
- b. Responsibilities and powers:
 - i. Advise and discuss with the Board of Directors on matters regarding the activities and actions of the Board of Executives at all regular meetings
 - ii. Advise Board of Overseers and Board of Directors when the actions of the one or multiple members of the Board of Executives are questionable

V. General members

- a. Every former citizen of the Republic of South Vietnam currently residing in Massachusetts
- b. Representatives from various community organizations who have received the approval of the Board of Directors
- c. Honorary members of any nationality who have a history of supporting the Republic of South Vietnam, abide by the constitution of the Vietnamese Community of Massachusetts, and have received the approval of the Board of Directors