



# Join the Transcaucasian Trail Association's Board of Directors!

After 8 years of grassroots development, the Transcaucasian Trail Association is at an exciting growth phase. We're delighted to announce an open call for new members to serve on our **Board of Directors** in a volunteer capacity.

If you care deeply about connecting people and places, protecting our world's rich natural and cultural heritage, and leveraging tourism as a force for good, we'd love to hear from you.



## About the Transcaucasian Trail Association

The Transcaucasian Trail Association (TCTA) is a 501(c)(3) non-profit organization established in 2016 that coordinates and supports the development of the Transcaucasian Trail (TCT). We work in close partnership with local NGOs and partners in Georgia, Armenia, and Azerbaijan towards our shared vision.

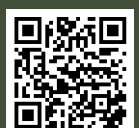
Our vision is a **world-class, long-distance hiking trail** that follows the Greater and Lesser Caucasus Mountains and connects diverse communities and ecosystems, providing lasting and wide-ranging benefits for people and the environment.

Our mission is to **develop, promote, and maintain the TCT** in order to improve access to the region's diverse cultural and natural heritage and encourage its preservation, benefiting local communities and trail users through the development of sustainable tourism.

In eight short years, the TCT has gone from being a wild idea to a vibrant reality - with trails, programs, and a community that spans all three South Caucasus countries of Georgia, Armenia, and Azerbaijan. As it's grown, the trail has created opportunities for economic growth, cultural exchange, and environmental education with rippling benefits far beyond the trail itself.

Now, we're seeking board members who can help us bring the TCTA into its next phase of growth.

Learn more at [transcaucasiantrail.org](https://transcaucasiantrail.org)



## Our Work & Impact

Bordering Europe, Asia and the Middle East, the region known as the South Caucasus is one of the most biologically, culturally and linguistically diverse regions in the world. Yet it's one that few have had the chance to explore. Most of the Caucasus' vast network of historical trails remains overgrown, unmarked, and unknown except to local villagers.

Together with a growing community of local and international trail builders, hikers, cartographers, and conservationists, **we're putting these hidden gems on the map** to help ensure that the landscapes and heritage of the region can be enjoyed by future generations.

To date, we've developed over **1,700 kilometers of trail**, trained hundreds of trail crew leaders & volunteers, and welcomed thousands of hikers to the TCT.



### Recreational Infrastructure

We rehabilitate ancient trails and build new trail connections with safe, environmentally friendly infrastructure and accurate information, improving access to mountains and historical sites in a sustainable manner.

### International & Domestic Tourism

We promote hiking and nature-based tourism in the Caucasus to a wide local & international audience, raising the profile of these spectacular areas and putting new destinations on the map.

### Community Engagement

We work with communities to support local business development along the trail. Through our Caucasus Conservation Corps program, we train the next generation of conservation leaders, who will maintain these trails over the long term.



## About the TCTA Board of Directors

The role of the Board is to raise **funds** to support the vision and mission of the TCTA, approve its **strategy**, and provide financial **oversight** of its operations. As independent directors, we provide assurance that donations are spent in a manner consistent with our mission and vision, and that the organization continues to qualify as a non-profit charity according to IRS rules.

Our contributions include leadership of fundraising programs and events, participation in strategy reviews, and review of financial plans and results. Overall, the board dedicates approximately half of its time toward strategy and half of its time toward fundraising. The board does not operate the TCTA; this is the role of the Executive Director and their team.



## Are you our next new Board member?

We are looking for people with **enthusiasm** and **resources** who are excited to contribute to our mission. As a small nonprofit organization with an ambitious growth plan, we are particularly interested to hear from applicants with experience in fundraising—through events, individual giving, and/or business partnerships—and applicants who are eager to introduce us to new supporters. If you are excited to help the TCTA expand what's possible, please apply!

Board members must be committed to supporting the TCT's development across the whole region and aligned with our **core values** of international cooperation and exchange, environmental conservation, cultural and historical preservation, outdoor access, and peacebuilding. We seek board members who are passionate about these values and our vision.



## The Commitment

As a Board member, you'll get the opportunity to learn about our multipronged approach to trail development, conservation, sustainable tourism, and cultural exchange. You'll join a dynamic community of outdoor enthusiasts, trail workers, conservation advocates, and peacebuilders.

Your **commitments** as a board members of the TCTA will include:

- Supporting and championing the vision and mission of the TCTA
- Participating in at least 75% of the 4-6 board meetings held during the year (held virtually)
- An annual "Give/Get," meaning that you help to raise funds and/or donate directly
- Oversight of ED's execution of strategy and grantmaking
- Ensuring diligent governance of the organization
- Sharing your expertise and leveraging your networks and resources
- Ethical conduct and avoidance of conflicts of interest
- Commitment to an initial 2-year term, with the option to renew



## The Application and Selection Process

If you are interested in submitting an application, please email Executive Director Meagan Neal at [meagan@transcaucasiantrail.org](mailto:meagan@transcaucasiantrail.org) and use the subject line "Application for Board Membership."

Please include responses to the following fields and questions:

- Name
- Professional affiliation/title
- Where are you based?
- Why are you interested in Board service at this time?
- What is it about the Transcaucasian Trail that you are drawn to?
- What experience, skills, and resources would you bring to our fundraising efforts?

Members of the TCTA Board and leadership team will do an initial review of applications. If your skillset and enthusiasm seem like a great fit, we will contact you for a conversation with our Board Chair and Executive Director. New Board member(s) will be announced on a rolling basis.

Our sincere thanks for considering this opportunity. Please share with anyone else in your network who you think might be interested!

