**Advisory Council Description**

***2018 APIENC Leadership Structures***

The Advisory Council is comprised of individuals with a diverse array of expertise, experiences, and backgrounds. The purpose of the council is to serve as a reservoir of advice and support for staff and member leadership, especially during moments of strategic planning, staff transitions, and restructuring.

***Criteria for Membership***

Generally, we seek Advisory Council members who have any combination of the following:

* Experience and expertise in social justice issue areas and movements
* Affiliation with API and/or LGBTQ organizations and groups
* A commitment to APIENC’s mission, vision, and values, as well as the overall health of the organization

***Expectations for Membership***

Participation in the Advisory Council may vary depending on the available time, physical proximity, and organizational affiliation of each member. At minimum, we expect the following:

* Provide feedback and advice to APIENC leadership when solicited (via surveys, one-on-one conversations, etc)
* Promote APIENC and connect the organization to leaders and donors who can assist in advancing the organization’s mission and vision through collaborations or funding
* Support and attend APIENC-sponsored events when available (Advisory Council members are NOT expected to attend regular meetings or convenings)
* Make a personally significant annual financial contribution
* 2 year commitment preferred (but not required)

There is no “maximum involvement”, and members of the Advisory Council should proactively reach out when they see fit. This includes requesting more regular meetings with staff, sharing new knowledges and resources, testing organizational hypotheses, and promoting collaboration.

***Communication***

In order to keep members of the Advisory Council informed on APIENC’s work, we’ve developed a few ways of staying connected. These include:

* Once-a-month Team APIENC updates, highlighting different accomplishments, projects, and initiatives. The update is accompanied by a short video with the most important highlights.
* Staff members may reach out 1-2 times a year for check-ins, specific advice, or other queries. We aim to best understand folks areas of expertise to enable this!
* Staff members may connect rising APIENC leaders with Advisory Council members for mentorship, or to answer questions relevant to their areas of expertise.

*Note:* A list of Advisory Council members will be displayed on our website or used in grant proposals and other promotional materials.