

GRAIN TRAIN BOARD OF DIRECTORS
Candidate Statements 2026

KENDALL HORNSBY

EDUCATION: Bachelor's Degree of Science in Community Development,
Psychology Minor



Why do you want to serve on the Board of Directors of Grain Train Co-op?

I want to serve on the Board of Directors to continue to connect with, advocate for, and support our community. I worked at the Grain Train from March 2025 to February 2026 on a part-time basis, which gave me the opportunity to meet and connect with our local community in meaningful and diverse ways that I had not been able to before. My favorite part of working for the Grain Train were the connections and relationships I was able to build with co-workers and community members. I left with so many new friendships. I plan to stay in Petoskey for a long time to come, and it is extremely important to me to immerse myself in any local system that contributes to the well-being of the area. The Grain Train prioritizes its community members, and I want to be a part of that.

What are you passionate about? How could we see that passion in action in your day-to-day life?

I am passionate about vegan and vegetarian ways of eating, as well as sourcing food locally as often as possible. I focus on shopping at our local farms, farm markets, and the Grain Train. I studied food deserts during my undergrad, and that awareness has stayed with me when I think about accessibility and opportunities for our community members to obtain fresh, local, affordable food. I am an artist, and I spend my free time creating and sharing my art with others, including vending at art shows in Northern Michigan. I also love yoga, hiking, and exploring our local wildlife and nature areas with my dog, Daisy.

Describe an experience where you worked on a team. What did you offer the team? How did you compromise for the team's benefit?

I have experience working on teams in educational and professional settings. I strive to offer understanding, acceptance, and open communication when I am working with others. Every situation working with a team requires compromise on some level, whether personally or collectively, and being aware of that benefits the team and the achievement of its shared end goal.

Do you have other experiences that you see as being related to the work of the Board?

I have extensive volunteer experience with organizations that work with underserved members of the community. I believe in the connection between food, well-being, and community. I have worked as a crime victim advocate, substance abuse center support staff, and currently, I hold a full-time position as a legal assistant at a law firm in Petoskey, where I have worked since I moved to the area in 2022. I was born and raised in Grand Rapids, but Petoskey has my heart.

Is there anything else you'd like to tell us?

I love the Grain Train!