

Cans for a Cause Constitution

Article I - Name, Purpose, and Non-Discrimination Policy of the Organization.

Section 1 - Name: Cans for a Cause at The Ohio State University

Section 2 - Purpose: The purpose of this organization is to first help the homeless community collect cans left outside off-campus housing for recycling, in order to help the community earn money. The cans would be collected on Sunday mornings and given to the Columbus Homeless Coalition. We will also raise money to provide supplies for the homeless community, such as ponchos for when it rains, coats for when it is cold, canned goods, and other supplies that people require. Any student who is passionate for service and interested in helping the local homeless community is welcome in the organization.

Section 3 - Non-Discrimination Policy: This organization does not discriminate on the basis of age, ancestry, color, disability, gender identity or expression, genetic information, HIV/AIDS status, military status, national origin, race, religion, sex, sexual orientation, protected veteran status, or any other bases under the law, in its activities, programs, admission, and employment.

As a student organization at The Ohio State University, Cans for a Cause expects its members to conduct themselves in a manner that maintains an environment free from sexual misconduct. All members are responsible for adhering to University Policy 1.15, which can be found here:
<https://hr.osu.edu/public/documents/policy/policy115.pdf>.

If you or someone you know has been sexually harassed or assaulted, you may find the appropriate resources at <http://titleIX.osu.edu> or by contacting the Ohio State Title IX Coordinator at titleIX@osu.edu.

Article II - Membership: Qualifications and categories of membership.

II.a. As required by the Guidelines for Student Organizations, 90% of the membership of a student organization must include current Ohio State University students. Active members and Executive Committee are able to make decisions regarding the membership of community and other non-student members of an organization. Community or other non-student members may be temporarily suspended with a majority vote of the Executive Committee.

Article III – Methods for Removing Members and Executive Officers

III.a. If a member engages in behavior that is detrimental to advancing the purpose of this organization, violates the organization's constitution or by-laws, or violates the Code of Student Conduct, university policy, or federal, state or local law, the member may be removed through a 2/3 vote of the Executive Committee in consultation with the organization's advisor.

III.b. Any elected officer of the chapter may be removed from their position for cause. Cause for removal includes, but is not limited to: violation of the constitution or by-laws, failure to perform duties, or any behavior that is detrimental to advancing the purpose of this organization, including violations of the Student Code of Conduct, university policy, or federal, state, or local laws. The Executive Committee may act for removal upon a two-thirds affirmative vote of the Executive Committee in consultation with the organization's advisor.

III.c. In the event that the reason for member removal is protected by the Family Educational Rights and Privacy Act (FERPA) or cannot otherwise be shared with members (e.g., while an investigation is pending), the executive board, in consultation with the organization's advisor, may vote to temporarily suspend a member or executive officer.

Article IV - Organization Leadership:

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Primary Leader (President): The primary leader is appointed by the former primary leader. A term is one year long or until the president does not want to be involved in the organization any longer (whichever comes first). The general duties of the primary leader are to organize and run general meetings, help members to organize and run events. The president is also responsible for finding a new advisor if situation where a replacement is needed arises.

Secondary Leader (Vice President): The secondary leader is elected by general members of the organization. A term for the secondary leader is one year, unless 2/3 of general members vote to replace them.

Treasurer: The Treasurer is elected by general members of the organization. A term for Treasurer is one year, unless 2/3 of general members vote to replace them.

Secretary: Not a required position (not a voting Executive Committee member). The secretary is appointed by the President, and is required to attend all meetings. The secretary will take notes and meeting minutes. They will also be responsible for communication – such as emails, phone numbers, and social media.

Advisor: The Advisor may remain the advisor until he/she is no longer interested in the position, or until 2/3 of the Executive Committee votes to replace them. They are responsible for connecting the organization to resources and networking opportunities to advance the purpose of the organization.

Article V- Election / Selection of Organization Leadership

Elections will be held each Spring semester at the second-to-last meeting of the academic year. It will proceed as follows:

- Any members wishing to run for an officer position must notify the Secretary via email by a specified date and time, which shall be put forth in a communication by the Secretary.
- Paper ballots will be designed and distributed by the Secretary of the organization.
- Whichever candidate for each position achieves a plurality or majority of votes for said position will assume that office beginning the final meeting of the academic year.
 - In the case of a tie, the deciding vote shall be cast by the organization's Advisor.

Impeachment may only take place under certain circumstances outlined in Article III.

Upon a resignation or otherwise unscheduled absence of a member of the Executive Committee, the position shall be filled by Presidential appointment until the next scheduled elections take place.

Article VI - Executive Board

The Executive Board (not to be confused with the leadership, or Executive Committee) shall be composed of the Executive Committee and no more than three general members to be elected by their peers at the annual election. Responsibilities of these at-large Board members shall be determined on an as-needed basis by the organization's President.

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Article VII – Advisor(s) or Advisory Board: Qualification Criteria.

Advisors of student organizations must be full-time members of the University faculty or Administrative & Professional staff. If a person is serving as an advisor who is not a member of the above classifications, a co-advisor must be chosen who is a member of these University classifications. Advisors are expected to connect the organization to resources and networking opportunities to advance the purpose of the organization. They are also expected to attend the monthly meetings.

Article VIII – Attendees of Events of the Organization: Required events and their frequency.

VIII. The organization reserves the right to address a member or event attendee behavior where the member or event attendee's behavior is disruptive or otherwise not in alignment with the organization's constitution. If the individual is not cooperative or does not change his/her behavior, the organization reserves the right to ask the individual to leave the event or meeting and if he/she does not cooperate, the police may be involved.

Article IX – Method of Amending Constitution: Proposals, notice, and voting requirements.

IX. Any proposed amendments should be presented to the organization in writing and should not be acted upon when initially introduced. Upon initial introduction, the proposed amendments should be read in the general meeting, then read again at a specified number of subsequent general meetings and the general meeting in which the votes will be taken, and should either require a two-third or three-quarter majority of voting members (a quorum being present) or a majority or two-thirds of the entire voting membership of the organization, present or not. The constitution should not be amended easily or frequently.

Article X – Method of Dissolution of Organization

The organization may be dissolved immediately upon a 9/10ths vote by the general body, in accordance with agreement of the organization's Advisor. Upon dissolution the President is responsible for contacting the Student Activities staff for the removal of the organization from the website.