

Board of Directors Farm of Hope Inc. Hershey PA

Nina Rovner – President
Thomas Feit – Vice-President
Nancy Markey – Treasurer
Deborah Parker – Secretary
Patti Feit
Carol Hosler
Joseph Joyce
Dale Marshall
Jim Cichelli
Jim Gainer, CEO/Executive Director, Farm of Hope Inc.

Nina Rovner- Board President. Nina is the parent of a Grower and the co-founder, in 2005, of Hope Springs Farm. She has a BA from the University of Pennsylvania. She is licensed by the state of Pennsylvania as a state provider of services to developmentally disabled adults.

Thomas Feit – Board Vice President. Tom is a service delivery manager in the telecom industry and a graduate of the Dauphin County Technical School. He and his wife Patty are parents of a son with Down Syndrome and autism who has been a Grower since he graduated from high school in 2006.

Nancy Markey – Board Treasurer. Nancy is a lifelong resident of Hummelstown. After working for 20 years at the Milton S. Hershey Medical Center as the Assistant to the Nurse Manager of the Obstetrics & Labor and Delivery Unit, Nancy continued to work at Maderia Chiropractic until 2012 when she retired. Nancy volunteered at the annual Children's Miracle Telethon for 27 years. She is the treasurer of Woodmen Life Hershey Chapter 364.

Deborah Parker – Board Secretary. Deborah is the parent of three children with Fragile X Syndrome and autism and so brings passion, experience and knowledge to the board. She is head of the Central PA Fragile X Resource Group and a Parent to Parent volunteer. She is also active in the Lebanon County Special Olympics and the Capital Area Therapeutic Riding Association (CATRA). Her family maintains a small non-profit, The Jacob Foundation, which raises money for local struggling families.

Patti Feit – Patti is a graduate of Harrisburg-Steelton-Highspire Vocational-Technical Program of Practical Nursing. A former licensed practical nurse, she now drives a special needs school van. She and her husband Tom are the parents of a Grower who has thrived at Hope Springs Farm since he graduated from high school in 2006.

Carol Hosler - A Hershey PA native, Carol worked for over 10 years at the Children's Miracle Network, where one of her responsibilities was planning and executing the annual Miracle Party at the Hershey Motor Lodge. Prior to CMN, Carol worked as a supervisor at the Central Transportation Department at Hershey Medical Center. She volunteers at the Hummelstown Food Pantry, and is on the Women's Ministry and Hospitality team at her church.

Joseph Joyce – Joe is the Executive Vice President of Property & Casualty at Keystone Insurers Group. He is also Board Chair of the National Board of Directors for The Autism Society of America (ASA). He has served on the Board of ASA since 2012, and has been Board Chair since 2016. Joe has a BA in Economics from LaSalle University and an MBA from Penn State. His son, David Joyce, attends Hope Springs Farm.

Dale Marshall – Dale has a degree in Child Development from the University of Tennessee. She and her family have lived in the Harrisburg area almost 40 years. As the parent of a Grower, her board membership represents the views and interests of the parents.

Jim Cichelli – Jim is a 30 years resident of Hershey and became interested in Hope Springs Farm after meeting Nina Rovner. As a result of that encounter, Jim visited the farm and met many of the staff and growers. The staff's interaction with the growers showed outstanding care and professionalism. Jim had some interaction with parents of special needs children in a professional capacity and his discussions with Nina and a farm visit piqued his interest in special needs individuals. When invited to join the board, Jim immediately accepted hoping to add value to the management of the farm for the care of the growers. Jim has been a Board member and held the position of Treasurer of Cocoa Townes Homeowner Association for over 20 years. He retired from Bethlehem Steel Corporation in 2003 after nearly 37 years. Jim has been active in the finance industry since 2004.

Jim Gainer – Jim entered the US Air Force and became a Leadership and Management Instructor and earned a BS from Embry-Riddle Aeronautical University in Business Management. After a successful 20-year Air Force career Jim and his wife partnered in real estate to become the company's 'Rookie of the Year' and 'Top Overall Agent.' Jim and his family returned to the Hershey PA area in 2007 managing real estate offices, then in 2012 worked for Penn DOT an HR Manager. Jim and his wife were both Hope Springs Farm volunteers for many years, before he accepted Nina Rovner's invitation to become Executive Director in April 2015 and helped launch the agency known as Farm of Hope Inc., that runs Hope Springs Farm as well as the newest program Hope in the Community.