

OVERVIEW OF MEMBERSHIP LEVELS FOR BELFAST AREA COHOUSING LLC

Friends

This category is for people who are interested in the cohousing project, but are not ready to commit any time or money toward the project. Friends may attend Open Houses and have an opportunity to interact with and ask questions of other members. They will also receive our E-newsletter and may remain on the mailing list forever. Those that follow our progress and like what they're seeing will perhaps join us! Friends generally do not participate in General Business meetings without prior notice and member approval.

Exploring Member

The purpose of this category is to give those possibly interested in Equity Membership ample opportunity to discover compatibility of values and to thoroughly understand the benefits and obligations of Equity Membership in the Belfast Area Cohousing LLC, which is the entity developing the cohousing community. A six-month Exploring Membership costs \$250 per household and is non-refundable.

Exploring Members may participate in General Business meetings and committees, which is encouraged to better understand the community and decision-making process. Exploring Members can actively contribute to group discussions and are encouraged to join in all discussions but may not participate in decision rounds.

Each Exploring Member Household will receive a complimentary copy of a book on cohousing.

Equity Member

Equity Members are part of the business entity (Belfast Area Cohousing LLC) that is developing the cohousing community. They are responsible for the success of the development, including initial organization, governance of the group itself, land acquisition, design input and final decisions, marketing outreach activities, member involvement and defining the homeowner association that will govern the community after move-in. They shape our newly forming community through their contribution of time, skill and money, making the development process possible.

Equity Members contribute a non-refundable \$10,000 per household to the LLC pre-development expenses, to be deducted from the cost of the home once development is complete (this amount will eventually be adjusted to reach approx. 20% the cost of the home). Placement on the unit seniority list for site selection is based on Equity Membership, determined by the date joined (and a work credit system if applicable).

Equity members receive a complimentary copy of the book: [The Cohousing Workbook](#) by Chris & Kelly ScottHanson.

Honorary Member

An Honorary Member is an individual who has contributed valuable service to the cohousing community and who wishes to remain in a cooperative relationship with the community, but does not seek to become a resident. This category of membership is achieved by invitation only.