

**Name** Shana Lee

**Institution** Kent State University

**Job Title** Assistant Dean of Students  
and Director of Parents and  
Families Engagement

**Please write a statement (written by the nominee or applicant), describing why he or she will be a good member of the AHEPPP Board of Directors. Please include particular skills that will suit this role and the ways in which the candidate's leadership will contribute to AHEPPP's mission, programs and initiatives. Limit to 500 words.**

As someone who is new to the field of Parent and Family Programs, but not new to working with parents and families, AHEPPP has been instrumental in helping me define what this work means at my university. In my role as a member, I have had the privilege to work with other colleagues across the country in developing several initiatives aimed to elevate the organization's reach, scope and commitment to meeting the demands of an everchanging field.

Since becoming a member, my involvement across a broad spectrum of activities is representative of my commitment and dedication to the mission and values of AHEPPP. I served as a program reviewer helping to evaluate which programs were slated for the 2021 National Conference. I was also selected to serve on a small committee tasked with developing the parameters of a taskforce charged with defining the organization's commitment to promoting an anti-racist philosophy. The taskforce, known as the AHEPPP Council on Equity, Belonging and Inclusion, is a fully functioning entity of the organization working to ensure that the values of equity, belonging and inclusion are paramount. As a result of my work ethic and commitment, I was asked to continue the work as a member of the Taskforce.

I have had the pleasure of serving on several professional and local boards. These experiences have taught me how to be intentional in implementing purpose-driven approaches to address the very challenges affecting organizations and those they serve. This is one skill among others I will utilize in this role. As a member of the board, I will strive to put forth opportunities that may not be mainstream but are worthy of consideration. I will be an advocate for evaluating all perspectives, encouraging well-grounded decision making, and ensuring that the association's aims are bold, yet attainable. I will also be one who will step up to the plate, volunteering when needed. Giving back to AHEPPP in this matter would be an honor and if offered the opportunity to serve, I would accept with great enthusiasm.