AAHOA Charitable Foundation Charter

Article I: Name, Purpose, and Mission

MISSION

The organization is exclusively committed to charitable endeavors as defined by IRS Section 501(c)(3). These efforts include, but are not limited to:

PURPOSE

To empower and support communities through education, opportunity, and service.

Education & Scholarships

Expand access to education and professional development that unlock opportunities in hospitality.

Women & Youth Advancement in Hospitality and Beyond

Develop future leaders and entrepreneurs — prioritizing women and youth—through skills, mentorship, and career pathways.

Humanitarian Aid & Disaster Relief

Provide rapid, needs-based support during crises, natural disasters, and catastrophic events to stabilize individuals and communities.

Anti-Human Trafficking

- Assist organizations that support victims and survivors transitioning out of trafficking; and
- Advance industry-wide and initiatives to prevent human trafficking in hospitality.

Community Well-Being & Honor

- Support individuals and families through health, healing, and service-related sacrifice while uplifting those who have given, endured, or are facing life-altering challenges.

Article II: Governance

GOVERNANCE

Foundation governed by a Board, size to be determined (suggested range: 8–15).

The Board manages the affairs of the Foundation, approve budgets, grants, and strategic direction.

Directors serve terms of 3–5 years (final length to be determined by Board). Officers and Directors may serve up to two (2) consecutive terms; any deviations from this require approval from two-thirds of the board.

Meetings

At least Quarterly (changes require two-thirds Board approval).

Officers

Chairperson
Leads governance and direction of the Foundation.

Secretary
Maintains official records and minutes of meetings.

Article III: Powers and Activities

POWERS

The Foundation may:

- **Solicit and accept contributions.**
- **Make grants and donations consistent with its mission.**
- **Own property, invest funds, and enter into contracts to responsibly grow assets.**

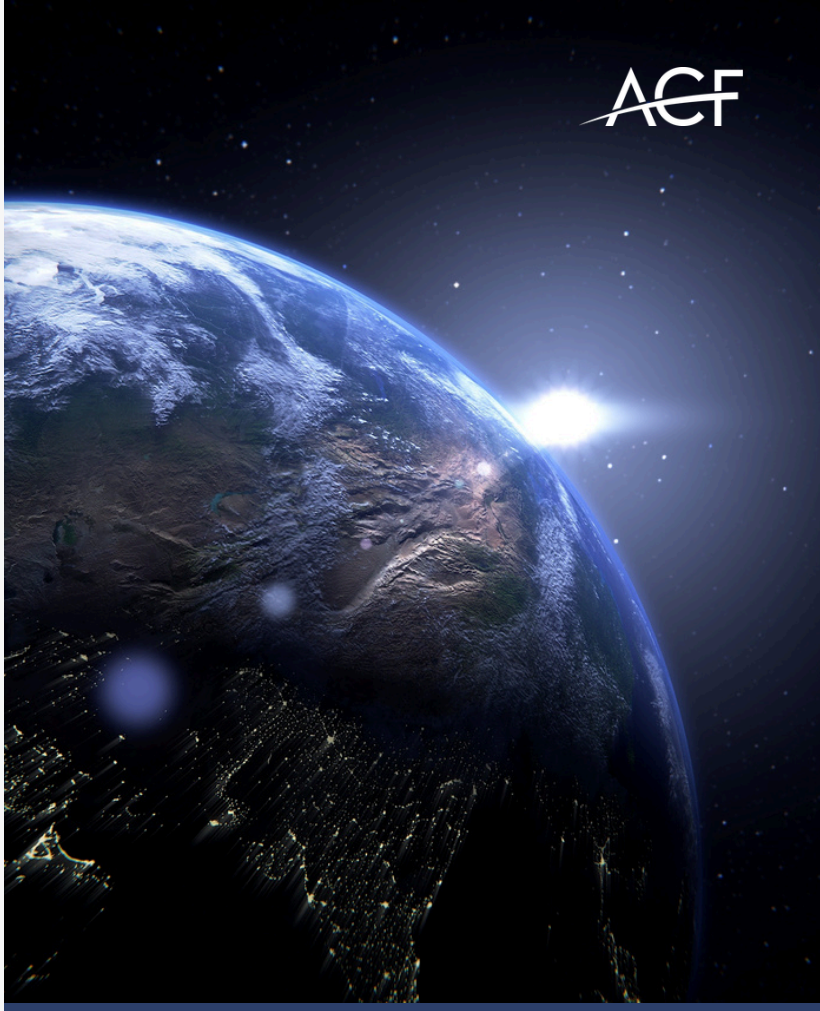
Purpose
The Foundation's funds shall be invested to preserve capital, provide reasonable growth, and generate income in support of the Foundation's charitable mission.

Standard of Care
All investments shall be made in accordance with the "Prudent Investor" standard, and in compliance with all applicable federal and state laws governing charitable organizations.

Permissible Investments
The Foundation may invest in cash, cash equivalents, fixed income, equities, mutual funds, and other prudent vehicles as determined appropriate by the Board of Directors. Investments of a speculative or excessively risky nature are not permitted

LIMITATIONS ON POWER

- **The Foundation shall not engage in activities inconsistent with its tax-exempt status.**
- **All activities must comply with applicable IRS and regulatory guidelines.**
- **No part of net earnings shall benefit private individuals or parties.**
- **The Foundation shall not participate in political campaigns or lobbying activities.**



Article IV: Fiscal Year, Funds, and Reporting

FISCAL YEAR

Jan 01
Dec 31

FUNDS

All funds shall be used exclusively for the purposes outlined in Article I.

AUDITS & REPORTING

An audited annual report shall be prepared and presented to the Board, regulatory authorities, and donors to ensure transparency and accountability.

LIMITATIONS ON EXPENDITURES

- **No funds may be used for personal travel, lodging, or meals of Board members.**
- **Funds may be used for approved fundraising events and necessary operational costs.**
- **Expenses incurred by contractors or employees of the Foundation in carrying out official duties are allowable.**

Article V: Amendments

AMENDMENTS

- **The Charter may be amended by a two-thirds vote of the Board at a regular or special meeting.**
- **Proposed amendments must be provided to Board members at least fourteen (14) days prior to the vote.**

Article VI: Dissolution

CIRCUMSTANCES FOR DISSOLUTION

- Breach of responsibilities by officers or Board.
- Failure to meet fundraising goals or make meaningful contributions.
- Mismanagement of funds inconsistent with the Charter or regulations.

DISTRIBUTION OF ASSETS

Upon dissolution, assets shall be distributed in compliance with IRS 501(c)(3) requirements:

- To charitable purposes consistent with Article I.
- To similar nonprofit organizations.
- To the parent organization (AAHOA) for future charitable use, provided such use complies with 501(c)(3) guidelines.
- To federal, state, or local governments for public purposes, as applicable.

AUTHORITY TO DISSOLVE

- Dissolution authority rests solely with the ACF Board of Directors.
- The ACF Board may solicit input from outside entities, including but not limited to the AAHOA Board of Directors.

AAHOA CHARITABLE FOUNDATION

Hospitality Helping Humanity

Support the AAHOA Charitable Foundation (ACF) as we amplify charitable initiatives for worthy causes, offer educational scholarships and grants, and provide vital aid to those in need. Your donation becomes a catalyst for positive change that will extend well beyond the hospitality industry, fostering a brighter future for individuals and communities. Join us in making a difference—every contribution to the ACF helps build a more compassionate, inclusive, and positive world.

Make a tax-deductible donation today

Contact us

foundation@aahoa.com

ACF BOARD OF DIRECTORS

NISHANT (NEAL) PATEL
Board Chairman, ACF

HEMANT PATEL
Board Member, ACF

HARRY JAVER
Board Member, ACF

JAGRUTI PANWALA
Board Member, ACF

RAJIV TRIVEDI
Board Member, ACF

VINAY PATEL
Board Member, ACF

RAJ SHAH
Board Member, ACF

GJ ZALA
Board Liaison, ACF