



2023 Board Candidate

Susan Carter



I am a life-long Michigander and have lived in Ypsilanti for nearly 20 years. I am a wife, mother, dog-mom to three rescues, and small-business owner. I have been a member of the Co-Op board for nearly a decade, three of those years as Vice President and the remainder as President. During that time, I supported the expansion and construction of the café. I also assisted in rewriting the Board bylaws, as well as the change that allows for the patronage dividend to the membership. I love Ypsilanti and I love the Co-Op. I love that it is a place for gathering and community, and

provides the opportunity to shop for local, fresh food. This is where I raised my daughter and I'm proud to call it home. If re-elected, I will continue serving the Co-Op membership and the general public by ensuring the Co-Op is the most successful it can be.

1. What role do you think the Ypsilanti Food Co-op will play in Ypsilanti's future?

The Co-Op is a gathering place for people to catch-up and purchase local, fresh food. During COVID, we saw the positive impact of the Co-Op on Ypsilanti, by providing a safe place for people to purchase any necessities. The Co-Op will forever be a beautiful sanctuary of health and happiness.

2. In what ways are you working to contribute to and improve the Ypsilanti community?

I am a small-business owner in Ypsilanti, I have served on the Co-Op board for almost 10 years, and I often donate my time and services to those in need. I have

assisted a few members of the community as they navigate the medical system and assist in them receiving the care they needed.

3. If you can find healthy, organic food at another grocery store, why choose the Ypsilanti Food Co-op?

The Co-Op is more than just a grocery store, it is a staple in Ypsilanti, and I can regularly be found running there for a quick errand with the confidence that my food comes with an ethical conscience. I like being able to run into friends and neighbors when shopping.

4. What issue within the food system is the most important to you, and how would you address it?

Poor agricultural practices are a huge issue for me. We need to be sure that our soil is clean and that our food is grown without pesticides. Luckily, the Co-Op understands the importance of supporting local farmers. I am confident that what I am eating is healthy for me and the Earth.

5. What is your past experience with the Ypsilanti Food Co-op and cooperatives in general (working, volunteering, shopping, etc.)? Include what you have done to improve and support the Ypsilanti Food Co-op.

I have been on the Board for nearly a decade. During my tenure, I have been the Vice President and for the last four years, I have been the President. During that time, I advised and supported several projects that improved the Co-Op, including the recent expansion.

6. What has the Ypsilanti Food Co-op done for you?

The Co-Op has offered me the ability to create lifelong relationships as well as knowledge that I am getting healthy foods.

7. What skills and strengths would you contribute to the Board?

I believe I am a good listener, I am kind, and I have an open mind with the ability to listen and understand different viewpoints. I think my most useful skill, as it relates to the Board, is that I can keep people on track and ensure people are following the agenda.