

Join the Heat Seek Board!

Who are we?

Heat Seek is an innovative technology and social justice nonprofit changing the way tenants fight for their rights. Since 2015, using web-connected temperature sensors, Heat Seek helps tenants document the temperature inside their apartments 24/7 and calculate exactly how often their apartments are in violation of NYC's heat requirements. Heat Seek is not just technology in a silo, but deeply integrated into the systems, partners, and communities where the tenants we serve live. Our goal is simple - to ensure that low-income and other vulnerable tenants in NYC (and eventually nationwide) are provided with the basic housing services that any person would expect in their home. We believe that all people deserve affordable housing that is safe, healthy, and dignified.



What are our big wins?

To date, Heat Seek has raised over \$890k in capital and in-kind support. More importantly, over the past seven years, Heat Seek has enabled tenants to capture tens of thousands of hours of temperature violations in their apartments. Our data has been used in NYC Housing Court and NYS Supreme Court to secure thousands of dollars in rent abatements and repairs for tenants. Heat Seek also successfully worked to get legislation passed through the New York City Council to require the 50 landlords in NYC with the highest ratio of heat violations to apartment units to purchase and install web-connected temperature sensors and submit to additional monitoring by HPD.

Where are we headed?

We're looking to tackle the systemic issues that make Heat Seek necessary in the first place - a broken HPD inspection system, a power imbalance between landlords and tenants in housing court, and a dispute resolution process that lacks teeth. To prove that this isn't just a niche problem affecting a small number of tenants but rather a systemic failure to keep our affordable housing stock safe and healthy, we need to operate at scale in New York City.

What do we need?

We are now looking to expand our board of directors. We are seeking board members who are excited by Heat Seek's mission, and through their personal and professional networks, can attract resources to the organization. We are seeking in particular board members with skills and experience related to business (operations or finance), tenants rights advocacy, and communications (brand building and social media). Candidates with other backgrounds and experience will also be considered!

How can you get involved?

Any interested candidate should review our board prospectus, and submit a brief statement of interest (a few sentences will do!) and resume to board chair Natasia de Silva at natasia.desilva@gmail.com. Select candidates will be contacted for an interview with two current members of the board. We're expecting to onboard a first cohort in late September, and a second cohort in January 2023.