So You Want to Be a Board Member?

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Overview

• Definition
• Overview of Board Roles & Responsibilities
• Establishing Identity & Direction
• Ensuring the Necessary Resources
• Providing Oversight
• Board Operations
A board of directors is a group of people who jointly supervise the activities of an organization, which can be either a for-profit business, nonprofit organization, or a government agency. Such a board's powers, duties, and responsibilities are determined by government regulations and the organization's own constitution and bylaws. These authorities may specify the number of members of the board, how they are to be chosen, and how often they are to meet.

Today's session will be an overview on nonprofit organizations solely.
Ice Breaker

• Introduce yourself –
  • Have you been on a Board of Director’s before?
  • If so....
  • What role?
  • What would you like to take away from today’s lesson?
Establishing Identity & Direction

• Has the board adopted or revised a strategic plan or defined a strategic direction for the organization within the past three years?

• Does the board ensure that the organization’s mission, vision, and values are reflected in the organization’s programs?

• Are the organization’s strategic priorities adequately reflected in the annual budget?
Ensuring The Necessary Resources

• Has the board adopted policies related to funds to be pursued and/or accepted in support of the mission?

• Does the board expect all its members to be active participants in fundraising efforts?

• Does the board’s composition reflect the strategic needs of the organization?

• Is the board confident that the chief executive’s skills and other qualities represent a good match for the organization’s strategic needs?

• Does the board seek, and review information related to the organization’s reputation?
Providing Oversight

• Does the board contract with an outside auditor for an annual audit?

• Does the organization have up-to-date risk management policies and plans?

• Does the board monitor progress toward achievement of goals related to the organization’s programs?

• Does the board have a clear understanding of the organization’s financial health?

• Does the chief executive receive an annual performance review by the board?

• Are all board members familiar with the chief executive's compensation package?
Board Operations

• Does the board regularly assess its own performance?

• Are organizational and board policies regularly reviewed?

• Do committees and task forces actively engage board members in the work of the board?

• Do board meeting agendas focus the board’s attention on issues of strategic importance?

• Do board members have easy access to information needed for effective decision making?
Thank You