

Expectations of Board of Directors
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Summary: The Board of Directors is the governing body of the foundation with full authority and responsibility to develop policies for the operation of the foundation and to monitor the foundation's programs, finances and overall performance.

Responsibilities: The responsibilities of the board as a whole are to:

- Determine and support the foundation's mission and purpose
- Select the chief executive
- Provide proper financial oversight including assistance to develop the annual budget and to ensure that proper financial controls are in place
- Ensure adequate resources for the foundation to fulfill its mission
- Ensure legal and ethical integrity and maintain accountability
- Ensure effective organizational planning including implementing and monitoring foundation goals
- Recruit and orient new board members and assess board performance
- Enhance the foundation's public standing by clearly articulating the foundation's mission, accomplishments and goals
- Determine, monitor and strengthen the foundation's programs and services
- Support the chief executive and monitor his or her performance.

(The above was drawn from the "Ten Basic Responsibilities of Nonprofit Boards" by BoardSource.)

In addition, individual members of the board are expected to:

- Prepare for and attend the meetings of the board (by video conference, conference call or in person)
- Participate in site visits to both evaluate potential grantees and assess results of grants awarded
- If additional responsibilities as an officer, committee member or committee chairperson are accepted, give the additional time and attention required by the position for committee meetings or other related business
- Engage in ongoing learning in areas of interest and expertise, and put that knowledge to work for the foundation
- Serve as catalysts for information sharing with fellow board members and foundation staff, particularly in helping to identify potential grantees and issues that could impact the foundation's grantmaking in the member's home community