

Board Development Best Practices

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An Overview

- What is board development?
- Why should an organization invest in board development?
- How can board development be implemented?
- What are Best Practices for boards?

Think Strategically...

- What are your organization's long term goals?
- What are the skills you need to achieve those goals?

Best Practice!

Develop a strategic plan.

Ensure Structure

Set up clear terms of engagement:

- Term Limits (i.e. 2 year terms, 2 term max)
- Minimum contribution (i.e. give/get policy)

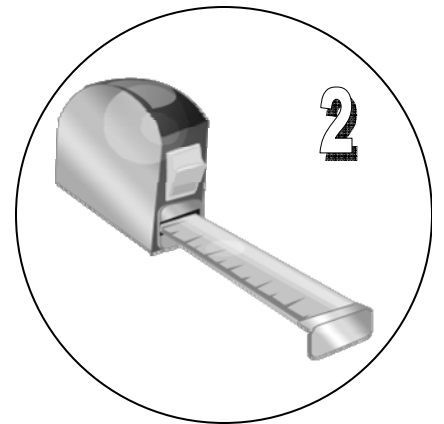


Best Practice!

Establish a 100% Board contribution policy.

Create a Job Description

- Clearly identify the skills your board members have in order to reveal the skills you need...
- What's missing?



Best Practice!

Convene a Board Development Committee.

Develop a Recruitment Strategy

Locate and utilize:

- Mission driven volunteers and donors
- Community and business leaders
- Nonprofit match makers
- The potential in your present BOD



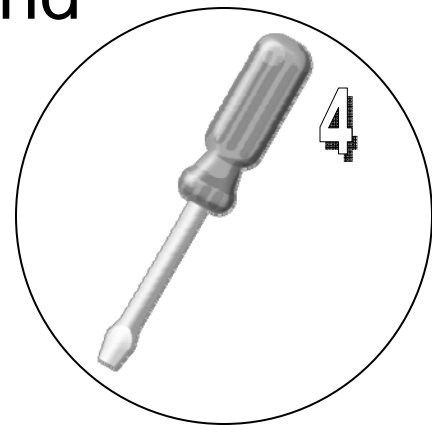
Best Practice!

Board provides comprehensive information to candidates ahead of time.

Provide Orientations

Once elected, acquaint new board members with:

- Other board members, board culture, and governing rules
- Staff responsibilities and accomplishments
- The organization's programs, sites, and budget.



Best Practice!

Orient new directors with a Board Manual and a Board Mentor.

Utilize their Expertise

- Make productive use of board members time (Ex: Consent agenda).
- Provide detailed reports ahead of time
- Use a committee structure to do work outside the meetings.



Best Practice!

Send all committee minutes and reports at least 1 week ahead of Board meeting.

Provide Resources

- Ensure Board members have access to relevant information that they understand.
- Offer board members opportunities for growth (i.e. trainings, networking, etc).



Best Practice!

Ensure financial reporting is meaningful to the board.

Discussion Topic

- What are the ways we invest in our boards?

Recruiting Resources

Board Assist Recruits high-impact board candidates and personally matches them with organizations looking for motivated volunteers, their pro bono service includes some transition support for new board members.
<http://www.boardassist.org/>

Board Net USA A web-based service that matches nonprofit organizations with board candidates and provides strategic consulting services through the Volunteer Consulting Group.
<http://www.boardnetusa.org/public/home.asp>

Junior League of the City of New York Nonprofit Board Clearing Center Offers training and placement to community leaders interested in serving on a nonprofit board.

United Way Linkages Screens, trains and introduces committed professionals to nonprofits.
<http://www.nyjl.org/>

Volunteer Consulting Group Consults with nonprofits to define their board recruitment objectives and then conduct a targeted search for business, professional and community leaders with the desired expertise, diversity of perspective and resources.
<http://www.vcg.org/>

Youth I.N.C. (Improving Nonprofits for Children) Works closely with nonprofits serving youth to develop fundraising capacity while securing donors and building their board of directors.
<http://www.youthinc-usa.org/>

Information and Training

Board Source Offers an electronic library of nonprofit governance practices and hands on governance consultation.

<http://www.boardsource.org/>

Community Resource Exchange Uses one-to-one consulting on operational and strategic planning, board development, financial management.

<http://crenyc.org/>

Council of Community Services of NY State Provides free Board training to nonprofits that have contracts with one of the five state agencies (OASAS, DOH AIDS Institute and Center for Community Health , OMRDD, OMH or OCFS) through the State Board Training Consortium.

<http://www.nycon.org>

Governance Matters provides peer-learning roundtables, workshops, and educational resources.

<http://www.governancematters.org/>

Support Center for Nonprofit Management Helps nonprofit and philanthropic organizations plan for and manage change. They offer training, consulting, interim executives, designed to increase the effectiveness of the nonprofit sector.

<http://www.supportcenteronline.org/>

NYC Nonprofit Assistance

Contact me with any questions!

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Additional Resources

<http://www.nyc.gov/nonprofit>

<http://nyc.gov/html/mocs/html/programs/cbo.shtml>

<http://www.nycservice.org/>