

BOARD/STAFF RELATIONS

Board and Staff members need to be clear about their separate responsibilities and tasks. A partnership should exist in which separate, complementary functions are respected and maintained.

Board Responsibilities

Board members need to know clearly what their responsibilities are and why they have been specifically asked to serve on the Board.

Some of the generally accepted Board responsibilities:

1. Act as a trustee for assets.
2. Believe in and be an active advocate of the organization.
3. Participate in organization activities/programs.
4. Deliberate long and short-range policies.
5. Select and advise senior executives, then delegate authority.
6. Prepare for board and committee meetings.
7. Execute assignments and volunteer for assignments.
8. Give financial support and raise funds.

What a Board Does Not Do

The Board does not interfere in day-to-day administration of the agency or in the artistic decisions.

Individual Board members have no authority over Staff.

Summary

Board gives advice, guidance, supervision, and encouragement.
Board supports Staff, even defends Staff when necessary.