### RESPONSIBILITIES AS A BOARD MEMBER

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#### **Board Members:**

- Why did you decide to be a board member of this organization?
- What do you believe are the responsibilities of a board member?
  - > What does this mean to you and to the org?
  - "A balancing act"
- What does "fundraising" mean to you?
- What do you expect of a board meeting?



# "Standard" Board Responsibilities

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#### Standards of Conduct

- Board members need to come to organization:
  - > Prepared
  - Ready to rise to the occasion
  - Able to work diligently as a group
  - Expect to be intellectually taxes by complex and consequential questions



# Legal Responsibilities

- Duty of Care
  - Competence
  - > Reasonable care
  - > Prudent person
- Duty of Loyalty
  - > Faithfulness
  - Allegiance
  - No conflicts of interest
  - Not putting personal interests above org's interests
- Duty of Obedience
  - > Ensure org remains true to purpose
  - > Define or mission and vision
  - Compliance with applicable laws and regulations

# Fiduciary Responsibility

- A Fiduciary: An individual, corporation or association holding assets for another party, often with the legal authority and duty to make decisions regarding financial matters on behalf of the other party.
- Legal Responsibility: A board and its individual members are considered agents of a corporation and are liable for the actions of a nonprofit organization.



## Responsibilities

- Attend meetings and functions
  - > Review meeting materials in advance
- Serve on committees
- Select, support, assess chief executive
- Identify board candidates
- Make a financial contribution



## Responsibilities

- Be the voice of the organization
- Connect others to the organization
- Be informed about mission, services, programs, policies
- Participate in organizational visioning and implementation



## Responsibilities

- Fundraising Strategies and Goals
  - Give and Get
  - > Participation in events
  - Engaging others in the organization
  - Identifying funding opportunities



## **Fundraising**

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# Fundraising Role

- Set fundraising policies
- Make your own annual leadership pledge
- Ask others for contributions, including potential major contributors; solicit them
- Open doors for staff members and volunteers to make their solicitations
- Take on special fundraising projects and make them successful
- Become passionate spokespersons for the organization
- Add personal notes to letters mailed by staff members



# Fundraising: Shared Responsibilities

Board, Staff and Volunteers:

- The board members will work in close alliance with staff and volunteers in order to maximize results.
- Cultivate current and prospective donors
- Plan fundraising activities for board and staff
- Plan and implement special events
- Add names to mailing lists for staff solicitations
- Make presentations to potential donor groups
- Acknowledge the generosity of donors



#### **Board Recruitment**

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# Identify Needs

- Demographics
- Skills
- Resources
- Community Connections

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A Connection to/Passion for the Organization and its Mission



## 5 Key Questions Every Board Member Should Ask:

- 1. Why are we here?
- 2. How do we define success?
- 3. How does this board add value to the organization?
- 4. What behavior are we settling for?
- 5. What key metrics should we track as a board?

