



Questions Nonprofit Board Members Should Always Ask

Programs and Services

1. What are the different programs? Who does each serve? How? For what desired results?
 2. How do we know who really needs our programs? Have we verified our impressions?
 3. Who are our collaborators? Who might be? Have we reached out to them? Should we?
 4. What are the results of each program? How do we know? Are those results acceptable?
 5. Are programs really meeting the community need that we were formed to meet?
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Board Operations and Meetings

1. Do all Board members know their roles? How do we know?
 2. Are all Board members participating actively in Board operations? If not, what do we do?
 3. Are the agenda topics the topics that we should be addressing? How do we know?
 4. Are all pertinent topics being addressed effectively? How do we know?
 5. Are all Board members attending meetings?
 6. Are all members actively taking part in deliberations and actions?
 7. Are meetings very effective? How do we know?
 8. Are we doing our job to verify that the nonprofit is meeting a specific community need?
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Personnel (Chief Executive Officer, Paid Staff and Volunteers)

1. Do we have the best people for the jobs? How do we know?
 2. Are they doing their jobs well? How do we know?
 3. Are all personnel policies up-to-date and adhered to? How do we know?
 4. What if the CEO suddenly left the organization? What would we really do?
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Fundraising

1. How much money do we need from fundraising? How do we know?
 2. Have we identified all of the possible sources of funding from individuals, foundations, corporations and the government? How do we know that we identified all sources?
 3. What is the best way to approach each of the sources? How do we know?
 4. Are all the sources being approached effectively? Is the Board involved?
 5. Are all Board members making a contribution to the organization? How do we know?
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Promotions and Public Relations

1. What different groups of stakeholders do we have? Clients? Funders? Collaborators?
 2. What image do we want each to have about our nonprofit? Do they have it? Really?
 3. Are we clearly conveying the benefits of each of our programs to stakeholders? Really?
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Finances, Rules and Regulations

1. What are the most recent highlights, trends and issues depicted by recent financial reports?
 2. Are the financial numbers really accurate? How do we know?
 3. Are all taxes being paid? How do we know?
 4. Are all rules, regulations and fiscal policies being followed? How do we know?
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If Your Gut Tells You "Something Is Not Right," Then SAY SO Now!
