



Long Island Center *for*
Nonprofit Leadership
at ADELPHI UNIVERSITY

Board of Directors Self-Evaluation*

Considerations	5 Excellent	4 Good	3 Average	2 Fair	1 Poor
1. Board has full and common understanding of the roles and responsibilities of a board					
2. Board members understand the organization's mission, vision, and services/ programs					
3. Structural pattern (board, officers, committees, executives and staff) is clear					
4. Board members actively participate in strategic planning and ongoing strategic thinking					
5. The board has adopted, and uses, explicit measures of progress toward identified outcomes					
6. Board attends to policy-related decisions which effectively guide operational activities of staff					
7. Board receives regular reports on finances/budgets, service/program performance and other important matters					
8. Board helps set fundraising goals and is actively involved in some aspect of fundraising					

Considerations	5 Excellent	4 Good	3 Average	2 Fair	1 Poor
9. Board effectively represents the organization to the community (i.e. has an “elevator speech”)					
10. Board meetings facilitate focus and progress on important organizational matters					
11. Board regularly evaluates and develops yearly goals with the chief executive					
12. The board reviews the compensation of the Executive Director based on industry standards					
13. Board has approved comprehensive personnel policies which have been reviewed by a qualified professional					
14. Each member of the board feels involved and interested in the board’s work					
15. All necessary skills, stakeholders and diversity are represented on the board					
16. Board culture encourages and welcomes open discussion even when members disagree					
17. Board has an emergency succession plan for executive					
18. Board is attentive to building leadership capacity on both board and staff					

Considerations	5 Excellent	4 Good	3 Average	2 Fair	1 Poor
19. Board has a packet of materials for new board members and an orientation process for them					
20. Board has a board agreement, a whistleblower and a conflict of interest policy that all board members must sign and follow					
21. Board members are familiar with the By Laws and policies of the board and By Laws are followed					
22. A strategic method is in place for developing the board					
23. The board monitors financial performance and projections on a regular basis.					
24. Board members are sufficiently knowledgeable to ask meaningful questions about finances and financial management					
25. The board reviews the audit report and has an opportunity to ask questions about the findings					
26. The board reviews the IRS 990 prior to filing					
27. Board discussions focus on the organization's future NOT its past					

*Parts adapted from Carter McNamara, MBA, PhD, Authenticity Consulting, LLC. Copyright 1997-2007, Field Guide to Developing and Operating Your Nonprofit Board of Directors.

What specifically would help to make you a more engaged board member?

Please list the three to five issues on which you believe the board should focus its attention in the next year. Be as specific as possible in identifying these points.

1.

2.

3.

4.

In ten years, what do you believe is the single most important impact that this organization should have on the community it serves?