

Board Self-Assessment¹

Please rate your assessment of the Board of Directors' performance on a scale of 1 – 5, with 1 = Not At All Confident, and 5 = Very Confident.

How confident are you that as an effective governing body, the board:

- | | | | | | |
|--|---|---|---|---|---|
| 1. Ensures legal compliance with federal, state, and local regulations? | 1 | 2 | 3 | 4 | 5 |
| 2. Ensures that funder requirements are fulfilled? | 1 | 2 | 3 | 4 | 5 |
| 3. Monitors financial performance and projections on a regular basis? | 1 | 2 | 3 | 4 | 5 |
| 4. Has a strategic vision for the organization? | 1 | 2 | 3 | 4 | 5 |
| 5. Has adopted an income strategy (that combines contributions, earned income and other revenue) to ensure adequate resources? | 1 | 2 | 3 | 4 | 5 |
| 6. Has a clear policy on the responsibilities of board members in fundraising? | 1 | 2 | 3 | 4 | 5 |
| 7. Has adopted a conflict of interest policy that is discussed regularly? | 1 | 2 | 3 | 4 | 5 |
| 8. Currently contains an appropriate range of expertise and diversity to make it an effective governing body? | 1 | 2 | 3 | 4 | 5 |
| 9. Regularly assesses its own work? | 1 | 2 | 3 | 4 | 5 |

How confident are you that most or all board members:

- | | | | | | |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| 10. Understand the mission and purpose of the organization? | 1 | 2 | 3 | 4 | 5 |
| 11. Are adequately knowledgeable about the organization's programs? | 1 | 2 | 3 | 4 | 5 |
| 12. Act as ambassadors to the community on behalf of the organization and its constituencies? | 1 | 2 | 3 | 4 | 5 |
| 13. Follow through on commitments they have made as board members? | 1 | 2 | 3 | 4 | 5 |
| 14. Understand the role that volunteers play in the organization? | 1 | 2 | 3 | 4 | 5 |
| 15. Are appropriately involved in board activities? | 1 | 2 | 3 | 4 | 5 |
| 16. What skill sets does the board need that it currently lacks? | | | | | |
| 17. What could the organization do (or change) to improve its work? | | | | | |
| 18. What are the key challenges facing us as an organization? | | | | | |
| 19. What are the key challenges facing the board right now? | | | | | |

¹ Adapted from an article in Board Café (which is now part of Blue Avocado). That article and many others are available at <http://www.boardcafe.org>

Please submit this separately, so that the first page can be anonymous

Name _____

1. How long have you been on the Board?
2. How long do you see yourself staying on the Board?
3. Are you interested in chairing or serving on a committee?
4. When you joined the board, did you have ideas on how you would help the organization that haven't happened? If so, what ideas?
5. What information/training – whether about the organization, the field, nonprofit management or nonprofit boards – would help you be a better board member?
6. What information/training would you like the board as a whole to get in the coming year?
7. What suggestions/questions do you have about the board, your own role, or any other aspect of the organization?
8. What issues would you like to see discussed in the coming year?
9. Are there topics you believe that the Board should have a values/philosophical discussion on in the coming year? What are they?
10. What do you value most about this organization?
11. What's the best way to bring in new board members?
12. What can be done to make board meetings more productive? More fun?
13. Which of our current activities are most effective/important?
14. Are there any new activities/projects that this organization should tackle?
15. What kinds of beliefs and values dominate/define the organization?
16. If this organization is successful, what will be different ten years from now?