

# NONPROFIT BOARDS OF DIRECTORS

## Board Roles

### Stewardship

Ensure adequate resources  
Protect assets and provide  
financial oversight  
Enhance public image  
Ensure legal & ethical integrity  
Build competent board

### Direct Mission

Define mission and purpose  
Planning  
Monitor programming

### Guide Staff

Select, support and evaluate  
executive director  
Decide executive compensation  
Establish personnel policies

### EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR EXPECTATIONS OF THE BOARD

1. Commitment to get to know the organization and the environment in which it operates
2. Attendance at meetings
3. Preparation for meetings
4. Participation in governance roles (see above)
5. Commitment to teamwork
6. Commitment to speak with one voice publicly
  - a. When the board is divided or has no clarity of thinking, the ED can behave as he or she sees fit.
7. Collective commitment to improvement
8. Sincere support for the executive director

### CHARACTERISTICS OF "GOOD GOVERNANCE"

In 1997, the United Nations published a list of characteristics of good governance, which includes:

- Participation in decision making and reaching broad consensus on what is in the best interest of the organization
- Accountability and transparency
- Responsive, effective and efficient performance
- Equity and sound rule of law
- Strategic planning