

QUESTIONS FOR PROSPECTIVE BOARD MEMBERS

GOOD QUESTIONS TO ASK YOURSELF

Is this the right cause and organization for you?

For instance: Do you feel strongly about the type of work that the organization does and the people it serves? Is this a cause you would give time to and donate to?

What can you - and what will you - contribute to this organization?

For instance: Do you have skills, contacts, and perspectives that will be useful to this organization? Are you willing to share what you have to offer to the organization?

What do you want to get out of being on this Board?

For instance: Do you want to learn new skills? Or share skills you already have? Do you want to meet new people? Are you comfortable letting your desires be known so that you find out if there are opportunities for you?

GOOD QUESTIONS TO ASK THE CEO AND OTHER BOARD MEMBERS

1. What is your organization's mission and vision?
2. Who else is on the board of directors?
3. Why do you think I would be a good addition to the board?
4. What do you expect from board members?
5. What kind of financial contribution am I expected to make?
6. When and how often do you meet?
7. What are your board terms?
8. How is your board organized? What committees do you have?
9. What's the board's role in fundraising?
10. How would you describe your board culture?
11. What kind of orientation do you provide for new board members?
12. Do you have an external audit of your financials? If so, what were the findings of your most current audit?
13. Do you carry directors and officers (D&O) liability insurance?
14. Are there any current or historical issues I should be aware of, including financial, staff or other organizational concerns?
15. What is your greatest organizational challenge?