

Board Member Roles and Responsibilities

WayForward Resources uses a policy governance model and the board of directors governs with an emphasis on mission, values and equity, encouragement of diversity in viewpoints, a clear distinction of board and executive management roles, collective rather than individual decisions, future rather than past or present, and proactivity rather than reactivity.

The board of directors has fiduciary responsibility to hold the organization in trust for the community at large. Board members are representing the greater community as they set strategy and policy, provide governance, and steward resources. Legally, a board has three main responsibilities: Duty of Care, Duty of Loyalty and Duty of Obedience.

Duty of Care

Members are committed to following through on promises and assisting the organization to the best of their abilities. This includes:

- Attending approximately 8 meetings a year and actively participating in committees
- Communicating with the executive director and other board members
- Following through on assignments

Duty of Loyalty

Members fully support WayForward's work, embody the mission, and are loyal ambassadors. When acting on behalf of WayForward, each board member must put aside their personal and professional interests. This includes:

- Make a personally meaningful financial contribution.
- Share WayForward's work with your circles in the community, with the end goal of resource generation and increased awareness of both the work and the systemic issues that make our work necessary.
- Attend as many of WayForward's public events as possible.
- Volunteer in WayForward's programs or fundraising initiatives for at least 3 hours a year.
- Maintain confidentiality of the Board's executive sessions, and speak for the board in public only as authorized.

Duty of Obedience

Members care for our governance documents and the board's legal responsibilities.

This includes:

- Governance - Determining the mission and purpose, building a competent board and assessing its own performance, protecting assets and providing financial oversight, including approving budgets and instituting financial controls, and ensuring legal and ethical integrity.
- Strategy - Approving strategic and other long-term plans, and monitoring achievement of plans, goals and objectives.
- Executive Oversight - Select the executive, support and evaluate the executive, and delegate management operations to the executive.
- Resources - Ensure adequate financial resources and that they are managed effectively, and invest in staff, technology and other means for meeting mission.
- Avoid and/or report any conflicts of interest.