

BOARD ASSESSMENT

1 = We're in good shape! 2 = Needs Moderate Work
3 = Needs Significant Work

	1	2	3	Don't Know
Board members share a common understanding of their roles and responsibilities.				
The organization has by-laws that clearly articulate the organization of the board and the procedures it uses to transact business. Board members are knowledgeable about the content of the by-laws.				
The board follows its by-laws and, when the need arises, revises them in a timely manner.				
The board has a structure in place for dealing with critical issues that arise between regular meetings.				
When necessary, the board utilizes committees effectively: Committees are given a clear charge and report back to the full board for final decision-making.				
Board members demonstrate their commitment to the organization by regular attendance at meetings and special events; and by taking on additional assignments when asked by the E.D. or the full board.				
Board members read background material prior to the meeting and show up prepared to discuss items on the agenda.				
Board meetings are characterized by honest, open, but <u>focused</u> discussions in which all members participate.				
In both formal and informal settings, differences of opinion with other board members, staff, or the public are handled with civility.				
Board members understand and support the organization's vision, mission, and its products or programs.				
Board members actively participate in strategic planning that articulates the vision and "big picture" goals for the organization.				
The board supports the implementation of the strategic plan by approving policies and resources needed for implementation.				
The board has high expectations with regard to the implementation of the strategic plan, and has put in place accountability measures to ensure success.				
The board, speaking with "one voice," has clearly articulated its expectations to the Executive Director.				
The board conducts regular performance reviews of the Executive Director in which feedback flows both ways.				

	1	2	3	Don't Know
The Executive Director's role as manager of the organization's operations is respected; board members refrain from micro-managing.				
Board members understand the definition of "conflict of interest" and guard against such conflicts—both actual and perceived.				
Board members understand their legal obligations as they pertain to open meetings and freedom of information laws.				
Board members refrain from taking actions that expose the organization to legal liability.				
Board members have a good understanding of the organization's finances and regularly review and approve financial statements.				
Board members ask questions about the finances of the organization, but focus on the "big picture" as opposed to daily expenditures.				
Individual board members refrain from undermining board decisions that they did not support.				
Board members strive to maintain a good relationship with members of the media.				
Board members look for opportunities to positively represent the organization to the public.				
Board members are not afraid of conflict. Members willingly offer constructive criticism and undertake discussions about tough issues.				
The board and executive director have agreed upon a method of handling citizen complaints that come directly to board members.				
Information about the organization is shared equally with all board members whether the information is from another member, staff or an outside source.				

In your opinion, what should the top three priorities of the board be in the next 6-9 months?

- 1.
- 2.
- 3.