

High-Impact board leadership Creating an Extraordinary Nonprofit Organization

Handouts

Presenter: Vanessa A. Becker, V Consulting

High-Impact Nonprofit Organization Model

High-Impact!

1. Focus on impact
2. ED & Board relationship very strong
3. Has the right board mix

High-Impact Organizations accomplish all the basic responsibilities plus they have these major characteristics

Low/Limited Impact Organizations only accomplish the basic responsibilities of a NP board

Medium Impact

Do all below + working toward high-impact characteristics

Low/Limited Impact Boards

1. Determine mission & purpose
2. Hire, supervise, evaluate & support chief executive (ED or CEO)
3. Organization planning-planning for the present & future
4. Monitor & strengthen programs/services
5. Ensure enough financial resources
6. Protect assets, provide financial oversight
7. Build a competent board
8. Ensure legal and ethical integrity
9. Enhance organization's public standing

High-Impact Nonprofit Organizations

Key Points

1. Before we can talk about “high-impact”, we must succeed at the basics
2. The majority of nonprofits are not high-impact
3. The board of directors is responsible for creating a high-impact organization
4. If what you do is not measurable, make it measurable! A High-impact board focuses on results, not just what you do
5. Results and impact attract resources & commitment, which then creates more results and impact.
6. The relationship between the board of directors and executive director is key to the success of a nonprofit.
7. Who is on the board must be intentional & strategic, do not just fill an opening with a warm body or with the usual suspects.

What is Impact?

Impact is what sets nonprofits apart from for-profits.

Impact is the change we want to see because our organization exists.

Impact is what donors, funders and community want with their investment

Impact is the result of what we do

Resources, Reading List

Good Reads:

- ✓ **Forces for Good, The Six Practices of High-Impact Nonprofits.** Leslie Crutchfield, Heather McLeod Grant, 2007.
- ✓ **Good to Great.** Jim Collins, 2001.
- ✓ **Good to Great and the Social Sectors, A monograph to Accompany Good to Great.** Jim Collins 2005.
- ✓ **Boards That Make a Difference, A New Design for Leadership in Nonprofit and Public Organizations.** John Carver, 2006.

For a more condensed fast read...you can also read excerpts of the above books in the following:

Creating High-Impact Nonprofits, Stanford Social Innovation Review. Fall 2007.

The Six Practices of High-Impact Nonprofits. Fast Company Magazine, December 2007.

Thank you for your time and attention!



Vanessa A. Becker, MPH
President & Principal Consultant

www.vconsults.com

vanessa@vconsults.com

541-817-6552