

## Inspire, Inform, Bond...Strengthen and Broaden Leadership:

### A Cause Effective Retreat Brings Clarity, Purpose and Inspiration to Your Board Team

- Grow the next group of board leaders to replace those few people who always step forward to carry the weight
- Identify approaches to new prospects within board members' networks, freeing them from fundraising from just the same people year after year
- Integrate new board members onto the team and immediately put them to work
- Make the connections between mission, strategies, and your budget that will energize all board members to fundraise with confidence and skill

**Cause Effective can help you plan and run a retreat to bring new energy and purpose to your board team. We do more than facilitate your meeting. Together, we can create a retreat which puts your board on the right course to:**

- Rekindle the passion for your mission which led them to join the board
- Define responsibilities so that board members govern, rather than manage, and fundraise with imagination and energy
- Design board meetings which focus on deliberation, decision-making and follow-up
- Identify and build consensus around board-level priorities and devise annual workplans for each committee

#### **A Successful Day Grows From Planning**

Weeks before the retreat, we build in board buy-in by fostering planning and discussion among board members on the key topics and goals. We spend time with you and your board leadership defining what needs to change to have the board move forward – working, to the degree possible, through a retreat planning committee. This builds in a core principle of governance: peers are best motivated and led by peers. How well do your board members know each other personally? We love to add team-building with a taste of mission into every retreat.

#### **Board Members Exercise Leadership**

Cause Effective-led retreats include a significant place for board members to speak to each other during the retreat, modeling the character of highly-functional boards. For instance, board committees might each prepare some key questions to be considered by the board as a whole. We know board members are busy people: our role, together with senior staff, is to structure the planning work so that the planning group's time is well used and focused.

#### **Strengthening Commitment and Skills to Govern and Fundraise**

Beyond helping board members define and speak to their own issues, Cause Effective can provide essential skill-building in governance and fundraising practices rooted in the busy, over-scheduled world that board members live in today. We draw upon nearly 35 years of working through coaching and other close advising with New York City's nonprofit community. This training results in board recruitment that brings you the type of candidates you need, board meetings that result in substantive and rewarding deliberation, and board members emboldened to unlock donations from within their personal and professional networks.

Our clients find our interactive style of training helps board members previously reluctant to fundraise see that their passion for mission can be tapped to help them become confident and skilled askers.

#### **A Springboard to Further Action**

Cause Effective retreats lay the foundation for after the retreat, when the hard work truly begins. Our retreats focus on board members recognizing the unique role of the board in advancing their organization's public profile, community of support, and sustainability. Committee charges are re-affirmed and tied to annual, realistic workplans. Individual board members leave having accepted personal assignments and often with a draft of a personal, year-round fundraising plan.

Our packages, for half day and full day retreats, include time for planning, facilitating the actual retreat and one or more follow-up sessions to ensure the commitments made have the best chance to be fulfilled. Depending upon preparatory work, our fees run from \$2,000 to \$5,000.