



## BOARD HEALTH

The health of a nonprofit draws significantly from the health of its board. For this 'Board Health Rx' activity, jot down some of the signs, symptoms and behaviors that indicate a board is suffering from these common ailments and explore prescriptions for improvement. Rate your organization's health using the checklist provided.

### DEFINE THE CAUSE & FIND A CURE for common board ailments:

#### 1) Unproductive members

Symptoms:

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### REMEDIES:

- Annual board self-assessment
- Term limits

#### 2) Lack of an active committee structure

Symptoms:

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- Committee charter
- Active chairs who report to the board

#### 3) Unproductive meetings

Symptoms:

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- Consent agendas
- Add a strategy conversation on each meeting agenda

#### 4) Board size (too big or too small)

Symptoms:

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- Board Recruitment Matrix
- Create an advisory committee for emeritus members

#### 5) Unclear expectations for board members

Symptoms:

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- Position descriptions
- Have conversations around board members' WHY & WHAT

### RATE YOUR WORK:

Boards, as stewards of the mission, are accountable for improving organizational effectiveness and securing adequate resources. Rate how effectively your board is carrying out its governance role: / **1 = NO 2 = SOMEWHAT 3 = YES**



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|---|---|---|
| 1 | 2 | 3 |
| 1 | 2 | 3 |
| 1 | 2 | 3 |
| 1 | 2 | 3 |
| 1 | 2 | 3 |

- Does the board contract with an outside auditor for the annual audit?
- Does the board have an up-to-date risk management policies and plans?
- Does the board monitor the achievement of goals related to mission, programs and services?
- Does the board have a clear understanding of the organization's financial health?
- Does the board review its own performance?

Total \_\_\_\_\_ / 15