

Building the Board Your Organization Needs

The board of a nonprofit plays a vital role in the organization and has an essential job to ensure the nonprofit meets its full potential. The reality is that many board members, often individuals who care about the mission of the organization as a whole, may join without an understanding of what the role really entails. Being an effective board member requires not only good intentions and a commitment to the mission, but also an understanding of the responsibilities of a board and a willingness to make decisions with the organization, team, and community in mind.

This class will take a holistic look at the role and responsibilities of nonprofit board members, identifying not only the individual but also the collective role that boards have with nonprofits. Participants will learn key elements/responsibilities of the board such as their role in culture development, defining governance, board/executive director/staff balance of power and collaborations, modern and reasonable expectations/obligations, and connecting with community centered work including fundraising.

Goals for this interactive session include:

- Understanding the origins of nonprofit boards and influences that shape recent thinking about “best practices.”
- Exploring why your board exists and what kind of board your organization needs, in the context of its purpose.
- Discovering how each participant, as an individual, can be an effective and productive board member in a way that honors the reasons they got involved in the first place.

For more information please contact The Nonprofit Center at nonprofitcenter@lasalle.edu