

As a nonprofit, you should be convening one of your greatest assets right now, your Board of Directors / Trustees. Your internal leadership should leverage the entire Board during a crisis. Here are six tips to help your Board Members assist and collaborate with your organization during this time to use each others' skillsets.

Nonprofits should not retreat during this time. By engaging your Board, you are guiding your stakeholders to advance your organization's mission through this crisis.

1



Support the Staff

Now is the time for Board members to put themselves in the Staff's shoes and ask "How can I be supportive during this time?" **Listen. Collaborate. Partner.**

2



Develop Financial Scenarios

Your organization should be developing different scenarios for the next 6-9 months. Have Board members bring their various skillsets to the table. You should also create scenarios for programming, finance, marketing and fundraising.

3



Review & Use a Crisis Communication Plan

It is helpful to have multiple sets of eyes on your crisis communications plan. Staff leadership should have your Board review the plan quickly and make any suggestions or tweaks to ensure a good working document.

4



Decide NOW on Board Communications

Your organization's stakeholders - your donors, your clients, and the community - should hear from the Board members. Staff and Board should work collaboratively to decide on plans for Board communications and help them be your organization's ambassadors in the community and digitally.

5



Be the Best Volunteer & Best Donor

Board members should discover ways to help the Staff by becoming the best volunteer and best donor for the organization they serve. Allow the Staff to share how you are helping, which will encourage others to get involved during this time. It will create a ripple effect. **"If they are helping now, then so should I."**

6



Ensure Staff Know ALL The Board Members' Skillsets

As a Board member, you have special skills and talents and now is the time to make sure the staff knows all your expertise, skillsets, as well as your network. During a crisis or in times of uncertainty, you never know what skillset and connection might be helpful.