

The Spectrum of Board Engagement

Lowest

Highest

← Level of Board Engagement in Implementation & Execution →

Engagement in Strategy

The board helps the organization think about how it can best accomplish its goals, and how a strategic alliance or restructuring could play an important role.

Joint Programming

Alliance in which organizations come together to launch and manage one or more programs to further the goals of the participating organizations.

Approval of Strategy

The board supports the idea of a strategic alliance or restructuring and empowers the executive to implement.

Administrative Consolidation

Alliance that entails the sharing, exchanging, or contracting of administrative functions to increase the operational efficiency of one or more of the partner organizations. This can also include joint staff positions for administrative functions.

Fiscal Sponsorship

Fiscal sponsors are nonprofits that enable the movement of resources from funders and donors to projects, activities, ideas, and organizations that share the fiscal sponsor's mission.

Asset/Program Transfer

The transfer of a program or other asset (includes any program-specific funding, assets, or equipment) to another nonprofit organization that will then continue the work of the program.

Joint Earned Income Venture

Activity that occurs when two or more organizations come together on a revenue-generating activity that benefits all partners (e.g., a combined capital campaign).

Negotiation & Approval of Partnership Agreement

The board engages throughout the negotiation and final approval of an agreement.

Merger or Acquisition

Integration into one organization of all programmatic and administrative functions to increase the administrative efficiency and programmatic impact of one or more organizations.

Parent-Subsidiary Structure

Integration of some or all administrative functions and programmatic services, with the goal of increased efficiency and/or efficacy.

Joint Venture Corporations

Consolidation of some of the administrative, programmatic, or advocacy functions within a jointly controlled corporation. The partner organizations share governance of the new organization.