



Marion-Polk Food Share Board Governance Committee Charter

This committee is responsible for the health and functioning of the Board. Its purpose is to ensure the board fulfills its legal, ethical and functional responsibilities through good recruitment strategies and training programs, monitoring of board activities and evaluation of Board performance, and ensuring adequate governing policies.

1. Help create board roles and expectations

- Lead the board in regularly reviewing and updating the board's description of the *Roles and Expectations* of individual board members.
- Assist the board in periodically updating and clarifying the primary areas of focus for the board as a whole, and help shape the board's agenda based on Marion-Polk Food Share's strategic plan.

2. Identify new board members and conduct board member evaluation.

- Lead in assessing current and anticipated needs related to board composition, determining the knowledge, attributes, skills, abilities, influence, and access to resources the board will need to consider to accomplish future work of the board.
- Develop a profile of the board as it should evolve over time.
- Identify potential board member candidates and explore their interest and availability for board service.
- Nominate individuals to be elected as members of the board.
- Contact each board member eligible for re-election to assess his or her interest in continuing board membership. Conduct an evaluation of service and work with each board member to identify what he or she may be able to contribute to the organization.

3. Encourage board development

- Provide candidates with information needed prior to election to the board.
- Design and oversee a process of board orientation, sharing information needed during the early stages of board service.
- Design and implement an ongoing program of board information, education, and team building.

4. Assess board effectiveness

- Initiate periodic assessment of the board's performance, and propose, as appropriate, changes in board structure and operations.
- Provide ongoing counsel to the board chair and other board leaders on steps they might take to enhance board effectiveness.
- Regularly review the board's practices regarding member participation, conflict of interest, loyalty, and confidentiality, and suggest needed improvements.
- Periodically review and update the board policy and practices.

5. Prepare board leadership

- Take the lead in succession planning, taking steps to recruit and prepare for future board leadership.
- Nominate board members for election as board officers.