



Second Harvest Foodbank of Southern Wisconsin uses a policy governance model and the board of directors governs with an emphasis on (a) mission and guiding principles; (b) integrity and truthfulness in all methods and practices; (c) outward vision and community engagement rather than an internal preoccupation, (d) encouragement of diversity in viewpoints, (e) strategic leadership rather than administrative detail, (f) clear distinction of board and chief executive roles, (g) collective rather than individual decisions, (h) future rather than past or present, and (i) proactivity rather than reactivity.

Second Harvest Foodbank aims to have a diverse and well-balanced board of directors. Diversity of thought, gender, race, ethnicity, lived experience, expertise, geographic representation within the organization's service area, and other experiences will be considered when seeking new board members.

ROLES AND RESPONSIBILITIES

The board of directors has fiduciary responsibility to hold the organization in trust for the community at large. Board members are representing the greater community as they set strategy and policy, provide governance, and steward resources for the mission of Second Harvest Foodbank.

For governance, the board shall:

- Determine mission and purpose.
- Assess organizational performance.
- Build a competent board and assess its own performance.
- Protect assets and provide financial oversight, including approving budgets and instituting financial controls.
- Ensure legal and ethical integrity.

For strategy, the board shall:

- Approve strategic and other long-term plans.
- Monitor achievement of plans, goals, and objectives.

For executive oversight, the board shall:

- Select the executive.
- Support and evaluate the executive.
- Delegate management and operations to the executive (see Governance-Management Connection).

For resources, each board member shall:

- Ensure adequate financial resources.
- Participate in resource generation by acting as ambassadors and connectors. Board members may also be involved in fundraising.
- Provide a personally meaningful donation.
- Ensure resources are managed effectively.
- Invest adequately in staff, technology, and other means for meeting mission.

For ambassadorship, the board shall:

- Clearly articulate the organization's vision, mission, accomplishments, and goals to the public and garner support from the community