**Ten Responsibilities of Nonprofit Boards**

1. **Determine mission and purpose**. It is the board's responsibility to create and review a statement of mission and purpose that articulates the organization’s goals, means, and primary constituents served.
2. **Select the executive director.** Boards must reach consensus on the executive director’s responsibilities and undertake a careful search to find the most qualified individual for the position.
3. **Support and evaluate the executive director.** The board should ensure that the executive director has the moral and professional support he or she needs to further the goals of the organization**.**
4. **Ensure effective planning.** Boards must actively participate in an overall planning process and assist in implementing and monitoring the plan's goals.
5. **Monitor and strengthen programs and services.** The must ensure that current and proposed programs and services are consistent with the organization's mission and monitor their effectiveness.
6. **Ensure adequate financial resources.** One of the board's foremost responsibilities is to secure adequate resources for the organization to fulfill its mission**.**
7. **Protect assets and provide financial oversight.** The board must assist in developing the annual budget and ensuring that proper financial controls are in place.
8. **Build a competent board.** All boards have a responsibility to articulate prerequisites for candidates, orient new members, and periodically and comprehensively evaluate their own performance.
9. **Ensure legal and ethical integrity.** The board is ultimately responsible for seeing that legal standards and ethical norms are respected.
10. **Enhance the organization’s public standing.** The board should clearly articulate the organization's mission, accomplishments, and goals to the public and garner support from the community.

Source: *Ten Basic Responsibilities of Nonprofit Boards* by Richard T. Ingram. Published by BoardSource, 2009.