

GOVERNANCE

Phase II: Stabilizing Governance



Activity 15: Five Element Assessment – Governance and Boards

Goals

1. Evaluate your current governance structure
2. Determine potential needs
3. Prioritize work going forward

Prerequisites

None

Who Should Participate?

Current Governance participants. Consider using IF your community has a governance board. Some programs have determined they do not need a formal governance board.

Length

90 minutes

Pre-Work Instructions

1. Form a subgroup that contains 2-3 governance representatives with knowledge on financial and legal activities of the program. The purpose of this subgroup is to ensure that there is broader discussion and knowledge at an early level, so discussions are less likely to be bogged down by simple oversights.
2. The subgroup completes the checklist together. During this pre-work, they can determine that some components are not relevant or propose adjustments.
3. After completion, submit the initial review to the larger group in advance so there is time to absorb ahead of the meeting.

Subgroup Instructions

1. Use the links on page 2 to access the seven components listed in the Five Elements Assessment, provided by 501Commons
2. Based on the assessment, summarize the standard for each component in terminology that is most relevant to your program
3. For each component, write a brief description of each level
4. Evaluate the components in your program and choose a level most reflective of your program's current state

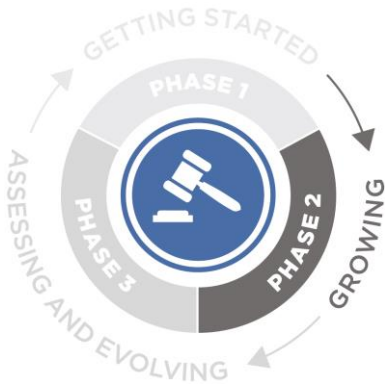
After completing the assessment, move on to:

Activity Instructions

1. As a group, review the submitted checklist. Does everyone agree or not? Are there elements not included in this assessment?
2. Once general consensus on rankings is achieved, identify what components the group considers necessary to work on.
3. Prioritize. This can form the outline of a plan for work going forward.

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Assessment courtesy: <https://www.501commons.org/assess/five-elements-assessment-governance-and-boards>



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Governance Assessment

Components	Level 1	Level 2	Level 3	Level 4
1.1 Mission/Vision Standard Summary:				
1.2 Board Roles and Responsibilities Standard Summary:				
1.3 Board Characteristics Standard Summary:				
1.4 Strategic Issues and Organizational Performance Standard Summary:				
1.5 Board Development Standard Summary:				
1.6 Organizational Support by Board Members Standard Summary:				
1.7 Allocation of Authority to the Executive Standard Summary:				