Board Roles, Responsibilities, Structures, and Committees

Name

Institution Affiliation

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A non-profit organization is designed to provide different forms of assistance and services without accumulating revenue like other businesses. It may be a religious, charitable or philanthropic organization. The Kidney Foundation aims at providing accurate, timely and well-informed advice to patients with kidney diseases and increasing awareness and understanding on kidney-related disorders. The foundation also aims at providing holistic care to patients with end-stage renal failure. The following paper examines the roles, responsibilities, structures and the committees of a Kidney Foundation.

**Summary of the Board of Directors**

The board members of Kidney Foundation are also referred to as directors. A solid board of directors is fundamental to the foundation, because it serves as the pillar for success. The board members are prohibited from all forms of financial benefits from their responsibilities (Deveraux, 2017). They volunteer their time and services to the organization. The board is characterized by members with various skills and knowledge that benefits the foundation. It is crucial to choose directors that are willing and capable of sacrificing their time and services to the benefit of the foundation instead of seeking the members basing on their status in the community. Each member is entitled to a single vote on the board, which may comprise several advisers. These members have some particular expertise in specific fields that are related to kidney disorders and have responsibilities in offering consultation services to the foundation. However, they do not vote on the board.

**Structure of the Board**

The Kidney Foundation is an independent body and therefore has its board of directors comprising of people from different backgrounds. It is headed by the president of the foundation, who is the Executive Director. However, this director is questionable to the board members. The foundation reflects the interests of the founders, and therefore the composition of the board is restricted to the objectives of the organization. The board includes individuals that are interested in the mission of the foundation, and who brings specific expertise towards the achievement of the set mission.

**Roles of Executive Committee of the Foundation**

The executive committee heads the structure of the board. It is made up of the president, the secretary, treasurer, and the vice president. The CEO is mandated with providing governance, steering and representing the board. The vice president act in assisting the president, and assume these responsibilities in the absence of the CEO. The secretary documents all the proceedings of meetings distributes minutes of meetings and manages the correspondence. The treasurer manages all the resources of the foundation and is responsible for presenting financial reports to an accounting firm that is contracted by the foundation according to financial regulations. Each member of this committee is entitled to one vote.

**Recommendations to Improve the Performance and Effectiveness of the Board**

The effectiveness and performance of the board of directors can be improved by streamlining the communication and the management of critical documents. The members should be provided with centralized and easy to access sources of information such as the board portal to keep them updated on all the progress of the foundation (Au, 2012). A culture that promotes trusts should be established to encourage members to understand each other by sharing mission stories during meetings and incorporating activities such as icebreakers. Other events such as bonding exercises, happy hours and retreats should also be considered to promote team building among the board members.

References

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