

Yolo Community Foundation Code of Ethics for Board Members

As a member of the board I will:

- Consider myself a trustee of the organization and do my best to ensure that the agency is well maintained, financially secure, growing, and operating in the best interests of our constituents.
- Participate fully in board meetings and actions.
- Respect the other members of the board and the constituents I serve.
- Keep well informed of developments that are relevant to issues that may come before the board.
- Recognize that all authority is vested in the board when it meets in legal session and not with individual board members.
- Refer constituent or staff issues to the proper officer or committee.
- Recognize that the board member's job is to ensure that the agency is well managed, not to manage the agency.
- Declare any conflicts of interest between my personal life and my position on the board, and to avoid voting on issues that are a conflict of interest.
- Do my best to continue to grow personally and professionally in order to best serve the organization.

As a member of the board I will not:

- Be critical of fellow board members.
- Use the organization for my personal advantage.
- Discuss the confidential proceedings of the board outside board meetings.
- Interfere with the duties of the administrator or undermine the administrator's authority.

Standards of Conduct

FINANCIAL INTERESTS: Statement of circumstances under which board members must disclose business and family relationships that create a potential conflict of interest; the extent to which a board member may participate in board decisions in which the member has a personal financial or other interest; and policy for retaining board members to provide services to the organization, such as accounting or legal services.

BOARD MEMBER COMPENSATION: Policy covering reimbursement of board members' direct expenses incurred participating in board activities (e.g. travel, meals) and indirect expenses (e.g. lost wages) and provisions for any direct compensation or honoraria for board members' services.

GIFTS AND GRATUITIES: Statement of policy concerning whether board members may accept gifts or gratuities from persons or organizations doing business with the nonprofit and any limitations on such policy (e.g. gifts of token value).

POLITICAL ACTIVITIES: Policy statement requiring board members to disassociate the organization from any personal political activities and prohibiting using the organization's name, property, or facilities in connection with any political activity.

HIRING OR CONTRACTING WITH RELATIVES (NEPOTISM): A statement of circumstances under which the organization will or will not hire persons related to board members.

VIOLATIONS: A statement of consequences for violating any of the board member standards of conduct (dismissal from the board, termination of a contract, etc.) and procedures for resolving disputed cases.