

## Where To Begin?

Whether it's in art, education, health care, environment, religion, human services or animal welfare, there is a place for you to serve.

1. List causes or problems that interest you.
2. Define an area you would like to serve--from your neighborhood block group to a global nonprofit.
3. List organizations that you already support or admire.
4. Search the web for nonprofits that match your interest.
5. Contact your local Volunteer Center or United Way.



To find a Volunteer Center near you, go to:  
[www.vaservice.org](http://www.vaservice.org)

6. Contact your chosen nonprofit to talk about your interest and explore possibilities.

*Serving on a committee before joining a Board is an easy way for you and the nonprofit to make sure being a Volunteer Board member is the best fit.*

*If joining the Board isn't the best fit, or if there are no Board openings at this time, ask about other ways to **make a difference.***

Serving on a nonprofit Board offers many benefits to you and your community.

**It may even help your career.**

Many companies encourage and support Board service for employees to:

- develop leadership skills
- show initiative
- provide service to the community
- show company good will

Brochure provided by:

**[www.vanno.org](http://www.vanno.org)**

804-721-9930

1108 E. Main Street

Suite 1200

Richmond, Virginia 23219



**VANNO**  
virginia network of  
nonprofit organizations

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Somewhere  
in your  
community,  
a nonprofit board  
needs you.....



Have You  
Considered  
Serving?

## Why Serve on a Nonprofit Board?



*Different People.*

*Different Reasons.*

*Share      Learn*

*Believe    Commit*

*Enjoy      Hope*

*Change*

*Make your neighborhood,  
your community,  
your state,  
the world,  
a Better Place.*



What's ***Your***  
Reason?

## What is Required?

### How much time does serving on a Board take?

This varies. Some boards meet every month, others three to four times a year. Be sure you understand the time expectations before you accept a Board position. Board service also includes committee work.

### What does a Board do?

A Board of Directors governs a nonprofit, sets direction, raises funds, provides accountability and contributes resources, skills and knowledge.

Every nonprofit must have a volunteer Board of Directors.

### What are the responsibilities of a Board?

Together, Board members:

- Define the mission
- Build Organizational Structure
- Support the Executive Director
- Develop the Strategic Plan
- Ensure Legal/Ethical Integrity
- Assure Quality Services & Programs
- Recruit New Board Members
- Serve as Community Ambassadors
- Raise Resources to Support Growth

## Do You Have What It Takes?

### Ask yourself if you....

- want to make your community a better place.
- can be counted on.
- enjoy learning.
- respect differences in how people approach challenges.
- work well alone and as part of a team.
- are open to thinking about the 'big picture'.
- have time to attend meetings and follow through on action steps
- care passionately about a cause or issue
- are interested in leadership.
- want to bring your skills and knowledge to an organization you care about.

