

CRITERIA FOR BOARD MEMBERS

Adopted by the NCF Board of Directors \* July 30, 2009

**“Must Have”** criteria – these are the characteristics that all Board members must have

* Passion for (not just interest in) achieving NCF’s vision and mission
* Willingness and ability to commit time both for meetings and for work between meetings
* Willingness to personally contribute annually to NCF giving time, talent and treasure
* Willingness to advocate and help fundraise
* Willingness and ability to collaborate with others outside NCF
* Team player; one who is supportive of group decisions even if not in favor of those decisions
* Good listener
* Thoughtful decision maker
* Integrity
* Understanding of and commitment to the Board member job description

**“Wouldn’t it be Nice”** criteria – traits we wish someone on the Board had, but not necessary for governing NCF or for all Board members to have

* Experience on the Board of another statewide high-performing nonprofit
* Big-picture thinker
* Connections to potential patrons
* “Facilitative” skills – i.e., the ability to synthesize the thoughts and ideas of others
* Expertise and willingness to use skills in:
	+ Communications/media relations
	+ Fundraising
	+ Governance/leadership
	+ Public policy
	+ Finance/investments
	+ Community economic development

**“Never In a Million Years”** criteria – the traits we never want to see on the NCF Board

* Individuals who are interested in being on the Board for the “resume value”
* Overcommitted individuals who do not have the time to actively participate
* Individuals who over-promise and under-deliver
* Domineering personalities
* Overbearing egos
* Individuals with a negative frame of reference (who can always identify problems, but not solutions or opportunities)