

**Session six: Fundraising and Resource Development** 



#### What is fundraising?



Fundraising:(noun) the raising of assets and resources from various sources for the support of an organization or a specific project.



Remember! One of the key roles of the Board of Directors is to *ensure* necessary resources for their organization.

# What do we mean when we ensure necessary resources?



- Hire capable executive leadership
- Promote positive public image
- ensure the presence of a capable and responsible board
- Ensure adequate financial resources

# The Board's Fundraising Responsibilities

- Define or clarify the mission (the "why" of the organization)
- Support organizational sustainability
- Identify strong leadership
- Approve adequate budgets
- Plan for the future of the organization
- Be familiar with the overall fundraising plan
- Participate in the fundraising process

(From "Presenting Fundraising" BoardSource)

#### What does this look like in action?



Clearly define annual fundraising goals



Delegate responsibilities to meet these goals



Create fundraising and donor recognition policies



Ensure fundraising methods adhere to ethical standards

(From "Presenting Fundraising" BoardSource)

# Individual board member responsibilities

Make a personal contribution



Identify, evaluate, and cultivate prospects



Attend face-to-face solicitations



Write appeal letters



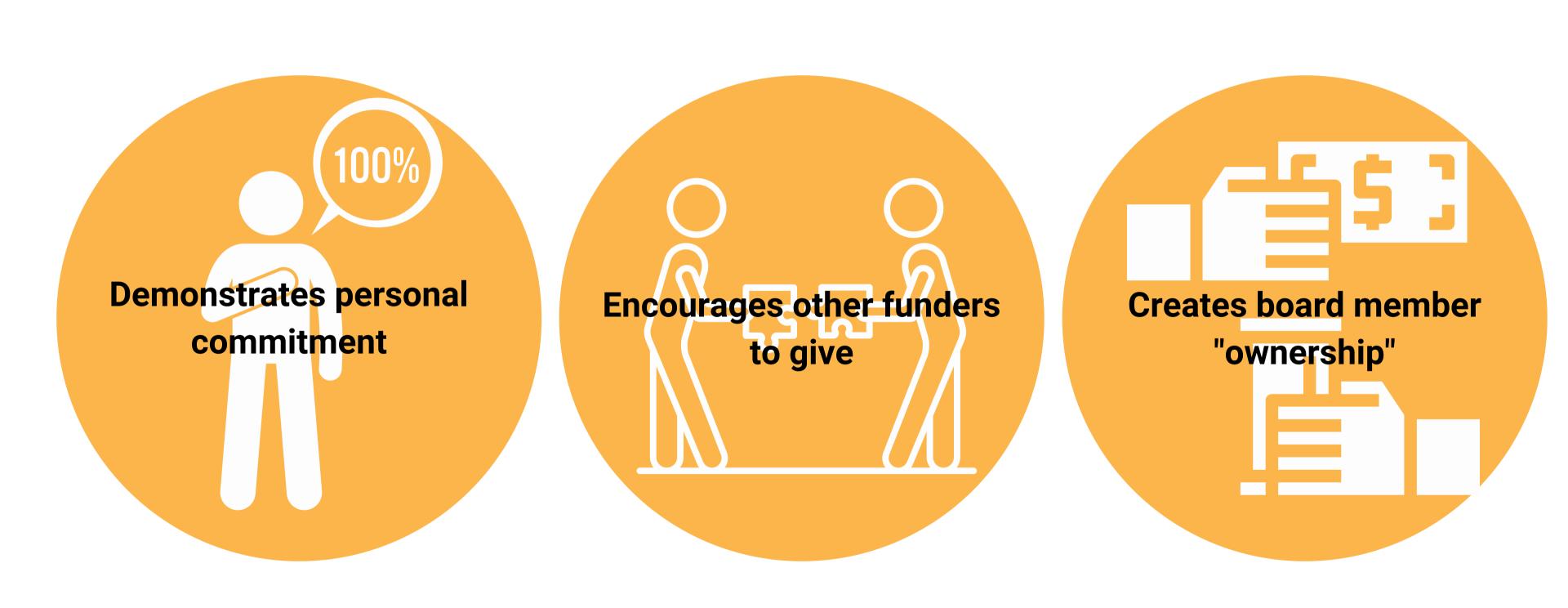
Organize and attend special events



Thank donors



# Why Board members should give



# Why people give to nonprofits

- They feel a connection to the organization
- Their peers are giving
- Someone asks them to
- To make a difference
- To share their good fortune
- For recognition
- To ensure the organization's ability to fulfill its mission in the future
- For tax reasons
- To ensure their pet project finds a home



## **Stages of Fundraising**

## **Stage One: Cultivation**

- Identifying potential donors
- Building Relationships with prospects
- Generating interest in the organization
- Showing prospects what the organization is all about-history, programs, finances, etc.

#### How Board Members can get involved in cultivation

Make a personal connection with prospects

Show prospects the facilities

Share the history of the organization

Share their enthusiasm for the mission of the organization

## **Stages of Fundraising**

### **Stage Two: Solicitation**

- Presenting the organization's case statement
- Participating in one-on-one solicitation
- Sending direct mail pieces with personalized notes
- Making telephone solicitations

#### How Board Members can get involved in Solicitation

Reviewing or writing the case statement

Making the ask

Attending face-toface solicitations with staff

## **Stages of Fundraising**

### **Stage Three: Stewardship**

- Thanking donors and letting them know their gift made a difference
- Maintaining donor relationships
- Thank you letters
- Donor recognition activities
- Invitations to special events
- Updates from the organization

# How Board Members can get involved in Stewardship

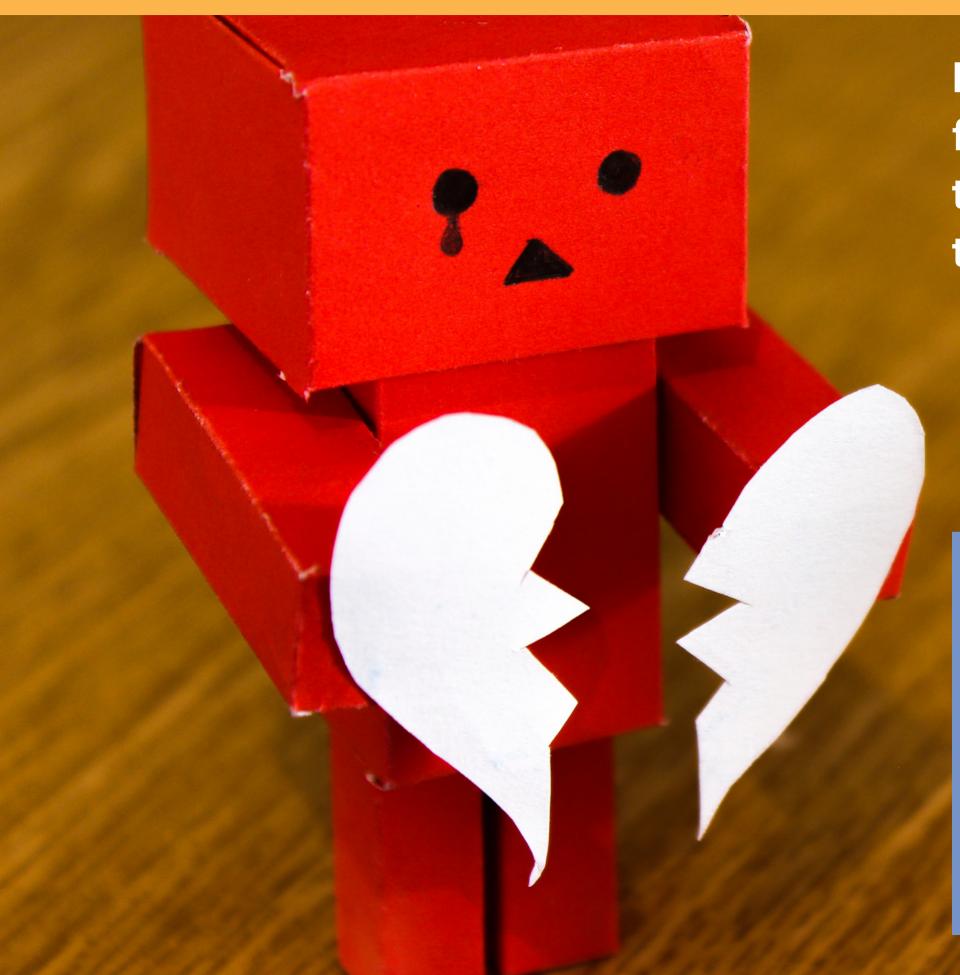
Send letters of appreciation and invites to special events

Maintain relationship with donors

Personally thank donors for their contributions

Share their enthusiasm for the mission of the organization

# Rejection



Rejection is a natural part of fundraising and fear of it stops a lot of potential fundraisers in their tracks. Some things to remember when this happens is:

- 1. Do not take it personally
- 2. Keep the door open
- 3. Offer any additional information needed to change the prospects mind.

Remember! You are not just asking for money. You are asking for support for something you believe in. People believe in different causes, so a no is not a no to you, but a yes to something else.



To succeed in fundraising, you must know four things:

- 1. The mission of the organization
- 2. The goals of the organization
- 3. How to ask
- 4. How to overcome fears

If you don't ask, you won't receive.
The only way to fail is by not trying.

