

## **BEFORE YOU JOIN A NONPROFIT BOARD OF DIRECTORS**

**By: ROBERT KLUTHO, CPA**

Many of us have been asked to join a board of directors of a nonprofit. While we want to give back to the community, you need to do your diligence to make sure you are a good fit for the organization. Before agreeing to join, you should do the following:

- Research the organization online to get a flavor of its impact in the community.
- Obtain a copy of IRS form 990 from [www.guidestar.com](http://www.guidestar.com) to review the financial condition of the organization.
- Meet with a couple of current board members and the executive director to understand their experience with the organization and inquire of any current issues that may negatively impact the organization.
- Inquire about the time and financial commitment to the organization.
- Determine if the organization has obtained insurance coverage to protect the board members from lawsuits.

Once you are satisfied with your due diligence, you need to ask yourself the following:

Is the organization's mission statement something you can get behind? If so, go for it.



If you have questions about this or any other business or tax issue, please contact your Account Manager or Robert Klutho, CPA, at (314) 205-2510 or via email at [bklutho@connerash.com](mailto:bklutho@connerash.com).