

# Sample Board Accountability Statement for a Community Hospital

*Note: Nonprofit hospital boards may want to consider developing an Accountability Statement that reflects their commitment to fulfilling the hospital's charitable purpose on behalf of the communities the hospital serves. The following statement is intended to be an example that boards should adapt to meet their individual needs.*

## **Board Accountability**

The hospital board is accountable to the hospital and the community for acting consistently with the Articles of Incorporation, the by-laws and applicable law and regulation. The directors exercise the power vested in them in good faith and honesty in order to further the purposes for which the hospital was created and the achievement of the hospital's mission and vision. They must act in the best interests of the hospital, ensuring that the hospital's charitable resources are used in a reasonable, appropriate and legally accountable manner. Directors shall not place themselves in a position where their personal interests conflict with those of the hospital.

Directors establish objectives that are within the capacity of the hospital's resources and act as stewards to ensure the most efficient utilization of the hospital's facilities and resources. In choosing between competing demands for scarce resources, the board recognizes it is accountable to the following:

To the Hospital	For acting consistently with the charitable purpose of the organization as articulated in the Articles of Incorporation, the bylaws, applicable legislation, and the common law. For acting consistently with the non-profit healthcare organization's purpose to improve the health status of the community and fulfilling the mission and vision of the hospital.
To Patients	For safe and efficient, patient and family-centered care.
To Legislative and Regulatory Bodies	For compliance with laws, policies and regulations applicable to the operation of a healthcare organization.
To Staff, Volunteers and Physicians	For a workplace that supports and enables productive relationships and high-quality performance and outcomes.
To Partners	For collaboration which enables the organization to meet its goals and objectives.
To Communities We Serve	For acting to further the community's interest and benefit and to be a steward of community assets.