



**2019-2020
Board Leadership
Seminar Syllabus & Schedule**

(Note: All sessions are at St. John Fisher College – 3690 East Avenue, Rochester 14618, from 7:30 – 10 a.m.)

Seminar 1 – Wednesday, September 25, 2019: Building an Effective Board

The chair's role in managing the board and its meetings; chair's responsibility for leadership development, succession management, board communications, and crisis management; the chair's governance goals.

Discussion Leader: Carol Love, Community Fellow, Center for Community Engagement

Seminar 2 – Thursday, October 17, 2019: Creating & Sustaining a Diverse Board

How and why you should take steps to diversify your board (not just by ethnicity, but also by age, economic status, gender, other social factors, etc.). Committing to diversity is a business decision and this discussion will focus on how that improves your agency, what it means for the community and the leadership of the nonprofit sector, and how moving to inclusivity will increase the success of your board.

Discussion Leader: James Norman, Community Fellow, Center for Community Engagement

Seminar 3 – Wednesday, November 13, 2019: Board Legal Issues & Topics

Legal status of the nonprofit corporation in American society and the resulting obligations to the public; traditional duties of board members, as well as operational responsibilities of the board and individual board members; alternatives for structuring the board and board committees.

Discussion Leader: Howard Grossman, Esq., Retired Senior Counsel JPMorgan Chase Bank

Seminar 4 – Wednesday, December 11, 2019: Board & CEO Partnership

The board/CEO relationship with particular emphasis on the boundary between governance and management; CEO performance assessment; compensation and benefits; and management succession planning.

Discussion Leader: Jennifer Leonard, President & Chief Executive Officer, Rochester Area Foundation

Seminar 5 – Wednesday, January 15, 2020: Financial Literacy/Roles of Finance & Audit Committees

What boards should look for to anticipate financial problems and steps to take to avoid them; the role of the auditor and the independent audit; the relationship of the independent audit committee and the board; the board's financial oversight and monitoring role.

Discussion Leader: Nancy Snyder, Partner, The Bonadio Group