



Organization Chart of Board/Staff Relationships

This drawing depicts the typical arrangement in a policy (traditional) Board structure. The solid lines indicate formal lines of authority – authority that is official to the position. For example, corporate law asserts that the Board of Directors is legally responsible for the nonprofit corporation. Therefore, the Executive Director formally reports to the Board of Directors. The official authority of the Executive Director position is derived from the Board's specification for the position, for example, in the By Laws and/or Board-approved job description of the Executive Director.

The power of the Board is vested in the Board as an entirety of all of its members – no one member has the full authority of the Board. Therefore, the Board Chair (a single Board member) formally reports to the full Board. Committees formally report to the Board Chair or the full Board, depending on the official specification in the By Laws. Staff members, other than the Executive Director, typically report to the Executive Director, as specified in the By Laws and/or Board-approved job description of the Executive Director.

(Used and adapted with permission of Greater Twin Cities United Way)

