



Sample Questions for Board Chair and Vice Chair Interviews:*

1. How and why did you initially become involved in [ORGANIZATION] and choose to become involved in the Foundation board?
2. As you look ahead to the next several years in which the Foundation board gains its footings, what do you see as its priorities? (in rank order)
3. How do you see deepening board member engagement?
4. How do you plan to engage other Foundation board members?
5. What do you see as the Foundation board's challenges?
6. What is needed to ensure its success?
7. As you are introducing people to your [ORGANIZATION], what types of concerns, objections or questions are you hearing?
8. What is needed from staff to ensure your organization's success?
9. What is the impact of philanthropy on our organization?
10. What is your vision for [ORGANIZATION] Foundation board?
11. How do you envision [ORGANIZATION] Foundation board intersecting with your organization's corporate board?
12. When thinking about this Foundation board, what will success look like to you?
13. More specifically, what do you see as the components of a successful board meeting?
14. Do you have a particular area or passion when it comes to either [INDUSTRY YOUR ORGANIZATION SERVES] or [ORGANIZATION]?



Engagement Plan Creation—Sample of Dialogue Questions*:

1. Tell me about your history with [ORGANIZATION].
2. What drew your interest to [ORGANIZATION] and [INDUSTRY OF YOUR ORGANIZATION]? Did you have a family experience as a child, or more recently or through a friend?
3. Tell me about your family as you grew up and their involvement with charities and giving back to the community.
4. What other charities have you been involved with? What's worked well and what hasn't and why?
5. What is your vision for involvement with [ORGANIZATION]? What's your dream?
6. What difference would you like your philanthropy to make?
7. How can we best steward and share the impact and be accountable for your gift?
8. Do you work with a financial advisor/wealth management firm to help determine your philanthropic investments?

*Both series of questions were created as examples which we refine to be very personalized for each board member.