



BAY AGING BOARD GOVERNANCE

Mission and Programs

Bay Aging's Mission: To provide the programs and services people of all ages need to live independently in their own communities for as long as possible.

The Board of Directors has three responsibilities with respect to Bay Aging's mission -

- understanding the statutory mission of an Area Agency on Aging
- monitor progress towards achieving the mission
- periodically reviewing and, if necessary, revising the mission

The Board of Directors do not have exclusive control over establishing and updating Bay Aging's mission. The CEO and other key Bay Aging staff actively participate in this process. But the establishment and monitoring the progress towards achieving the mission of Bay Aging is the most important responsibility of the Board. The mission statement should be reviewed at least every three years.

The mission of Bay Aging is documented in a formal mission statement. Bay Aging's statutory mission under the Older Americans Act for an Area Agency on Aging is attached. The mission for any not for profit is its overarching purpose, the big dream toward which it strives. One of the most important reasons for establishing a written mission statement is to ensure that it is clearly and consistently articulated to all persons who come into contact with Bay Aging. In order to accomplish this, each and every member of the Board of Directors must have a clear understanding of Bay Aging's mission statement as well as workable knowledge of its statutory mission. The mission statement should be readily available during Board meetings and included in reports to stakeholders.

Closely related to Bay Aging's mission are the individual programs and services that are designed to further the mission. The Board of Directors' role with respect to individual programs is to ensure that each program has a direct relationship to the furtherance of Bay Aging's mission. Individual details are left to staff, but the Board should have basic knowledge of how programs work in order to meet its oversight responsibility.

