



United Way
of San Diego County



Board Certification and Matching Program

June 6, 2023

Program Description

This program presents models of nonprofit governance, leadership, and strategy, combined with ideas for practical implementation.

This program uses readings, lectures, case studies, and class discussions to meet the goals and objectives of the program. Reading assignments provide an important foundation for class discussion and must be completed prior the training. Lectures will be used to highlight key points from the readings and provide additional information to supplement the readings. Case studies will provide you with the opportunity to apply what you have learned to real issues.

Because each participant brings unique perspectives and experiences to the program, participation in class discussions is essential to your learning as well as that of other participants.

Program Directors

Laura Deitrick, PhD
May Harris, JD
Richard Hurt, MBA
Alicia Kitagawa, MSW

Learning Outcomes

By the end of this program, participants should have a clear understanding of:

- Board governance and structure within the nonprofit context
- Legal, ethical, and financial responsibility of board members
- Introduction to nonprofit finance and fundraising responsibilities of board members

Pre-Work

- ["Governance as Leadership"](#)
- [University of San Diego "State of Nonprofits and Philanthropy 2022"](#)
- [Simon Sinek TED Talk: "How Great Leaders Inspire Action"](#)
- Select case studies (will be sent separately prior to the training)

Certification Requirements

To receive a certificate, participants must complete all pre-session assignments, attend and actively participate in the full-day training, and complete a course reflection exercise.



United Way
of San Diego County



Syllabus

Part One: The Nuts and Bolts

The morning session introduces the role of governance within the nonprofit sector. Subject matter experts will discuss the role of the nonprofit board and their structures, basic functions, legal duties, and financial responsibilities. Topics include:

- Introduction to Nonprofit Board Governance
- Board Structure and Responsibilities
- Legal Considerations and Duties of Board Members
- Understanding Nonprofit Financials

Part Two: The Dynamics of Governance

The afternoon session engages participants in applying their learnings in interactive case study exercises. Conversations includes topics such as:

- The Importance of Recruiting a Diverse Board
- Promoting Board Effectiveness and Engagement
- Handling Conflicts of Interest
- Governing Through Difficult Times