



The Starfish Assignment

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Starfish Ethical Parameters

1. Gifts that are directly related to the charity's mission or benefit the individuals and families the charity serves are generally acceptable. For example, if a law enforcement agency offers to provide school supplies for children in need or donate funds to support the charity's programs, this would be an acceptable gift.
2. Gifts that have a significant monetary value or that could be perceived as creating a conflict of interest should be declined. For example, a gift of a car or a large sum of money should not be accepted.
3. Gifts or invitations should not create the appearance of impropriety or influence over the decision-making of the board members and should not compromise the integrity, independence, or objectivity of the organization or its board members.
4. Board members should always be transparent about any gifts they receive and should disclose these gifts to the charity's leadership and other board members.
5. Board members should also be mindful of the potential impact of accepting gifts on the charity's reputation and should avoid any actions that could be perceived as undermining the charity's mission or values.
6. Board members should prioritize their commitment to the organization's mission and purpose above any personal benefits or invitations received.

Additional Considerations:

1. Whistleblowing policy: Encourage board members, volunteers, and partners to report any suspected unethical behavior, fraud, or misconduct within the organization without fear of retaliation. Having a clear whistleblowing policy helps maintain the integrity and transparency of the organization.
2. Confidentiality: Ensure that board members respect the privacy and confidentiality of sensitive information related to the organization, its beneficiaries, donors, and partners. Confidentiality should be maintained unless disclosure is legally required or in the best interest of the organization and its mission.
3. Respect and inclusion: Establish a culture of respect and inclusion that values the opinions, contributions, and diversity of all individuals involved in the organization, including staff, volunteers, beneficiaries, and partners. This creates a positive and supportive environment.
4. Collaboration and partnership: Encourage board members to seek opportunities for collaboration and partnership with other organizations, businesses, and community stakeholders that share similar goals or can support the charity's mission. This helps to build networks and strengthen the impact of your organization.