

## MANNA Board 2014 Self Evaluation Summary

**UNDERSTANDING THE MISSION** - Board members expressed strong confidence that they understand how MANNA operates to fulfill its mission; that they act as ambassadors to the community on behalf of MANNA and its constituencies; that they understand the role of volunteers, board and staff; that they understand ways they can be involved in fund raising; and understand why MANNA uses public policy efforts to support food distribution in WNC.

Less confidence was shown in two areas: following through on commitments made as a Board member and understanding MANNA's partnerships: how MANNA distributes food through partner agencies, how MANNA supports partner agencies and why, and what the shared maintenance fees are.

**INVOLVING THE COMMUNITY** - All Board members indicated they have supported MANNA's development efforts to cultivate or thank donors and most gave themselves high ranking in taking advantage of opportunities to say a good word about MANNA in their circles. The latter question elicited a long list of practical actions Board members take to spread the word about MANNA's work.

**BOARD PARTICIPATION** – 65% of the Board members gave themselves the highest ratings for attendance at monthly Board meetings. 75% serve on at least one committee and more than half on two. The other 25% serve special projects including food acquisition and special events. About half of the Board members expressed willingness to serve (or currently do serve) as a committee chair or officer.

Participation in Blue Jean Ball and Empty Bowls topped the event participation list.

Almost all Board members indicated that they make annual stretch gifts of MANNA. 65% reported consistently familiarizing themselves with information prepared in advance of Board and committee meetings and regularly reviewing the meeting minutes for accuracy. Response to email alerts concerning hunger legislation was weaker with half of the Board giving themselves the middle score between Never and Always. 90% said their overall Board experience is Very Positive.

**KNOWLEDGE AND SKILLS** – Board members indicated they have skills and knowledge in the following areas: 40% in Planning; 30% in Education, Resource Development/Fundraising, Public Relations/Marketing, Public Policy; 25% in Budget and Finance; 20% in WNC Hunger Relief Agencies, Human Resources/Training; 15% in Investments, Networking; 10% in Legal Affairs, Operations/Facilities Management, Organizational Development; 5% in Food Industry, Staff Survey Assistance, Media/creative Writing.

**AREAS FOR MORE TRAINING** – 55% responded to this question with these comments: Interested to hear more about MANNA's plan for nutritional emphasis—classes, training, shopping, etc; like our approach of bringing in different staff to meetings; Hunger Basics 101; communications training around public policy issues/media/pr concerns; development, planned giving, constructive advocacy; financial; more about partner agency relationships; shared maintenance fees; how to get fresh produce and what it takes

**A QUESTION FOR REVISION OR OMISSION** - Asking what else a Board member is willing to do to support the mission was an inartful way to query people who are already highly involved with the mission! Thanks for taking time to complete the survey.