



## STANDARDS OF EXCELLENCE

We believe that all children deserve access to a high-quality public education that inspires and engages them in a lifelong journey toward developing their knowledge, skills and talents to build vibrant futures. We also believe that as a society we have an obligation as well as the capacity to ensure that all children receive the opportunities, resources, and supports they need to discover and realize their full potential and thus make this so. Rooted in these beliefs, OnePercent for Education is dedicated to building a nationwide cohort of nonprofit organizations driven by and accountable to the highest standards of excellence.

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### Overarching Goals of OnePercent for Education

- I. Promote best practices in all of our Nonprofit Partners.
- II. Secure the highest standards of fiscal and programmatic responsibility in all entities who display our logo.
- III. Strengthen the overall wellbeing and vitality of the children, youth, families, schools and communities we impact.
- IV. Foster cooperation amongst all of our Nonprofit Partners.
- V. Build a comprehensive, actively engaged national network of resources that supports quality, OnePercent for Education endorsed Nonprofit Partner programs and services.
- VI. Create awareness and understanding of the value of public education and the need for and benefits of educational equity as we continuously improve access to educational opportunities.
- VII. Encourage adequate support of an efficient and effective system of Nonprofit Partner organizations nationwide through the maintenance of high standards of personal and professional behaviors.



- VIII. Assist board members, other volunteers and professional associates in gaining a wider perspective and understanding of local, state and national educational standards and how they inform educational equity efforts.
- IX. Strive continuously to grow in knowledge and skill and contribute to the advancement of educational equity while strengthening our public education system.
- X. Provide an accurate accounting of measurable outcomes and the techniques that have proven successful.

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### **OnePercent for Education Quality Standard Goals**

- Assure OnePercent for Education donors that their contributions are efficiently utilized to support children, youth, families and caregivers, schools and communities with the greatest needs;
- Assist funded groups to structure themselves in a manner conducive to providing consistent, effective, needed and continuously improving programs and services;
- Encourage sustainability, growth, and development of educationally focused nonprofit organizations and serve as a catalyst for coordination and cooperation between and amongst our Nonprofit Partners.

### **Overview**

The Quality Standards represent OnePercent for Education’s values and belief system about how nonprofit organizations should operate. As stewards of the community’s trust and contributions, OnePercent for Education staff and Board of Directors carefully assess each potential Nonprofit Partner using the Quality Standards and their collective knowledge to determine whether a potential partner has demonstrated achievement of a standard. With the Quality Standards as the



basis for partnership and funding decisions, OnePercent for Education ensures donors that contributed dollars are well-spent.

The Quality Standards are divided into four performance areas:

**Program, Governance, Finance and Administration.**

OnePercent for Education believes that a nonprofit organization will increase its ability to positively impact the lives of its clients when it is organizationally strong. An organizationally strong nonprofit has a Board of active and diverse leaders who set a strategic direction and provide oversight; has programming that is well designed, well implemented, and includes a quality improvement process; is financially stable, accountable, and maximizes resources; and has sufficient infrastructure and capacity.

**PROGRAM**

Our Nonprofit Partner's missions, programs and services address important and defined community needs. To qualify for funding and use of the OnePercent for Education logo, a Nonprofit Partner must do the following:

Provide statistical data that documents the need for all programs and services.

Outline a clearly defined target population with measurable program goals.

Offer programs and services that are consistent with the Nonprofit Partner's mission.

Offer programs consistent with OnePercent for Education's strategic direction.

Offer programs and services grounded in liberatory techniques that are accepted as best practices within the field. Innovation is encouraged.

Effectively design programs and services.



Create written policies and procedures for all programs and services.

Effectively implement programs and services according to written design with Board oversight.

Make programs and services geographically, physically, financially, and culturally accessible to target populations.

Set a target within program outcome goals that is measurable.

Structure measurement protocols to collect information confidentially on clients, services provided and outcomes achieved.

Measure and assess programs and services based on data collected.

Take action continuously to implement needed improvements in programs and services in light of changes in the populations served.

Ensure data-driven overall review by the Board of Directors on a regular basis.

Share with others the positive impact of the program and its benefit to community.

## GOVERNANCE

The Nonprofit Partner is governed by a Board of active volunteers.

The Board has a sufficient number of volunteers to fulfill its responsibilities.

Meetings occur frequently enough to fulfill the Board's responsibilities.

The Board operates in accordance with its bylaws which are periodically reviewed and revised as necessary to be consistent with the Nonprofit Partner's strategic goals.

The Board has minutes of actions taken that are recorded, distributed, and retained. Board Members serve without compensation, other than for



reasonable reimbursement of expenses associated with carrying out Board service. Paid staff are not voting members of the Board.

## FINANCE

The Nonprofit Partner has a sufficient level of reserves to provide for flexibility of operations and to accommodate economic uncertainties.

Financial reports that compare budget to actual are prepared and analyzed on a regular basis.

Variances between the budget and actual financial results are analyzed and responsive action is taken when those variances are significant.

Audit Reports are prepared in accordance with Generally Accepted Accounting Principles (GAAP), unless a different accounting method is required by a governmental authority.

## ADMINISTRATION

The Nonprofit Partner's 990 is available online and in-person.

The Nonprofit Partner fulfills obligations and is in compliance with regulations of taxing authorities and other regulatory entities. As required by law, the group submits timely reporting and payment to taxing authorities, including: Internal Revenue Service, Federal, State and local employment tax entities.

The Nonprofit Partner is current in reporting and payment of employee benefits obligations.

All licenses and registrations are current.