



FORD FOUNDATION

COMMITTEE CHARTER FOR THE PROGRAM COMMITTEES

Mission Statement

The Program Committees shall assist the Board of Trustees in its review and oversight, at a strategic level, of the foundation's programmatic work to assure that it supports the foundation's social justice mission. The committees give the trustees an opportunity to deepen their knowledge of an area of the foundation's overall program and to contribute to program development and assessment.

Organization

There shall be a separate Program Committee for each program division, with the trustees divided as equally as possible among the committees. No trustee shall serve on more than one committee at a time. There shall be a rotation of committee membership such that in general a trustee will serve on more than one of the committees during his or her tenure as trustee. The president shall not be a member of a committee.

Roles and Responsibilities

Based on knowledge of the foundation's mission and programs, and in particular the programmatic work relevant to each committee, the committees shall:

- a. Serve as a sounding board, discuss necessary inputs, provide specific advice as requested, advise on sensitive matters and review the progress and evaluation of program initiatives over time.
- b. Maintain an ongoing strategic dialogue with and between foundation management and the full board, including over the course of each year a review of:
 1. any new initiatives or explorations;
 2. any substantive shifts in strategy for existing initiatives;
 3. the performance of programmatic portfolios, including viability of strategy, strength of staff, adequacy of resources and effectiveness of evaluation; and
 4. outcomes and learning.