

Keeping the Devil Out of the Details of Your Financial Information

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What “Devils” Does Your Organization Face?

1. **Compliance with Nonprofit Accounting Standards.**
2. **What does your Financial Information say about your Organization?**
3. **Primary focus on Mission and no time to address financial information**
4. **Lack of Financial Policies and Procedures**
5. **Limited staff and the alternatives to fill the void**
6. **Board of Directors**
7. **How to Resolve Your Organization’s “Devils”**



Is Your Organization Compliant with Nonprofit Accounting Standards?

Are your tax filings timely?

Are your filings accurate?

IRS Form 990 is marketing opportunity.

What you need on your Massachusetts filing.



What Does Your Financial Information Say about Your Organization?

Does the information on the filings make sense to the reader?

Donors and grantors are influenced by the information.

Consistency in revenue sources.

How does your Program revenue reflect your Organization?



Is your Organization Focusing Primarily on Its Mission and Not Looking at Financial Reporting Which is Equally Important?

Nonprofit Organizations founded to meet a need or purpose.

How do you collect and process your accounting information to make sure it is accurate?

Does your Organization have the Resources?

What are your Organization's shortcomings?

Organization's fiduciary financial responsibilities.



What Benefits can be Gained by Sound Financial Policies?

Main benefit and goal is to be able to focus on your mission and not daily concern about your financial information.

Does your Organization have financial policies and procedures?

Consistency of financial information.

Is your Organization's financial information accurate and informative.



Limited Staff and Alternatives to Fill the Void

Is your staff adequately trained in NPO accounting standards?

Board knowledge of its Fiduciary responsibilities,

Do they realize that their personal responsibilities to the Organization?

Board member's talent that you can use.



Board of Directors

Term limits for Board members.

Board members position rotation.

Recruiting new Board members.



How to Resolve Your Organization's "Devils"

Make sure you have a financial professional to advise you.

Use your financial professional to educate you, your staff and Board members.

Set aside sufficient time to address your financial information.

Integrate financial procedures to make sure you don't miss any tax filing and other deadlines.

Maintain accurate information according to NPO guidelines to guide and monitor your Organization's success.

Use alternatives such as consultants to fill voids and gaps.



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