



SCI Social Capital Inc.

165M New Boston Street, Suite 233 • Woburn, MA 01801 • Phone: 781.935.2244 • Fax: 781.935.6435

Introduction to Social Capital Inc. (SCI)

SCI's mission is to strengthen communities by connecting diverse individuals and organizations through civic engagement initiatives. SCI helps communities develop the skills and tools needed to engage people to make a difference, with a priority on promoting youth success and healthy communities. A lean professional staff combined with 25 full-time AmeriCorps members and strong partners enables us to serve over 20 Eastern Massachusetts communities and recruit over 2,500 volunteers per year. Major program areas include:

Youth Leadership: Guided by our SCI youth leadership curriculum, SCI empowers teens in 10 youth council programs to develop initiatives to address pressing community needs.

Volunteer Outreach & Community Events: SCI helps organizations increase their capacity to recruit and manage volunteers, and successfully implement community events that unite diverse community members.

Online Engagement: SCI implements community web portals, social media and community outreach strategies that connect thousands of residents to opportunities to participate in civic life.

Training Social Capitalists: SCI also trains emerging adult community leaders to collaborate effectively, make connections, bridge differences, and nurture social networks to make a difference.

Uniting Diverse Communities: While bringing diverse people together has always been an important part of SCI's work, it has been a major focus in recent years. This has included co-facilitating community dialogues on race and diversity, and launching new programming to support Woburn's increasingly diverse students. SCI is developing plans to replicating these diversity and inclusion initiatives in additional communities.

Accomplishments

- SCI has trained 3,227 teens and emerging leaders as "Social Capitalists", with the skills to collaborate effectively, make connections, bridge differences, and nurture social networks to make a difference.
- SCI AmeriCorps members and volunteers have provided over 500,000 hours of service, time valued at approximately \$14.5 million.
- SCI has been featured in the Boston Globe, the National Civic Review, the Mass High Tech Journal, Commonwealth Magazine and hundreds of local newspaper articles.
- The Woburn Youth Council was awarded the Daily Points of Light Award in September 2004, the Dorchester Youth Council won the same award in February 2007.



SCI Social Capital Inc.

165M New Boston Street, Suite 233 • Woburn, MA 01801 • Phone: 781.935.2244 • Fax: 781.935.6435

Current SCI Board Needs

SCI's work to unite diverse community members to strengthen local communities is more important than ever.

At a board retreat earlier this year, board members delved into a number of important strategic issues that must be addressed in order to deepen and sustain our impact. To help address these key issues and ensure the organization's long-term success, we are actively recruiting diverse board candidates that are strategic thinkers, have strong networks and are passionate about creating healthy, inclusive communities.

In addition to the attributes we seek of all SCI board members, the following are some particular skills and experiences that we are seeking from potential new members. If one or more of these resonates with your background, let's talk!

Development Committee (Fundraising): While all SCI board members are expected to support the fundraising process, the SCI Development Committee develops and drives the fundraising strategy for the organization. We need at least one additional committee member -- ideally someone with fundraising experience, comfortable with reaching out to their network for individual donations and / or corporate sponsorships.

Boston Connections: We are looking for new board members with strong connections to Boston businesses and community organizations. Over the last several years, more new members have joined from the Woburn area, and we would like to balance that with new members that live and/or work in Boston, given our significant programmatic presence in the city.

Marketing skills: Potential board members with marketing skills and experience would be very helpful. Someone with marketing skills could help us with messaging, overall marketing strategies and other valuable insights.

Evaluation / metrics: At a retreat held earlier this year, two of our four emerging priorities relate to assessing our current programming and developing new tools for measuring social capital in communities we serve. Thus, prospective members with expertise and program evaluation and metrics would be helpful.

Finance: We could always benefit from additional members that are comfortable reviewing financial statements and help think through financial issues. New SCI board members who work in finance would help bring this skill set as well as useful contacts within the sector.

To explore how your skills might be able to help SCI achieve its mission, please contact SCI President David Crowley at dcrowley@socialcapitalinc.org or 781-935-2244 x 1.



SCI Social Capital Inc.

165M New Boston Street, Suite 233 • Woburn, MA 01801 • Phone: 781.935.2244 • Fax: 781.935.6435

SCI Board Role and Expectations

Role of the Board as a Whole

- Setting and monitoring **policies, priorities, and strategic direction** for the organization (includes: determining and adopting the mission statement for the organization, assuring agency adherence to mission, programmatic quality assurance, and long range planning);
- Assuring the **financial health, integrity, and sustainability** of the organization (includes: financial oversight and accountability, and leadership responsibility for fundraising);
- Supervision and direction of the **President/CEO** (includes: hiring, firing, evaluation, supervision, professional development and support);
- **Public representation and advocacy** for the organization as the continuous and permanent leadership;
- Assuring the **effective functioning of the Board itself** (includes: recruitment and orientation of Board members, establishing and sustaining a functional committee structure, maintaining and updating the by-laws, etc.)

Expectations of Individual Board Members

- **Possess a strong commitment to the mission and vision of the organization.**
- **Attending all regular meetings** of the Board, carefully reviewing materials sent in advance, and actively participating in the deliberations and decisions of the Board. Full board meetings will be held quarterly, with an occasional need for an additional meeting. Members are expected to attend at least 75% of the meetings.
- **Participate actively in electronic dialogue** on relevant issues. Board members will be asked to check and respond to their emails on a regular basis in order to move the agenda forward with a limited number of in-person meetings.
- Providing **positive feedback and constructive criticism** internally, and positive representation externally.
- Making an annual **financial contribution** to the organization that represents a significant and high priority commitment to the organization.
- **Actively raising funds** for the organization, leveraging one's individual contribution by requesting financial support from friends and contacts. This includes making one-to-one solicitations, providing names for the organizational mailing list, inviting contacts to fundraising and other specific events, advocating for grant proposals, and attending organizational fundraising events.
- Making available to the organization, through specified and appropriate channels, any special **skill or knowledge** that is relevant to the mission of the organization.
- **Serving on at least one board committee.** Current committees are: finance, fund development, and long-term program planning. Committees meet approximately once per quarter.
- Maintaining a **strong working knowledge of the mission and activities** of the organization.