

# A Dialogue: Governing in a Time of Crisis



Finance & Sustainability Conference  
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## Our Mission

Fuel the effectiveness of nonprofits  
with guidance, expertise, and capital.

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nonprofits

# Presenters

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**Kate Barr**, President & CEO –  
Propel Nonprofits



**John Sullivan**, Chair of the  
Board of Trustees – The  
Minneapolis Foundation



**Kabo Yang**, Strategic Services  
Consultant – Propel Nonprofits

# Objectives for Today's Session

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- Governing in a Crisis  
Ten Actions
- Dialogue and  
Perspectives
- Q & A
- Resources





# Board Member Responsibilities



# Governing in a Crisis

## Ten Actions



1. Keep mission and values at the center



2. Prioritize the health and safety of people

# Governing in a Crisis

## Ten Actions



3. Continue governing, but it will be different



4. Engage the Board Chair as key partner

# Governing in a Crisis

## Ten Actions



5. Support the CEO/Executive Director



6. Communicate, communicate,  
communicate



# Governing in a Crisis

## Ten Actions



7. Flex and adapt with board roles and boundaries



8. Activate a finance committee or group

# Governing in a Crisis

## Ten Actions



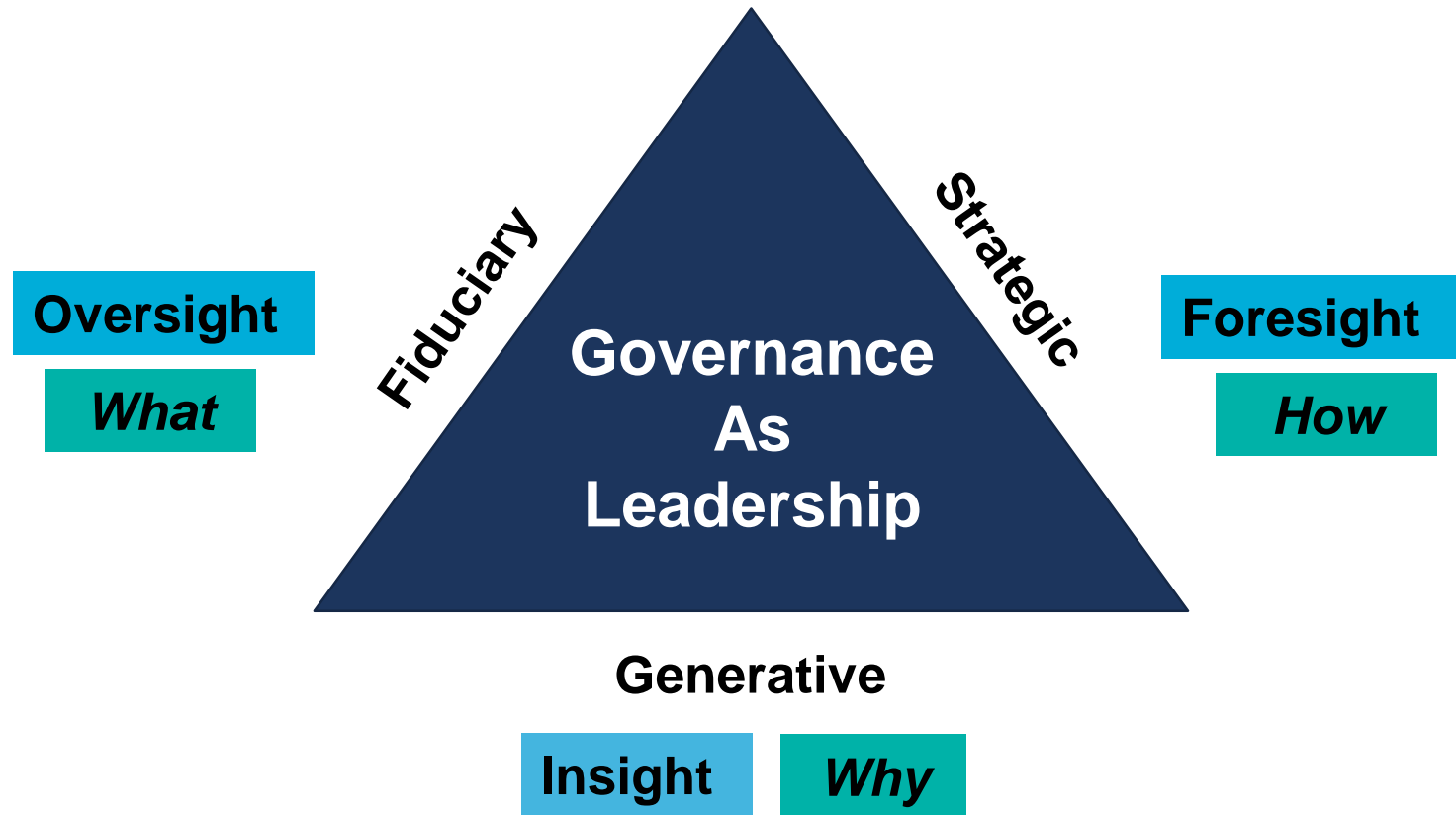
9. Learn and adapt as you go



10. Anticipate a changed future for the organization and the board

# Three Modes of Governance

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“Governance As Leadership: Reframing the Work of Nonprofit Boards” – Chait, Ryan, & Taylor, 2005

# Perspectives on Governing in a Crisis

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- Comments and Q&A with Kabo Yang and John Sullivan
- Submit your questions using the Q&A box



# Resources for Nonprofit Boards

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Propel Nonprofits – [www.propelnonprofits.org](http://www.propelnonprofits.org)

- [COVID-19 Resources for Nonprofits](#)
- [Technical Assistance – Governance, Strategy & Finance](#)
- [Questions for Board Members to Ask in a Time of Crisis](#) – Blog post by Mario Hernandez
- [How to Be a Great Board Chair Webinar](#) – April 22<sup>nd</sup>

BoardSource - <https://boardsource.org/>



# Thank You!