

A Statement on
Guiding Principles & Effective Practices

Adopted November 19, 2003 by the
Southfield Community Foundation Board of Trustees

In recognition of the need for all foundations, including the Southfield Community Foundation to strive to maintain the public trust in fulfilling their respective charitable purposes, the Board of Trustees has adopted the following seven Principles:

1. Honor donor(s) intent;
2. Have an identifiable active governing Board – a decision-making body that sets and regularly reviews policies on: governance, including conflict of interest; grantmaking; finance and administration, including audit; and communications;
3. Be accessible by having basic grantmaking information readily available regarding funding priorities and application requirements;
4. Build constructive relationships based on mutual respect, candor, confidentiality and understanding with the public, applicants, grantees and donors;
5. Strive to include the perspectives, opinions and experiences of the broadest possible cross-section of people to inform the foundation through its grantmaking, through the composition of its board, committees, staff and advisors/consultants and through its business practices;
6. Support continuous learning by trustees, staff and grantees;
7. Adhere to the highest standards of ethical behavior in all foundation actions.