



# Abantu International

## MEMBER OF THE BOARD OF DIRECTORS

### JOB DESCRIPTION AND PLEDGE SUPPORT

#### MISSION

The mission of Abantu International is to alleviate poverty by connecting people, identifying human needs and sharing our global resources.

#### POSITION

The Board will support the work of Abantu International and provide mission-based leadership and strategic governance. Specific Board Member responsibilities include:

1. Provide leadership and strategic guidance to achieve our Mission
2. Serve as advocate for Abantu International
3. Monitor and improve performance of organization and president
4. Give annual gift or professional contribution as well as identify, recruit and cultivate donors.

#### LEADERSHIP, GOVERNANCE AND OVERSIGHT

- Serving as a trusted advisor to the president as s/he develops and implements Abantu International's strategic plan
- Reviewing outcomes and metrics created by Abantu International for evaluating its impact, and regularly measuring its performance and effectiveness using those metrics; reviewing agenda and supporting materials prior to board and committee meetings
- Approving Abantu International's annual budget, audit reports, and material business decisions; being informed of, and meeting all, legal and fiduciary responsibilities
- Contributing to an annual performance evaluation of the president
- Assisting the president and board chair in identifying and recruiting other Board Members
- Partnering with the president and other board members to ensure that board resolutions are carried out
- Serving on committees or task forces and taking on special assignments
- Representing Abantu International to stakeholders; acting as an ambassador for the organization
- Ensuring Abantu International's commitment to a diverse board and staff that reflects the communities Abantu International serves

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## **FUNDRAISING**

Abantu International Board Members will consider Abantu International a philanthropic priority and make annual gifts that reflect that priority. So that Abantu International can credibly solicit contributions from foundations, organizations, and individuals, Abantu International expects to have 100 percent of Board Members make an annual contribution that is commensurate with their capacity.

## **BOARD TERMS/PARTICIPATION**

Abantu International's Board Members will serve a three-year term to be eligible for renewal by majority vote. Board meetings will be held quarterly with one annual in-person meeting of 100 percent attendance. Committee meetings will be held in coordination with full board meetings.

## **QUALIFICATIONS**

This is an extraordinary opportunity for an individual who is passionate about the mission of Abantu International and who has a track record of leadership. Selected Board Members will have achieved leadership stature in business, government, philanthropy, or the nonprofit sector. His/her accomplishments will allow him/her to attract other well-qualified, high-performing Board Members.

Ideal candidates will have the following qualifications:

- Professional experience with significant leadership accomplishments in business, government, philanthropy, or the nonprofit sector
- A commitment to and understanding of Abantu International's beneficiaries
- Savvy diplomatic skills and a natural affinity for cultivating relationships and persuading, convening, facilitating, and building consensus among diverse individuals
- Personal qualities of integrity, credibility, and a passion for improving the lives of Abantu International's beneficiaries

Service on Abantu International's Board of Directors is without remuneration, except for administrative support.

**Thank you for your interest in serving with Abantu International,**

**Betsy Sentamu,  
President**

Phone: 224-622-6020

Email: [betsy@abantuinternational.org](mailto:betsy@abantuinternational.org)

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### PLEDGE OF FUNDRAISING SUPPORT

The mission of Abantu International is to alleviate poverty by connecting people, identify human needs and share our global resources. In order to reach this goal, Abantu International needs assistance with each of the following fundraising and development activities. Board members are expected to help with these efforts and by signing below, you are pledging to help Abantu International to grow.

Please check all areas that best fit your strengths and commitment for the duration of your term:

- Abantu International Champion** - Annual donation
- Educate and communicate** - Be an ambassador to share the mission of Abantu International to build enthusiasm and to foster involvement
- Identify and Cultivate** - Seek opportunities for support from within groups and personal spheres of influence, nurture relationships to develop "friends" for Abantu International and to build the pool of prospective donors
- Open Doors** - Facilitate introductions to potential donors and board members
- Solicit** - Make one-to-one "asks". Share opportunities for support and involvement in the mission of Abantu International
- Recognize and Celebrate** - Make personal phone calls or write personal notes to donors thanking them for their support
- Evaluate and Improve** - Assess the effectiveness of Abantu International's fundraising policies and make creative suggestions for enhancing efforts

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**Board Member Signature**