

John T. Gorman Foundation

Code of Ethics

The John T. Gorman Foundation (hereinafter “Foundation”) seeks to integrate the personal style and flexibility of a family philanthropic endeavor with the best grantmaking practices of the foundation community. With this goal in mind, the following standards have been adopted to guide the directors and officers in their philanthropic undertakings and in their conduct of all foundation business.

- Serving the public interest shall guide the Foundation’s work, and shall be the basis for decision making at all levels of the organization.
- Everyone will be expected to bring objective thinking, critical analysis, and a discerning, empathetic heart to the Foundation’s deliberations.
- Everyone will be tolerant of the ideas and positions of others, and all matters will be approached with an open mind.
- Decisions and judgments will be based on the most complete and accurate information that is available, and each director will be expected to familiarize himself/herself as thoroughly as possible with any information that is disseminated for a meeting.
- Board directors shall serve without compensation.
- No director will use his or her position with the Foundation in a manner that will inure financially to his or her benefit.
- Decisions of the Foundation’s board of directors will be made, whenever possible, through a process of consensus. Appropriate discretion is important when discussing the board’s deliberations outside of the confines of meetings. Care should be taken to not damage the reputation of grantees, or to comment on the Foundation’s grantmaking process in outside discussions, so as not to stifle the candor and open discussion that the Foundation strives for in its decision-making processes.
- Board directors will not accept any gifts, payments, or loans from vendors or suppliers of goods or services to the Foundation, or from organizations which have applied to the Foundation for a grant, are current grantees, or may likely to be applying to the Foundation for a grant in the future.