

Some words of advice on the Role of Your Advisor
ADVISOR AGREEMENT FORM IS ON FILE IN ORGSYNC!

What is your advisor supposed to be doing? Your advisor can be a valuable resource, if you know what to expect and how to communicate with him/her. Each advisor is completely different – with varying levels of involvement. You must communicate with your advisor on the level of advising and support the organization would prefer. Be respectful of schedule or personal differences that will play a role in how active your advisor will be. Below is a list of roles that your advisor may take while working with your organization. Consider what each role could include and think about which role(s) you would like your advisor to fill. Be realistic about the time your advisor can dedicate to the group – every advisor will be different. Discuss your expectations with your advisor and accept their expectations (and limits).

Advisee – Advisor Relationship

1. The responsibility for building the relationship must be shared between advisor and student.
 - a. View this relationship as a partnership.
2. The relationship must be based upon open, direct communication.
 - a. Share needs, responsibilities, and expectations with each other.
 - b. Be prepared to negotiate and accept limitations.
3. Both must recognize the other's various roles and responsibilities in and outside of the organization.
 - a. Know each other's commitments and let each other know their impact.
4. Both advisor and student are human beings who make mistakes, follow their own value systems, and work in individual, professional, and personal styles.
 - a. Accept, discuss, and learn from mistakes – then move on.
5. Both advisor and student are continually growing, changing, and learning; each within their own unique stages of development. Challenge and support each other.