

## Sample *Strategic Thinking Big Picture Questions*

1. Five years from now, what will this organization's key constituents consider the most important legacy of the current board?
2. What will be the greatest change involving the board and how it governs in five years?
3. Is the current business model viable for the next 20 years? If not, what has to change? How well-positioned are we for that change?
4. Can we flourish if the neighborhood is in decline? If not, do we relocate? Do we ally with a community development corporation?
5. Will we have a brighter future if we merge, remain independent, or spin off a for-profit subsidiary?
6. How far are we prepared to go, vis-à-vis the competition to woo clients to our program offerings?
7. How would we respond if a donor offered a \$50 million endowment to the organization in our field that offered the best plan for becoming a more valuable public asset?
8. What is the biggest gap between what the organization claims it is and what it actually is?
9. What headline would we most/least like to see about this organization in upcoming years?

*-Questions drawn from the 2005 BoardSource publication by Richard P. Chait, William P. Ryan and Barbara E. Taylor, Governance as Leadership: Reframing the Work of Nonprofit Boards.*