



Board of Directors General Briefing

Organization

The mission of ACCE is to support and develop chamber professionals to lead businesses and lead communities. Our work focuses on professional development, information, network building and specific management solutions to assist member organizations. In 2003, ACCE merged with the National Association of Membership Development, whose mission has continued under ACCE's umbrella. A similar merger occurred in 2008 with the Alliance for Regional Stewardship.

ACCE operates on an annual budget of \$3.4 million and has a staff of 24 people. Dues represent \$1.6 million of our budget and the Benefits Trust products contribute about \$1.3 million in admin and marketing fees via FBI, Inc. The annual convention realizes gross revenue of approximately \$1.1 million. Other forms of income, like programs, sponsorships and foundation grants complete the revenue pie.

ACCE occupies rented office space in Alexandria, VA. This location allows the staff to meet often with visiting chamber leaders, as well as partner with the other national associations and the US Chamber.

ACCE represents over 1,300 local chambers of commerce comprising of over 9,000 chamber professionals and similar organizations throughout the United States and in a host of international markets. International participation has expanded as ACCE interacts with other countries through institutions like the World Chambers Federation. We are independent from any other association, but maintain a number of strategic partnerships, including: UNITE-LA, the U.S. Chamber of Commerce, the International Economic Development Council (IEDC), the National Association of Workforce Boards (NAWB), the National Association of State Chambers, the National Association of Counties (NACo), Americans for the Arts and dozens of sponsors and other partners.

Fiduciary Responsibility

As with any not-for-profit, the Board of Directors is a fiduciary, with responsibility for ensuring accurate reporting, appropriate use of funds and adherence to sound policies/procedures. ACCE carries comprehensive Directors & Officers Liability Insurance coverage on your behalf at levels appropriate to the organization's size and exposure. When advisable, affiliate organizations carry their own policies.

Subsidiaries

ACCE controls two subsidiary organizations:

Fringe Benefits Inc. (FBI) was established in 1969 to administer and market the group insurance and pension programs, which ACCE offers to its members in partnership with the ACCE Benefits Trust. ACCE began offering pension programs in 1951 and group insurance programs in 1953, both of which were handled by outside administrators. In 1969 total premiums collected by FBI for all of the group insurance programs totaled \$250,000. Insurance is provided to some 400 chambers of commerce, insuring over 5,000 lives of employees and families. There are 350 chambers of commerce subscribing to the ACCE 401(k) and 457(b) programs, with assets in the plans exceeding \$475 million.

The second subsidiary is the ACCE Foundation, a 501(c)(3) organization that provides a vehicle for funding new education programs, hands-on fellowships and information serving members and communities. Charitable and educational foundations invest/contribute to important projects and initiatives undertaken by ACCE on behalf of the foundation.