

THE NONPROFIT CONNECTION

News from *HandsOn Northwest North Carolina*



Connection OPPORTUNITIES

We're happy to share these items of interest from around our local network. Please e-mail us any opportunities you would like to be featured in future editions!

Training OPPORTUNITIES

+ **United Way Launches 2009 Lunch 'n Learn Series on Friday, January 23rd from 11:30 a.m. to 12:30 p.m.** at Senior Services. Betty Taylor, CEO of CenterPoint Human Services, will share her thoughts on the current status of North Carolina's mental health system, the challenges that remain following the reforms instituted in 2005, and the potential impact on the mental health reform under Governor-elect Beverly Perdue's administration. In addition, Betty will discuss how CenterPoint is working with its Board of Directors, service delivery partners, and other key stakeholders to respond to these issues. Includes beverages and light lunch items. For more information, **contact United Way at 336-723-3601.**

+ **"Tapping Technology to Save Time and Money," Thursday, February 5, 2009 from 8:30 a.m. - 12:00 p.m.** at Rowan Business Alliance Offices & Conference Center, Salisbury, NC. Paula Jones, from the NC Center for Nonprofits, will help you explore how you can use technology to enhance outreach, boost fund-raising activities, and expand your reach to your stakeholders. **Cost is \$50 for NC Center for Nonprofits members.** Click [here](#) for the registration brochure.

+ **"Make MORE Difference,"** the 2009 Public Policy Forum for North

January 2009- Vol 2, Issue 1

Dear Amy,

Happy New Year!! I hope this first issue of *The Nonprofit Connection* in 2009 finds you greeting the new year with enthusiasm and optimism, despite the tough economic climate. The new year brings with it possibilities for meeting challenges in new and creative ways, and our goal is to help give you the tools and knowledge you need to seed those creative endeavors.

This month, I'm very excited about our [990 workshop being held on January 14th](#). It might seem like a dry topic, but the session represents a great and new partnership between HandsOn, Salemtowne, Sheperd's Center and Dixon-Hughes. Plus, I've seen the menu for the lunch that Salemtowne is planning--you definitely don't want to miss out! You'll find the registration link below.

Another opportunity you don't want to miss out on is the chance to learn more about the **Weston Award**. Open to **all** nonprofits, this award recognizes outstanding work in nonprofit governance and accountability, and carries with it a **\$10,000** prize. To find out more, The United Way is hosting a training in the coming weeks; we'll keep you posted when they set the date.

We're busy finalizing our programming calendar for 2009, and I'm so excited about the work that we'll do together in the coming year. I've appreciated all the feedback we've gotten about this newsletter to date, so I hope you'll continue reading in the coming weeks and months as we reveal some of these new initiatives.

All the best,

Amy Lytle

Executive Director

Form 990: What are the Changes for

Carolina's Nonprofit Sector will be held **Friday, February 20, 2009 from 9 am to 4:15 pm** at the McKimmon Center in Raleigh. Learn how to have an impact--or more impact--on public policy, meet with key policymakers, and connect with other nonprofits. **Cost is \$50 for NC Center for Nonprofits members.** For more information and registration, check out the [NC Center's website](#).

Funding OPPORTUNITIES

+ Z. Smith Reynolds Foundation now offering a NEW streamlined Small Grants Process! The foundation has streamlined the grant request process for those requesting up to \$35,000 per year for up to two years. Small grant applicants are subject to the same eligibility requirements as other grant applicants. The Foundation funds charitable, tax-exempt, 501(c)(3) organizations for programs and projects that address five current focus areas (Community Economic Development, Environment, Democracy and Civic Engagement, Social Justice and Equity, and Pre-Collegiate Education.) **The deadline for submissions is Monday, February 16, 2009 at 11:59pm (EST).** For more information, check out their [website](#).

Other OPPORTUNITIES

+ ECHO Council extends membership application deadline to January 12th! The ECHO Council (EC) is a diverse group of approximately 40 community leaders that first came together in December 2003 to promote the building of social capital in Winston-Salem and Forsyth County. Over the years, the EC has created several initiatives (including a forebearer of HandsOn) in an effort to bring people from diverse backgrounds together. You can find more information on the ECHO Council [here](#), as well as [a list of expectations for EC members](#). Questions? E-mail [Montez Lane](#) or call 336-713-5066. **Interest forms are due January 12th.** They plan to notify new members by end of January/ early February.

+ Become a part of an in-depth survey into the problem of hunger in America! Second Harvest Food

2008?

Wednesday, Jan. 14, 2009, 10 am-2 pm

Location: Salemtowne

We're partnering with Salemtowne, Shepherd's Center and Dixon-Hughes to present this workshop that will help guide you through all of the changes to the new Form 990 that will be required for the 2008 tax year. We know that these changes are a looming issue for many of you, and we're excited that **Amy L. Bibby, CPA, and Senior Tax Manager at Dixon-Hughes** will be covering these key topics:

- "Red Flag" questions and pitfalls
- The increased role of your board in the new tax exempt world
- "Related Party" issues, unrelated business income and executive compensation

Cost: \$30 (includes hot buffet lunch and materials), **Supporting organizations receive a \$10 discount!** Deadline for registration is **Jan. 9th**, and seats are limited!

[Register Now!](#)

Convened EDs Brown Bag Lunch

Monday, January 26, 2009 - 12:00 PM

Location: Senior Services

We're looking forward to seeing you all again for our first Convened EDs meeting of the year! Bring your own lunch for this informal networking session. We'll be discussing the findings from our focus group sessions, and our plans for the upcoming year. Don't miss it! (Attendance limited to Executive Directors or equivalents.)

Cost: Free!

[Register Now!](#)

Martin Luther King, Jr. Day of Service: Jan. 19th!

The Piedmont Triad of NC has been designated an Expansion Site for the Martin Luther King Day of Service by the



Corporation for National and Community Service. With the goals of coordinating and organizing service efforts on the day, and encouraging the incorporation of service components into traditional commemorative events, the Day of Service hopes to mobilize citizens to make MLK Day a "Day On, Not a Day Off." HandsOn NWNC is pleased to be serving on the

Steering Committee for this regional effort, which is being spearheaded by NC Campus Compact. For more information about hosting a project or getting involved, [contact us](#) or visit

Bank of Northwest North Carolina will be participating in the Hunger in America 2009 study and report. In order to complete the study, Food Bank staff will be teaming up with outside volunteers to conduct client interviews and record responses at selected partner agencies in their 18-county service area. Volunteers will be asked to attend one 2 to 3-hour training session in late January or early February. The client interviews will take place from the middle of February through the end of April 2009. If you or someone you know would like to volunteer, we've uploaded a [position description](#) and [application](#) to our website. For more details, call **Peggy Robinson, Agency Outreach and Hunger Study Coordinator, at (336) 784-5770.**

+ The Bank of America Charitable Foundation's Neighborhood Excellence Initiative® is accepting applications for 2009 awards! This program recognizes and rewards individuals and organizations making a difference in communities across the country, and is divided into three categories: Neighborhood Builders®, Local Heroes(tm), and Student Leaders®. Click [here](#) for more information. **Application deadline is February 20th.**

HandsOn JOIN / GIVE NOW

HandsOn NW NC invites nonprofits to financially support our mission to build the capacity of local nonprofits and increase volunteerism. In exchange, our supporting organizations receive a variety of special benefits and opportunities. [Join HandsOn and Become a Partner](#)

We welcome financial contributions from businesses and individuals at any level. [Give to HandsOn](#)

the [Triad's MLK Day site](#).

IN THE NEWS

Nonprofits Make Recommendations to Obama's Transition Team!

Members of the President-Elect's Transition Team recently asked the National Council of Nonprofits for immediate input on four topics of vital importance to nonprofits. The National Council relayed that request to the NC Center for Nonprofits and similar organizations in other states. In just four business days, this network of statewide associations of nonprofits from across America helped the National Council develop, review, and refine the ideas in a package that was delivered in mid-December.

As requested by the Transition Team, [the package](#) includes a one-page summary about specific items, plus several one-page explanations for important background on the 27 recommendations included. Here at HandsOn NWNC, we're very excited by these recommendations and what they could mean for nonprofits across the country. Rarely does the nonprofit sector get requested to deliver this kind of input! Many thanks to the NC Center for sharing this report with their members. Please let us know what you think after reading!

We Make it Easy to Make a Difference!

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