

THE NONPROFIT CONNECTION

News from **HandsOn Northwest North Carolina**



Connection OPPORTUNITIES

September 2009- Vol 2, Issue 9

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! (*The Nonprofit Connection* usually goes out during the first ten days of the month.)

Training OPPORTUNITIES

+ "Fundraising Fitness," Thursday, September 24th, 9 am - 4:30 pm, NC Museum of Natural Sciences, Raleigh, \$120. This is a Capital Development Services-sponsored workshop offering fundraising training to nonprofit staff and board leadership. Details and registration are available on their [website](#) or by contacting [Clare Altmann](#) directly. Space is limited.

+ **Special Opportunity for Board Members and Trustees to Learn About Advocacy!** As part of the N.C. Center for Nonprofits' 2009 Statewide Conference, they're offering a special workshop on advocacy for nonprofit board members and foundation trustees. This is an excellent opportunity to help educate your board members and trustees about the importance of advocacy - both for operating nonprofits to engage in and foundations to fund. "**The Case for Nonprofit Advocacy: A Workshop for Board Members and Trustees**" will be held Thursday, Sept. 10th from 2:30-4:00 pm. This workshop is available separately from the conference to nonprofit board members and foundation trustees. Individuals can [register](#) for just

Dear Amy,

Fall is here! Our children have gone back to school, and the weather is even cooperating with cool mornings and evenings. Fall means different things to each of us. Here at HandsOn, it means we're getting ready to launch even more new programs!

Last month, we launched our **Helping Hands Scholarship Program**. This program provides partial scholarships (half of the tuition) to nonprofit staff and board members who are interested in taking classes through **Duke University's Certificate Program in Nonprofit Management**.

Scholarships are limited and will be awarded on a first-come, first-served basis. There are still plenty available, and I would encourage you to check out their classes. (For example, Melissa Le Roy, Executive Director of **FENCE**, will be presenting "Friend and Fund-Raising with Social Media" from 10am-4pm on Sept. 28th at the Greensboro Public Library.) Attendance is a great way to increase skills and build your network. For more information about the Duke University Nonprofit Management Certificate, visit their [website](#). Learn more about the scholarship program [here](#), and download an [application form](#). (Limit one scholarship per person per year.) Please don't hesitate to contact us if you've got any questions.

This month, we're launching our **Organizational Assessment Program!** This assessment program, modeled on a similar program that's been highly successful in the western part of our state, provides each participating nonprofit an "organizational snapshot" that gives boards and staff the opportunity to collectively look at their organization's management and governance practices. The ultimate goal is for each assessment to be followed with capacity building in key areas that will strengthen the organization's infrastructure and service to the community. HandsOn NWNC will select a qualified consultant specializing in nonprofit capacity improvement and strategic planning to work with each organization to conduct this assessment that will provide insight on the current management processes, structures and capabilities of your organization. These assessments will be offered at a minimal cost to your organization, and we hope to

this session for just \$20!

✦ **Guidestar to offer series of webinars on Form 990.** Join GuideStar USA, Inc. and FMA (Fiscal Management Associates, LLC) for one or all three of these webinars, to be held on **Sept. 10th, Oct. 14th and Oct. 28th.** (Cost varies depending on the number you choose to take.) The series will focus on the Governance, Compensation, Fundraising, and Non-cash Contribution components of the new form and how these areas will affect how funders and outside parties will view your organization. The instructors will also discuss how risk management and best practices relate to the new form. Check out their [website](#) for more information and registration.

✦ **"Becoming the Totally Responsible Person," Sept. 14th, 8:45 am to 4:30 pm, \$45** (special nonprofit rate.) This is a powerful, eye-opening workshop that teaches you to stay positive, productive and effective-no matter what the circumstances. This unique workshop enhances teamwork, leadership and creative solutions to problems. It pulls the best from people and helps them display the high side of their character. Includes a catered lunch and the 103-page, Participant's Workbook. **Call (336) 777-1947 for more information and to register.**

✦ **Blue Cross and Blue Shield Foundation's Healthy Community Institute for Nonprofit Excellence to take place Oct. 13th-14th in Concord, NC!** This unique training is offered at no charge to participants as part of the Foundation's commitment to nonprofit capacity-building. (Nonprofits are responsible for transportation, lodging and parking fees.) View the [flyer](#) for more details regarding the Institute. More information and registration can be found at their [website](#). **Registration deadline is Sept. 25th!** (Please note, only 50 organizations are accepted and registrations are processed on a first-come, first-served basis. Therefore, early registration is recommended.) If you have questions, please do not hesitate to contact [Jill Mallatratt](#) at 919.765.7347.

Funding OPPORTUNITIES

✦ **Black Philanthropy Initiative Accepting Grant Proposals!** Nonprofit organizations serving

pilot this program with five different organizations this year. More details can be found in the [program description](#), and we'll start matching those organizations that complete the [application form](#) on **October 1st.** (We will be taking applications through April 1st or until all five slots are filled.)

We're also still recruiting for our **two AmeriCorps ViSTA positions.** The start date for both will be in mid-November, although the selection will need to be made in the next few weeks. To view the description and to apply for our capacity-building position, visit [here](#). For our Days of Service position, go [here](#). Feel free to share with any candidates you think might be a good fit!

Enjoy!

Amy Lytle

Executive Director

So, You Want To Start A Nonprofit?

Tuesday, September 22nd, 9 am to 4 pm
Location: Centenary United Methodist Church ([directions](#))

We spend quite a bit of time here at HandsOn speaking to people who have great ideas that they think would help the community. However, starting a nonprofit is not an easy task and transforming ideas into an operating organization can be complex, not to mention overwhelming! It also might not even be the best way to get your ideas into action. While this workshop might not be applicable to many of you, we encourage you to refer any individuals or groups you think this workshop could help. We'll be guiding individuals through the process of starting a nonprofit in NC and will address topics including:

- Legal and governance issues (how to apply for tax exempt status, how to develop a board)
- How to search for grants
- Keys to a successful nonprofit
- Pros and cons of becoming a nonprofit and alternatives worth considering

This is an all day workshop co-hosted by **Wake Forest University's Community and Business Law Clinic.** The cost includes lunch and extensive handouts. (Samples of state and federal forms, as well as Articles of Incorporation and ByLaws, will be provided.)

Cost: \$40 Supporting Organizations
\$50 All others

(Not a Supporting Organization of HandsOn? Click [here](#) to become one today!)

[Register Now!](#)

Winston-Salem/ Forsyth County are eligible to apply for funding from **The Winston-Salem Foundation's Black Philanthropy Fund**. The Fund was created to celebrate the traditions of sharing in the African-American community while expanding models of charitable giving. The priority for 2009 grant proposals are **programs that support African-Americans in the area of Financial Literacy**. Click [here](#) to download grant application guidelines. Grants will be made in amounts of up to **\$5,000** each for one year. **Proposals are due by Sept. 18th at 5 pm**. Questions? Contact **Sandra Fishel-Booth at (336) 725-2382**.

Other OPPORTUNITIES

+ Free "Ask A Lawyer Day" continues on select Thursdays this fall! Offered by **Wake Forest University's Community Law and Business Clinic**, these free clinics allow nonprofits that lack access to other professional services to receive assistance free of charge. The clinic is located in the historic Wachovia building at 8 W. Third St., Suite 100A. Participants will have the opportunity to speak to a third-year Wake Forest School of Law student and receive free consulting from **noon to 3:30 pm on Sept. 10th, Sept. 24th, Oct. 8th, Oct. 29th and Nov. 12th**. You can **reserve a spot by calling (336) 631-1953**, but they also allow walk-ins. HandsOn NWNC is proud to be a partner with the Clinic, which has served more than 100 clients since opening in January 2009. The CL&BC provides pro bono help with drafting incorporation documents, employment agreements and purchase agreements with vendors. HandsOn is also partnering with them to present our **"So, You Want to Start a Nonprofit" class on Sept. 22nd**.

+ Promote your organization during Oct. 2nd's First Friday Gallery Hop downtown! DADA (the downtown arts district association) would like to invite you to an organizational fair held during the gallery hop from **6 to 9 pm** that will expose your organization to an audience of between 1,000-2,000 potential volunteers and supporters. Please bring lots of information about your organization to hand out to the crowd, and if you can bring your own table and chairs, that would be best. (They will have approximately 30 tables available on a as-needed basis.) Streets will be closed for the event but will re-open

*Let Us Give You a High Five!
Nominations now open for
High Five Innovation Award!*

Deadline for Nominations: Friday, October 2nd

We are excited to announce our first annual **High Five Award!** The High Five Award is designed to recognize and honor a nonprofit within Forsyth, Davidson, Davie, Yadkin or Surry County that has demonstrated an imaginative or creative way to improve program/service delivery, create a new program, or develop a unique or inventive method to address a particular problem or initiative. By **celebrating examples of innovations and creativity** within our sector, we can highlight ideas that will inspire other organizations to look at problems in new ways. This award is presented in conjunction with our celebration of **Nonprofit Awareness Month** and will be presented at our November Best Practice Breakfast and workshop event (see below.) The winning organization will be presented with a **\$5,000 check!**

For more information, please review the [program description](#) and download the [nomination form](#). You can also call us at 336-724-2866. All nominations are due into our office by the close of business on **Friday, October 2nd** and will be reviewed by a volunteer committee. We look forward to reading about your creative ideas!

*HandsOn Board!
Basics and Leadership Classes*

**Basics Class:
Thursday, October 8th, 3 pm to 5 pm**

**Leadership Development Class:
Tuesday, October 20th, 9 am to 11 am
Location for both: Senior Services, 2895 Shorefair Dr.**

Board members play a critical role in the success of any nonprofit organization. Strong, knowledgeable boards help organizations gain credibility, build financial resources, and serve as advocates and ambassadors of the organization. HandsOn Board is a program designed to help strengthen nonprofits in Forsyth, Davidson, Davie, Surry and Yadkin Counties by increasing the effectiveness and leadership capacity of board members. Another program offered through support by the **Kate B. Reynolds Charitable Trust**, HandsOn Board comprises two separate, two-hour workshops: HandsOn Board-Basics and HandsOn Board-Leadership Development.

The **Basics class** will focus on the roles and responsibilities of individuals serving on the boards of current or emerging nonprofit organizations, boards experiencing difficulties in their

at 10 pm. Please [e-mail](#) by **Sept. 15th** to secure your spot and be listed in their newsletter.

+ Got a great tech firm? Let us know! In the next month, we'll be launching a new technology resources page on our website. We want to help nonprofits find reputable technology vendors that have experience working with the unique needs, budget and decision-making processes of nonprofits! Especially for small nonprofits that cannot afford in-house IT help, this list can be a starting place for finding quality help, fast. **E-mail your recommendations to Amy** and thank you for helping out your fellow nonprofits!

+ Need tech help? Mozilla Service Week to the rescue! Idealist is partnering with Mozilla (the organization behind the Firefox browser) on their first annual **Mozilla Service Week, Sept. 14-21st**, which will match thousands of "techie" volunteers around the world with non-profit organizations in need of help with IT, web design, programming, blogging and much, much more. If your organization could use some help, click [here](#) for more information.

+ New website contains free fundraising resources for nonprofits! The James P. LaRose Companies has launched a new [website](#) to assist nonprofits in major gifts fundraising efforts. The site features a complimentary resources section, covering topics such as major gifts acquisition, donor communication, video fundraising techniques, and effective telemarketing.

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 Supporter](#)

We welcome financial contributions from businesses and individuals at

effectiveness, and individuals considering joining a nonprofit board for the first time. The **Leadership Development class** is specifically geared for board members who are in leadership positions or are moving toward leadership roles on nonprofit boards as officers or committee chairs for the first time. This class is open **only** to current or designated board leaders and individuals interested in board chair and committee leadership positions.

**Cost: \$20 Supporting Organizations
\$30 All others**

(Not a Supporting Organization of HandsOn? Click [here](#) to become one today!)

[Register Now!](#)

Save The Date!
*Nonprofit Awareness Month Event &
Quarterly Best Practice Breakfast:
Board Governance*

Monday, November 16th, 8 am to 9:30 am

Location: Salemtowne Community Center

This year, will be combining our second Best Practice Breakfast with our annual Nonprofit Awareness Month celebration. We're excited to be co-hosting this event with Wake Forest University as they launch their **Institute for Public Engagement**. We'll be bringing down **David Styers of BoardSource** to discuss current board trends during breakfast. After breakfast, he'll be doing a more in-depth workshop on best practices in board governance. We'll also be announcing the winner of our \$5,000 High Five Award (see above.) You'll definitely won't want to miss this event, so please save the date. Further details on cost, location and registration will be available in the October *Nonprofit Connection*.

NEWS YOU CAN USE

Health Care Reform and the Nonprofit Sector

Providing health insurance for their employees is often a struggle for many small nonprofits. Here at HandsOn NWNC, we constantly get requests for assistance in this area. Health care reform, therefore, could provide some needed relief for many nonprofits.

Currently, the health care legislation under consideration by the House of Representatives only provides a tax credit to help small businesses with the cost of health care coverage. Nonprofit organizations, as tax-exempt businesses, would not be able to take advantage of this credit. The Senate HELP Committee takes a different approach, offering a subsidy to both for-profit and non-profit employers that would offset the cost of premiums for employee health coverage. Senators and Representatives need to know that the tax credit approach

any level.
[Give to HandsOn](#)

doesn't apply to non-profit organizations and that our organizations need assistance as well.

Both the national HandsOn Network and the NC Center for Nonprofits are actively working to represent nonprofits in the healthcare debate. We'll keep you posted as we get updates!

We Make it Easy to Make a Difference!

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