

THE NONPROFIT CONNECTION

News from *HandsOn Northwest North Carolina*



Connection OPPORTUNITIES

June 2010- Vol 3, Issue 6

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

+ Grant Writing and Needs Assessment Workshop, hosted by The Institute for Public Engagement, Wake Forest University, June 24th, 9:00 to 4:30, FREE and includes lunch! Nonprofit leaders and staff who work with grants will be interested in attending these two sessions aimed at increasing your success rate in receiving grants. The morning session will address where to get new money, why grant proposals fail, sample grant proposals, how to develop good problem statements, key components of a proposal, federal, state & private foundations, and evaluation methodology. The afternoon part will introduce participants to the role of a needs assessment in identifying community assets and needs. Needs assessments focus on the capacity of a community and provide a framework for developing solutions that improve lives and support communities. This session will add tremendous value to participants' grantwriting abilities, particularly when preparing a problem statement. You can attend one or both of the sessions. **To register, please contact Nan Smith at (336) 631-1953 or smithng@wfu.edu by June 21st!**

Dear Amy,

Can it really be June? Our children are getting out of school soon, and thoughts turn to vacations and getting away from it all for a few days. While we certainly understand the desire (and the need!) to leave the office behind for awhile, we hope that you will take some time this month to give us your feedback as we begin to plan next year's programming in earnest.

In a few weeks, you all will be receiving a **brief Survey Monkey survey** from us, asking about your thoughts about this year's capacity-building offerings as well as getting your desires for what you'd like to see us offer next year. If you give us 10 or 15 minutes of your time, we'll be able to ensure we're giving you what you need to "make it easy to make a difference!" All the survey responses will be confidential, but hearing from you is crucial as we plan for the coming year.

Also as part of our planning efforts this summer, we will be convening a series of **focus groups with members of the faith community** to determine what their capacity-building needs are and ways that HandsOn NWNC might be of service to them. These will be small affairs, modeled on the nonprofit focus groups we held at the end of 2008 and early 2009. **If you have a connection to a faith community that you want to make sure receives an invitation to a focus group, please call Kathy at 724-2866** to put their name on the list. Staff members and lay leaders from across our service area are equally welcome to participate in this process.

I hope you all get a chance this month to regroup and look ahead to the last half of 2010 and the first half of 2011. For some of you, summer is the time to recharge your batteries and look ahead to the next school year; for others, it's when your programming ramps up and it's the busiest time of the year. In either event, please let us know HandsOn can help you!

Stay cool,

+ "Program Evaluation for Nonprofit Organizations: A Practical Introduction," Offered by WFU School of Medicine's Translational Science Institute, Wednesday, July 21st, 1pm-4pm, FREE! Staff and board members of nonprofit organizations are invited to participate in this workshop that will introduce a set of principles and practices that will allow participants to design evaluations that serve their organization's own intrinsic interests. Participants will also learn how to negotiate with funders in developing an evaluation plan that is feasible and informative to both the funder and the nonprofit. Through a combination of full-group presentations, individual work, and small-group problem-solving, the workshop will provide each participant with an opportunity to think critically about their own evaluation challenges. Participants should come to the workshop with a particular program that they would like to evaluate, or that they are being asked to evaluate. Presented by Doug Easterling, PhD, Chair of Social Sciences and Health Policy. You can download the registration form [here](#). **Act now, since they will only be accepting 20 applicants!**

+ Group Homes of Forsyth Looking to Share UnitedHealthcare Training Opportunities! In the true spirit of what we do here at HandsOn, GHF is looking to connect to other nonprofits that might have UHC as their health insurance provider. As part of their recent enrollment with them, UHC offers 6 credit hours of free training, not just in regards to health issues but manager development and staff performance offerings as well. Additional hours are available for a fee-- which they would like to avoid by pooling hours with others (partnering will also make it easier to meet the minimum participant requirements.) If your organization has UHC insurance and would like more information, contact [Monti Beasley](#) at 831-1300 x309.

+ Registration Now Open for the NC Center for Nonprofit's 2010 Conference & Public Policy Forum for NC's Nonprofit Sector, Sept. 29th-30th, Sheraton RTP. Be part of the largest gathering of its kind in the Southeast and one of the best training opportunities for high quality and real value. This is the conference for anyone who is involved in any way with nonprofits! Choose the full conference or just one day to stretch your training

Amy Lytle

Executive Director

My Bridges' "Compete for the Cause" Info Session

Tuesday, June 15th, 11:30 am -1:00 pm

Location: Senior Services ([see map](#))

What is [MyBridges.net](#) and their exciting "[Compete for the Cause](#)" fundraiser? Join us for this info session to find out more about this exciting new social networking tool just for the Greater Winston-Salem/Forsyth County community! Many of you should have received information about their Compete for the Cause fundraiser, which launched late last month. Compete for the Cause is part of how Bridges seeks to "create vibrant, ongoing community conversations" via a social networking site. By engaging in these conversations, Bridges ultimately seeks to connect the virtual and physical worlds of residents and communities.

Bring your own lunch, and we'll provide drinks and desserts. Our info sessions are a great way to learn about resources available to nonprofits while networking with your peers!

Cost: Free! (Please register for planning purposes.)

[Register Now!](#)

NWNC Nonprofit Community Day with the Governor's Office and the NC Center for Nonprofits

Wednesday, June 23rd, 1:00 pm to 4:00 pm

Location: Davie Campus of Davidson County Community College, Administration Bldg. Community Room ([see map](#))

We're pleased to announce that the Governor's Piedmont Office in coordination with the N.C. Center for Nonprofits and HandsOn Northwest North Carolina is hosting this Nonprofit Community Day for organizations in Northwest Piedmont. This is part of a series of statewide Nonprofit Community Days that are being planned this year. The program will include:

- Welcome and introductions, with time for networking
 - Discussing issues of top concern facing your communities
 - Exploring the next steps for collaborating on these issues
- This event is open to all nonprofits in our service area, but seating is limited on a first-come, first-served basis, so please register as soon as possible. Please feel free to call us to get more details on this exciting opportunity!

Cost: Free! (Please register to reserve your seat!)

[Register Now!](#)

NEWS YOU CAN USE

dollars. The cost is low, but the rewards are high! **Register by July 1 to get the best deal. You can download the [full brochure](#), and then [register online](#).**

Funding OPPORTUNITIES

+ Working to reduce the dropout rate and already have a relationship with a local middle-school? You can apply for a STEMester of Service Grant! Youth Service America is now accepting applications for the second year of STEMester of Service. Funded by Learn and Serve America, a program of the Corporation for National and Community Service, STEMester of Service incorporates YSA's semester-long service-learning framework to engage educators and students in addressing critical environmental needs and connecting them to STEM (science, technology, engineering, and math) curricula. YSA is seeking 10 middle schools with large populations of disadvantaged youth to join 20 returning STEMester of Service grantees. Only schools in 12 states, including NC, are eligible to apply for these **\$5,000** grants (which includes travel to and training at YSA's Youth Service Institute in Detroit in October) to support teachers as they engage local partners and guide students in addressing local needs through planning and implementing sustainable service projects that launch on Martin Luther King, Jr. Day of Service (January 17, 2011) and culminate on Global Youth Service Day (April 15-17, 2011). **Applications are due July 15th. [Click here](#) for more information.**

+ America's Promise and AT&T Launch "My Idea" Program to Combat High School Drop-Out Rates! "My Idea" will empower young people to examine the high school dropout crisis and take action to help more of their peers to graduate on time. National grants of \$10,000-\$20,000 will be awarded to 20 - 25 youth for the best idea to help increase a community's graduation rate anywhere in the United States. With the help of a supporting non-profit organization or school, teens will have a chance to make an impact on their peers. If you're a youth service provider, this is a great opportunity to share with the high school-aged youth that **you work with each day. [Applications](#) are due June 11th.**

+ Kate B. Reynolds Charitable

HandsOn Network Launches New Technology for Affiliates!

For those of you who participate in our volunteer matching portal on our website (and if you don't, why not [join](#) today?) the technology will be changing before the end of the year. HandsOn Network, our national partner, will be rolling out **HandsOn Connect** this summer, the next-generation volunteer management solution from Points of Light and HandsOn Network. HandsOn Connect will replace the 1-800-volunteer.org system we currently use and expand our capability to manage, track and report on people, programs and volunteer opportunities in real time. HandsOn Connect supports both our current method of connecting volunteers with service opportunities but will also allow us to track our own managed volunteer projects as well.

An overview of HandsOn Connect's functionality and recorded product demonstrations can be found [here](#). Stay tuned for more updates from us as we learn more about the technology at our national conference later this month.

NEWS YOU CAN USE

ZSR Foundation and UNC Release New Report on Poverty

The Z Smith Reynolds Foundation and the UNC Center on Poverty, Work and Opportunity released a new report last month, [Documenting Poverty, Economic Distress and Challenge in North Carolina](#). We are all well aware of the challenges that our state has faced in the past two months. As this report demonstrates, these upheavals take place against a backdrop of profound transformation for the state as a whole. Yet, roughly 15 percent of North Carolinians live below the federal poverty standard and a third of our families fall below more meaningful "living wage" measures. Poverty is disproportionately marked by age, by sex, by race, and by geography.

Urban census tracts in Raleigh, Durham, Charlotte, Greensboro and Winston-Salem-containing over 100,000 persons living in extreme poverty-experience higher poverty and unemployment rates, and lower per capita incomes, home ownership and graduation rates than even highly-distressed rural counties.

This report could provide powerful data to those of you working with low-income neighborhoods and residents in our area.

We Make it Easy to Make a Difference!

HandsOnNWNC.org | [Contact HandsOn](#)

Trust Announces "Second Wind Initiative" for Next Poor and Needy Division Grant Cycle! For the upcoming Poor and Needy Division grant cycle in July, the Kate B. Reynolds Charitable Trust anticipates making up to 15 grants for \$50,000 each. These grants, known as the Second Wind Initiative, will be for continuation of current programs and services for smaller organizations that are serving the financially needy in Forsyth County. These will be operating grants, hopefully give a boost to organizations that have an annual budget under \$750,000 and have been operating at least three years. **To learn more, check out their [website](#). Deadline is July 15th.**

+ Win \$150,000 for Your Great Collaboration! Similar to our local **High Five Award**, The Collaboration Prize, created by the Lodestar Foundation, is a national award program designed to identify and showcase models of collaboration among nonprofit organizations. Recognizing the impact that can be achieved from working together, the prize shines a spotlight on collaborations that cooperate to demonstrate innovative and effective responses to challenges or opportunities. To be eligible, a collaboration must involve two or more U.S. nonprofit organizations and must have been in operation for at least 18 months. **Each of eight finalists will receive \$12,500 and the winner will receive an additional \$150,000!**The online application process will open **June 1st and close on July 16th.** Go [online](#) for more details.

Employment OPPORTUNITIES

+ One Economy Now Recruiting VISTA Members and VISTA Leader!One Economy is a global nonprofit that uses innovative approaches to deliver the power of technology and information to low income people, giving them valuable tools for building better lives. The One Economy AmeriCorps VISTA program is nationwide with members serving at both their headquarters in Winston-Salem and partner offices across the country. Currently, they are recruiting in 8 states (VA, NC, GA, TX, OK, MO, IL, CA) for VISTA members, as well as for a VISTA Leader in Winston-Salem! **To learn more about the positions and locations please click [here](#).** The expected start date is sometime in August. If you or someone you know might be interested in this one-year

national service opportunity, please check out the "[Apply for VISTA](#)" [portion of their website](#).

+ Girl Scouts of the Carolinas Peaks to Piedmont Council Seeks New CEO! Located in Colfax, this new leader will impact the lives of over 20,000 girl members within the council's jurisdiction, with the potential of many more. This position requires a record of bringing excellence to organizations undergoing growth and transformation. **You can view the full announcement [online](#).** The Girl Scouts of Carolinas Peaks to Piedmont Council offers a highly competitive compensation package and comprehensive benefits with the salary range at \$105k+. Applicants are encouraged to submit resumes as soon as possible, and **resumes will be accepted through June 16th**. New inquiries after that date by email are encouraged.

HandsOn JOIN / GIVE NOW

HandsOn NWNC invites nonprofits to financially support our mission to build the capacity of local nonprofits and increase volunteerism. In exchange for a minimum \$50 donation, our Supporting Partners receive a variety of discounts on our program offerings and other special opportunities, that can lead to savings as great as **\$800 per year!** Vendors and consultants who work with nonprofits are also encouraged to become Supporting Partners. [Join HandsOn and Become a Supporter](#)

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