



Nonprofit Town Hall

January 12, 2012

A Look Back to 2011: Organizational Successes and Challenges

- Made budget
- Hired Executive Director
- End of American Recovery & Reinvestment Act stimulus dollars
- Difficulties in finding eligible participants
- Lost Executive Director
- Difficulties in getting people to apply for services
- Market instability
- Need more active volunteers to replace staff
- Found new money
- Lost funding
- More collaboration and communication between organizations
- Federal gridlock helped people take advantage of tax benefits
- Successful fundraising event
- Achieved 501(c)3 status
- More competition for available funds
- Rebranding and building programs to extend services
- More regulations
- Economic instability - fewer volunteers willing to make long-term commitments
- Economic instability - more difficult to retain staff, staff seeking more stable jobs
- More unique partnerships
- Not enough staffing to manage volunteers
- More Board turnover

A Look Back to 2011: Personal Success and Challenges

- Stress
- Lost sleep
- Frustration
- Lots of concern with funding
- Over-functioning
- Trying to keep skills transferrable and current
- Hope - Survived 2011
- Anxious
- More creativity and new ideas due to the anxiety and stress - invigorating
- Stress relating to keeping staff (knowing the impact a lay-off would have on staff's lives)
- Blessed
- Delegating, relying on others, more collaborations/partnerships

One Word to Describe 2012

- Hopeful
- Invigorated

- Anxious
- Determined
- Overwhelmed
- Excited
- Thankful

A Look Forward to 2012: Organizational Challenges and Opportunities

- Funding - biggest challenge for 2012
- Finding eligible participants (eligible participants may be too uncertain about the economy and their jobs to commit to the low-income home-ownership program)
- Nurturing donor relations
- Building stronger Boards
- Meeting standards for accreditation
- Building Board capacity to take the organization to the next level
- Increasing awareness of the organization in the community
- Hiring a development director with the experience and knowledge
- Re-establishing protocols due to staff turnover
- Educating the public regarding governmental funding
- Electing leaders who support our needs
- Maintaining quality service with staff reductions
- Pursuing partnerships and collaborations
- Articulating what the loss of nonprofits means to the community
- Finding new volunteers
- Concerns about the next legislative session
- Pursuing additional funding
- Learning to become more efficient and effective
- Evaluating programs
- Learning how not to burn out our for-profit business partners with silent auctions and fundraising events
- Diversifying fundraising strategies away from letters and events
- Taking personal responsibility for impacts on social programs
- Reaching out beyond the Flathead Valley for funding opportunities

A Look Forward to 2012: Personal Challenges and Opportunities

- Staying balanced
- Becoming better educated
- Building relationships
- Giving more emphasis on personal organization
- Creating a personal plan to reduce workload, but maintaining the organization
- Delegating
- Planning for self-care
- Taking vacation and time-off
- Recognizing that a better you through self-care better serves the organization
- Being realistic with goals

What New Skills and Topics will be Needed for 2012?

- Financial and Bookkeeping
- Social Networking
- Better Evaluation Tools

- Conducting Meetings
- Grant Writing
- How to Approach Legislators for Meaningful Interactions and Funding
- Facilitation and Discussion Skills
- Opportunities for Collaboration
- Leadership Skills and Attitudes

(offering workshops more often or at different times)