

Nonprofit Development Partnership – Serving Flathead Valley and the Region

E-Newsletter - February 2010

Food for Thought for our theme of “Making the Ask”

“Fundraising is the gentle art of teaching the joy of giving.”

- Hank Rosso

“Donors don't give to institutions. They invest in ideas and people in whom they believe.”

-G.T. Smith

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As always, NpDP is grateful to The Sustainability Fund for making our work possible.

Now, you can follow NpDP:

as a Fan on Facebook: search for Nonprofit Development Partnership

on Twitter: @flatheadnpdp

on our new Blog: FlatheadNpDP.WordPress.com.

Help us get a username on Facebook, so that NpDP can be more easily found. Help us get to 25 Fans on our Facebook Page. Just search for Nonprofit Development Partnership and click on Become a Fan. By becoming a Fan, you can easily RSVP to our upcoming events.

[February Brown Bag](#)

Securing a Gift - It's More than “Just Money”

Thursday, February 11, 11:30 am to 1:00 pm

Museum at Central School

124 First Avenue East, Kalispell

Free

presented by Carol Blake of North Valley Hospital Foundation

Expecting the philanthropic community to support your organization simply because it exists “for the social good” is no longer realistic. With all the research on why people give, the evidence is clear that the number one reason is that someone asked them to!

Sending a very nice letter from the board chair or executive director may constitute “asking” but striking up a real conversation with a potential donor is a very different process. This workshop will increase your comfort in teaming up as board members and staff to ask people face to face for a gift. In the process, you will create authentic involvement for your Board and nurture ongoing relationships with donors. We will discuss the seven basic principles for making a personal ask and the seven habits of ineffective fundraisers.

Please RSVP to rsvp@npdp.org or 406/756-3618 to ensure enough seating and handouts if you plan to attend.

About the presenter

Carol Blake is the Executive Director of the Foundation/Community Relations/Marketing for North Valley Hospital in Whitefish. She is a Registered Nurse, graduating from Methodist School of Nursing/Dakota Wesleyan University at Mitchell, South Dakota.

With over 40 years in health care she has experience in all areas of philanthropy, including leading a successful \$6 Million capital campaign, and in grant writing. Carol has experience in many of the clinical nursing areas and wellness program implementation.

She serves on many community boards and organizations including Turn the Flathead Pink, FVCC Foundation Board, Columbia Falls Community Foundation Board, AOA/ Eagle Transit, Columbia Falls Chamber Board, and Whitefish Kiwanis. She is a Leadership Flathead grad and one of the founding members for NPDP. She was named the 2009 Spirit of Caring at North Valley Hospital.

For information, contact:
email: admin@npdp.org
Phone #: 406/756-3618

Invitation:

Celebrate with us at our February Brown Bag. The February 11th Brown Bag marks the 5th anniversary of our first educational workshop for the Nonprofit Development Partnership, held in February 2005. Join us for a celebration of five great years!

Managers Forum

Making the Ask Series

First Thursday of the Month, 3:30 pm - 4:30 pm
Basement Conference Room
Flathead County Main Library
247 First Avenue East, Kalispell
Free

The Spring Managers Forum Series will focus on "Making the Ask" in person, by letters and through social media and the Web. The Managers Forum is a peer learning and idea sharing forum for nonprofit leaders and managers. Before each Managers Forum, we send out an article or website as "homework" to start the conversation.

Making the Ask - In Person

Thursday, March 4, 3:30 pm - 4:30 pm

Making the Ask - By Letters

Thursday, April 1, 3:30 pm - 4:30 pm

Making the Ask - Through Social Media & the Web

Thursday, May 6, 3:30 pm - 4:30 pm

Seminar:

The Basics of Board Service

Improving your Skills and Effectiveness as a Nonprofit Leader

Wednesday, March 31, 5:30 pm - 9 pm

Arts and Technology Building

Flathead Valley Community College

777 Grandview Avenue, Kalispell

Cost: \$35 for workshop, networking, dinner and resource handouts

presented by Ned Cooney, Program Director of NpDP

hosted by the Nonprofit Development Partnership

Save the date!

Just joining a board? This seminar is for you.

Want to expand your skills as a board member? This seminar is for you.

Topics include:

- * Why be a board member?
- * What nonprofits are and what they mean to the world
- * Basic roles and responsibilities
- * Principles and Practices for Nonprofit Excellence in Montana
- * Relationships with staff (executive directors and others)
- * Orientation process for board members

Social Media:

Over the last few months, we have been racing to catch up with the various social media channels to better serve you. Here are more details:

Flickr: You can relive the moments of recent networking events and workshops. Click here to view the photo sets: <http://www.flickr.com/photos/flatheadnpdp/sets/>

Blog: At FlatheadNpDP.Wordpress.com, you can stay up-to-date of community resources, news and events.

Facebook: By becoming a Fan, you can receive notices of our blog postings and our upcoming events. You can also RSVP to a NpDP event through your Facebook account. Search "Nonprofit Development Partnership" to find our Page on Facebook.com.

Twitter: Follow us on Twitter, and you'll receive reminders of upcoming events and blog postings. We're @flatheadnpdp.

Pick the social media channel that fits you, stay informed, and join the conversation.

Job Opportunity:

Habitat for Humanity of Flathead Valley

The Executive Director, in accordance with the objectives, policies and directives set by the affiliate board of directors, provides overall executive leadership for the affiliate. Critical focuses of the Executive Director, will be (1) resource development, (2) financial oversight and control, and (3) community outreach. Additional responsibilities include: (1) supervision and mentoring of paid staff, (2) maintaining and enhancing the infrastructure of the affiliate, (3) serving as the primary communication link among directors, committees, and volunteers, (4) networking with community services and (5) providing the necessary follow-up to ensure that the whole organization runs smoothly and achieves the mission of the affiliate. It is expected that this person will be an active participant in developing the vision and execution of growth for the affiliate. The affiliate is transitioning from a Home Builder (3-4 houses) to a Block Builder (5-9 houses) and is supported by a 5,000 square foot ReStore. This is a 40-hour per week salaried position that requires some evening and weekend work. Benefits include paid vacation, holidays and health insurance. For more information, contact Dave Williams, President of the Board of Directors, at jdwilliams74@centurytel.net.

Ravenwood Outdoor Learning Center

The Ravenwood Executive Director (E.D.) is responsible for the overall management of the organization and for managing all administrative duties associated with running a growing nonprofit organization serving the Flathead Valley and Western Montana. The E.D. will work in concert with the Ravenwood Executive Program Director (E.P.D.) to provide organizational leadership and is jointly responsible for Ravenwood's overall success and the quality of its programs, particularly in regard to funding, budget management, and capacity building. The E.D. works with the Executive Program Director to align funding with Ravenwood's program goals. The E.D. works closely with and is accountable to a board of trustees. The position starts at half time, though organizational growth will require the E.D. to produce financial support sufficient to transition the position to full time. Once the position is full time it is Ravenwood's intention to provide benefits over an agreed time period from the date of hire (dependent on funding availability). Please e-mail cover letter, resume and three references to Brett Holmquist at brett@ravenwoodolc.org by February 5, 2010. Hard copies accepted at: Ravenwood Outdoor Learning Center/PO Box 2084/Bigfork, MT 59911. Call (406) 837 7279 with questions.

Community Event:

Wednesday, February 17, 5 pm - 6:30 pm
Hockaday Museum of Art
302 2nd Avenue East, Kalispell
Free

hosted by the Kalispell Chamber of Commerce

Join our friends at the Hockaday Museum of Art to celebrate their role in our community.

News:

Brian Magee of the Montana Nonprofit Association addresses the recent campaign finance decision by the Supreme Court and its effect on nonprofit. Check out the blog post, **Nonprofits, Elections and the Supreme Court's Recent Decision**, here:

<http://mtnonprofit.org/blog.aspx?id=2683&blogid=269>

Community Resource:

Toastmasters

Toastmasters International is the world's largest and most effective self-improvement program for leadership and better communications, and also one of the least expensive. Each week, there are a couple of prepared speeches given by our members. They decide the topic and approach they will speak on, but each project has specific educational goals. Speakers receive evaluations from other members about their strengths, and specific suggestions for how to overcome weaknesses. There is also a weekly competition on impromptu speaking, or speaking off-the-cuff. Leadership is learned when members focus together to conduct efficient, on-task, timely meetings that satisfy the group goals without trampling on the rights of the individual.

Local Toastmasters Meetings:

Except for holidays, the Kalispell Toastmasters meet every Wednesday from noon to 1:00 pm at First Montana Bank, 85 N. Main Street, immediately north of the Pizza Hut.

The North Valley Toastmasters meet on the 2nd and 4th Wednesday of each month, from 7-8 am at the Whitefish Community Center on East 2nd Street.

The Bigfork Toastmasters meet on the 1st and 3rd Thursdays of each month, at noon in the lower level of Bethany Lutheran Church.

Columbia Falls Speaks meets on the 1st and 3rd Tuesdays of each month at noon in the City Council chambers.

The Tobacco Valley Toastmasters meet every Tuesday at noon at the Glacier Bank on Dewey Avenue in Eureka.

In the January e-News, we published information on a consultant directory through the Big Sky Institute for the Advancement of Nonprofits. Recently, the Montana Nonprofit Association has published a guide to **“Working with Consultants.”** The guide can be downloaded here:

http://mtnonprofit.org/uploadedFiles/Files/Org-Dev/Principles_and_Practices/MNA_Sample_Docs/Working%20With%20Consultants.pdf

Article:

Ten Quick Ways to Invigorate Board Meetings

Who hasn't wished for shorter, more interesting and more effective Board meetings? The online “magazine” Blue Avocado published an article for that very wish:

<http://www.blueavocado.org/content/ten-quick-ways-invigorate-board-meetings>

The Resource Corner:

Accounting Basics and Internal Controls for Small Nonprofits

Setting up financial and accounting controls is vital for every nonprofit organization. Yet, the lack of staff and limited funds make the most common suggestions for financial controls difficult for small nonprofits. The following links give other practical suggestions:

<http://www.nonprofitaccountingbasics.org/>

<http://www.blueavocado.org/content/five-internal-controls-very-small-nonprofit>

Reminder: PLEASE pass this e-newsletter along...to Board members, fellow staff people, volunteers, and other nonprofit people you know in the community. Everyone's invited to be a part of our growing network! To sign up to receive this newsletter, go to our website, www.npdp.org and click “Join our Network” on the left side of the page. Enter your email address, name, and other required information.

A "printer-friendly" PDF version of this e-newsletter is available at our website, www.npdp.org in the "Document Library" on the left side of the page.

NOTE: Please add admin@npdp.org to your “safe senders list” in your email spam and junk mail filters. That way, when we send you messages through our new email network, you'll continue to receive our e-newsletters, workshop announcements, and other items of interest.

Disclaimer: The views expressed in the articles and internet links contained in this E-newsletter are those of the content providers, and do not necessarily reflect the views of the Nonprofit Development Partnership.