

E-Newsletter - November 2009

****** Please update the contact info for NpDP. Our new Message Center number is 756-3618 ******

Food for Thought

“Great communicators have an appreciation for positioning. They understand the people they're trying to reach and what they can and can't hear. They send their message in through an open door rather than trying to push it through a wall.”

--John Kotter

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

A message from Ned Cooney:

Montana Nonprofit Association can save you money, and help you find funding!!

"I know I have mentioned MNA many times though the years, but I wanted to take a moment to actually ask you all to consider joining MNA. Times are difficult right now and another expense is not a welcome request. However, MNA can save your organization more – in some cases significantly more – than the cost of your annual dues. I believe deeply in this organization and I would not be asking you to consider membership if I didn't think the overall benefit to your organization was greater than the expense. For your consideration, I would like to offer three quick examples of possible savings for your organization.

- GrantStation Subscriptions cost \$75 for MNA members. Non-members pay up to \$499 for the same program. This is a searchable online database that can simplify your grant seeking work. GrantStation also provides insights and webinars to help you.
- D&O Insurance – MNA members have a significantly enhanced policy that provides \$2 Million in coverage (double the typical coverage) and waives your deductible in the event no judgment is brought against you.

I want to expand a bit on the third example – Unemployment Insurance (UI). If you have more than 5

members to save up to 50% off the State's current rates. During MNA's last webinar about the UI program, our program officer told us that the State of Montana will probably raise rates next year. The increase is likely to come from two sources: 1) The tax will be calculated on a higher wage. 2) The tax schedule may be going up from Schedule I to Schedule III, IV, or even V. In the worst case scenario, the tax could more than double. It is unlikely that nonprofits are planning for this increase since the UI rate has been static for a decade. As a 501(c)(3), you can opt out of the State pool and use the MNA program, but in Montana you can only do so before November 30th. The MNA program, if it is right for your organization, would allow you to avoid any increase and in most cases, actually save money. "

For general information about any of MNA's programs, contact Brad Robinson, Member Services Director of the Montana Nonprofit Association by email at brobinson@mtnonprofit.org or by phone at 406-449-3717.

[Manager's Forum](#)

Thursday, November 5, 2009, 3:30 pm to 4:30 pm
Basement Conference Room
Main Library, Flathead County Library System
247 First Avenue East, Kalispell
Free

Managing your Media Relationships

We will be hosting Wendy Ostrom-Price to share her experiences with broadcast media, public relations and nonprofit relationships with Flathead Electric Co-op.

Please RSVP to rsvp@npdp.org to ensure enough seating if you plan to attend.

To help prepare for the discussion, please read the following articles:

Acing Media Interviews Like a Pro
<http://www.rdccommunication.com/articles/AcingInterviews.php>

Flathead Electric's Roundup for Safety
<http://www.flatheadelectric.com/roundup/roundup.html>

The purpose of the Manager's Forum is to promote peer learning, information sharing, and discussion of topics of interest to nonprofit managers and leaders.

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

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[November Brown Bag](#): Integrating your Media Strategy

11:30 am - 1 pm
The Museum at Central School
124 Second Avenue East, Kalispell, Montana
Free

Integrating your Media Strategy

presented by Hilary Hutcheson of Outside Media
hosted by NpDP

Hilary will discuss how to responsibly raise media awareness in a compelling way without breaking the bank by using the resources already available to nonprofits. She will explore the following topics:

- * Turning brand image into brand equity through the media.
- * Pitching is storytelling.
- * What is newsworthy? How to determine if your news is newsworthy.
- * Maintaining relationships. Don't be known as "that guy" in the newsroom.
- * Building a media tool kit.
- * Social media cooperation.

Please RSVP to rsvp@npdp.org to ensure enough seating if you plan to attend.

About the Presenter:

Hilary Hutcheson spent ten years as a broadcast news photographer, producer, reporter and anchor in Portland, OR, Missoula, MT, and Kalispell, MT. She went on to become PR Director at a pr/marketing/advertising agency in Portland, working with a number of top brands in the sports/outdoor industry. She and her husband started Montana-based Outside Media in the summer of 2008. Today she splits her time between Outside Media's Columbia Falls, MT office, and its satellite office in Portland.

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[Manager's Forum](#)

Thursday, December 3, 2009, 3:30 pm to 4:30 pm
Basement Conference Room
Main Library, Flathead County Library System
247 First Avenue East, Kalispell
Free

Managing your Media Relationships

We will be hosting Hilary Hutcheson to continue the discussion on working effectively with the media and create media campaigns through social media.

[Save the Date: Holiday Party](#)

Thursday, December 10, 2009, 4 pm to 6 pm
Location: to be announced
Free

Holiday Party

Come, enjoy our third annual Holiday Party. Celebrate the Season and a successful fall with colleagues and friends. Relax, unwind and enjoy the party. Light refreshments will be served.

Opportunity: Free Background Check

At the Montana Nonprofit Conference, we received one free Background Check to give away to our partners. If your nonprofit could use this Background Check, please e-mail us at admin@npdp.org. If more than one nonprofit would like this, we will randomly choose one.

Templates: Board Contract Sample

Are you looking for a sample Board contract to use? Here's a sample recommended by the Blue Avocado. It outlines both the board member's and nonprofit organization's responsibilities:

<http://www.blueavocado.org/content/board-member-contract>

Grant Announcement: Americorps Grant

Special thanks to the Montana Nonprofit Association for sharing this announcement in their e-News. If you haven't already, sign up for their e-news at mtnonprofit.org.

BRING AMERICORPS TO YOUR COMMUNITY

Grant Funds Available for Organizations that Address Community Needs

Helena, MT - The Governor's Office of Community Service and the Montana Commission on Community Service announced today that more than \$600-thousand dollars in state grant funds are available for 2010-2011 AmeriCorps programs in Montana. The state grants are available for operating AmeriCorps programs as well as planning for future AmeriCorps programs. The grants will be awarded through the Montana Commission on Community Service to organizations that address pressing community needs on topics including; education, clean energy/environment, healthy futures and veterans issues.

"We are extremely pleased to have these resources available in Montana to strengthen our communities through our AmeriCorps programs." said Jan Lombardi, Director of the Governor's Office of Community Service.

The grants are funded through the Corporation for National and Community Service (CNCS) (nationalservice.gov), an independent federal agency. CNCS anticipates the availability of approximately \$360 million dollars for fiscal year 2010, to award new, re-competing, and continuing AmeriCorps state and National grants. The Montana Commission on Community Service will also review and recommend applicants for consideration on a national competitive level.

The Montana Commission on Community Service is currently seeking proposals from eligible nonprofit organizations, schools, tribes and state and local governments. Please visit www.serve.mt.gov for

additional information and application instructions; or call the Governor's Office of Community Service at (406) 444-9077.

All applications must be submitted by Friday, November 20.

The Corporation for National and Community Service (www.nationalservice.gov) was established in 1993. It aims to connect Americans of all ages and backgrounds with opportunities to give back to their communities and their nation. CNCS is the nation's largest grant maker supporting service and volunteering.

The Governor's Office of Community Service (serve.mt.gov) was created to expand service opportunities for all Montanans.

Community Assistance: Experience Works

Experience Works helps low-income seniors, with multiple barriers to employment, get the training they need to find good jobs in their local communities. Experience Works pays the employer 1/2 of the employee's wage for 4 weeks for hiring an Experience Works people. Experience Works has additional funds to spend through February 15.

For more information:
contact Karol Kirkland at 257-1968.

Community Announcement: Headwaters Presentations

Headwaters Montana will give presentations to groups on how help protect our water, wildlife and wilderness heritage. Headwaters Montana can provide a 20-minute presentation on the values, threats and solutions for the 'Transboundary Flathead'. Headwaters Montana plays a key role in the international effort to protect the North Fork and Glacier Park from industrial mining and energy extraction projects in the Canadian Flathead.

Please contact Dave Hadden at 837-0783, or at Dave_Hadden@headwatersmontana.org to arrange a presentation to your group.

More information may be found at: www.headwatersmontana.org.

If you would like to highlight a non-fundraising related announcement, just e-mail admin@npdp.org with your announcement.

The Resource Corner: Flu Season

The flu season has arrived in the Flathead. Click on the following link to find more resources on preparing your organization, your employees and your clients:

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.

NOTICE: We periodically send announcements, e-newsletters, and surveys to those individuals who voluntarily give us their e-mail address. We hope you enjoy receiving this information. If you'd like to be removed from our list, please send an email to admin@npdp.org with the subject line "Unsubscribe".

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