

2014 Nonprofit Leadership Conference
“Empowering Nonprofits”
May 28-28 – Bismarck, ND

Session Descriptions

WEDNESDAY, MAY 28

10:30 a.m. Welcome Keynote

Beyond the New Normal: Nonprofit Sustainability

Kate Barr, Nonprofits Assistance Fund

Financial sustainability isn't a myth, but it may not be the destination you hope for. After several years managing “the new normal” with budget reductions, creative fundraising ideas, rallying supporters, and maintaining and even expanding the programs and services needed in the community, nonprofit leaders are ready for a different approach. Sustainable nonprofits learn how to plan, monitor, adjust and respond to dynamic changes in the sector, the economy and the community. Hear about the strategies and leadership needed to move beyond the “new normal” to a more sustainable path.

1 p.m. Breakout Sessions

Creating a Working Business Model

Kate Barr, Nonprofits Assistance Fund

If your organization is striving for sustainability, then you need to have a deep understanding of your organization's business model. Dive deeply into the four intricately interconnected components of nonprofit business models and learn how to develop a business model that works for your organization.

Human Resource Management for Nonprofits

Leslie Bakken Oliver, JD, Vogel Law Firm

Managing people – both paid staff members and volunteers – is one of the most challenging aspects of nonprofit operations. This session will focus on the fundamentals of human resource management and offer practical guidance on personnel issues; assessing organizational needs; recruiting, screening and hiring; on-boarding new workforce members; problem-solving and disciplinary issues; and personnel policies, performance evaluations and handbooks.

Stretch Your Reach without Straining Your Budget with CRM Software

Deb Schaffer, DFC Consultants

Find out how a Customer Relationship Management (CRM) system can help automate and personalize your message, increase retention of donors and volunteers, and streamline information to your employees.

2:30 p.m. Plenary Session

Creating a Vibrant Culture in Your Organization

Jay Wilkinson, Firespring

Is an organization's culture determined by design or default? Join lifelong entrepreneur Jay Wilkinson to discover how his company's secret sauce to a vibrant culture attracts and keeps great talent.

4 p.m. Breakout Sessions

Maximizing the Fundraising Potential of Your Donor Database

Jay Wilkinson, Firespring

You just never know what you'll uncover if you start digging around in the information you have about your donors. And you wonder what would happen if you could actually, once-and-for-all, get it organized. Learn how to maximize the fundraising potential with donor data knowledge..

Meetings That Work!

Bob Fitch, Cain Consulting

Interested in holding more productive meetings and getting things done? Explore key factors including building a better agenda and sticking to it, keeping good minutes, increasing attendance, dealing with visitors and controlling conflict.

Managing a 360 Performance Evaluation

Candace Haugen, The Village Family Service Center

Learn a comprehensive way to engage employees using a 360 performance evaluation process in an effective and efficient manner, including guidance for supervisors on how to manage this process and tips for incorporating organizational core values.

THURSDAY, MAY 29

8 a.m. Breakfast Roundtables

9 a.m. Morning Keynote

Building Nonprofit Momentum

David L. Thompson, National Council of Nonprofits

Over the last few years, nonprofits have faced significant policy challenges at the federal level and in states across the country. Nonprofits won many, lost a few and mostly came out stronger as a result of using their voices. Hear real-world experiences of nonprofits using advocacy to improve legislation and regulations, fulfill their missions and solve problems in their communities.

10 a.m. Town Hall & NDANO Annual Meeting

11 a.m. Breakout Sessions

Advancing Missions Through Storytelling

David L. Thompson, National Council of Nonprofits

Effectively told stories can trump data, campaign contributions, ignorance and apathy – whether the focus is on federal, state or local policy matters or national trends affecting nonprofits. This interactive session focuses on gathering your nonprofit's stories of success, hardship and problem solving to shape opinion and motivate policymakers to become part of the solution.

Planned Giving—Got It? Want It? Ready for It?

Kevin Dvorak, CFP®, North Dakota Community Foundation

Nearly every nonprofit can and probably should have a planned giving program. Get answers and practical advice, whether your planned giving program is still a gleam in your eye or you have been running one for years.

Doing More with Less: Creative Digital Narratives for Your Nonprofit

Kris Kerzman, The Arts Partnership

Nonprofits need to compete with the efforts of larger companies and organizations to grab attention in the social sphere and without the same access to resources. Learn ways to plan and prioritize your digital media efforts so they are tailored to your nonprofit's unique needs.

Noon Closing Luncheon