

## Keynotes for Nonprofits May 2009



**INITIATIVE  
FOUNDATION**

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### Workshops & Conferences

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#### **Compassion Capital Fund Informational Sessions**

*Wednesday, June 10, 2009*

*1:30PM-4:00PM or 6:30PM-9:00PM*

*Initiative Foundation, Little Falls*

Central Minnesota faith-based and community based organizations can strengthen their internal operations in the fight against poverty and other critical issues, thanks to a minimum of \$65,000 in grants and free training available through a partnership between the Initiative Foundation and the Greater Minneapolis Council of Churches.

Organizations that serve low-income people and/or meet vital needs are eligible for grants up to \$10,000 and related training on several nonprofit management topics. To learn more about this program and obtain application information, organization leaders should attend one of these two identical, [informational sessions](#).

To register, contact Tricia Holig at [tholig@ifound.org](mailto:tholig@ifound.org) or 877-632-9255 by June 8, 2009.

#### **Lunch and Learn: Dissect the Frog**

*Thursday, June 11, 2009*

*11:45AM – 1:15PM*

*Kelly Inn, St. Cloud*

*Presenter: Brian Myers, ING Direct*

This is a process by which an organization dissects its operations. The process encourages staff to talk about certain procedures and explore if efficiencies can be gained by changing the way business is done. Dissect the Frog makes organizations take a serious look at how to do business better and more productively. Brian Myres has led the Dissect the Frog process in many local organizations along with divisions within ING Direct.

Seating is limited. Please RSVP to Janelle Steil at 320-203-5617 or [jsteil@larsonallen.com](mailto:jsteil@larsonallen.com). Cost: \$10 if having lunch; otherwise no charge.

#### **After You, Then Who? The Benefits of Boards & Succession Planning**

*Friday, June 12, 2009*

*9:00AM-1:00PM*

*Initiative Foundation, Little Falls*

Because of your partnership with the Initiative Foundation and Anderson Center, we are offering you complimentary seats at our fast-paced, interactive workshop that explores two of the most critical trends in Minnesota business.

- **Board Governance** - In this economic recession, many banks and investors are now requiring businesses to form advisory or governing boards that provide external advice on management decisions. Learn how to recruit a valuable board of directors and tap its power.
- **Succession Planning** - What if something happens to you? Today, less than 25% of businesses successfully transition ownership from one generation to the next. Learn the elements of a sound succession plan that ensures your business survival, preserves jobs, and preempts legal conflicts.

Deadline: June 4, 2009. Register today by contacting Sharon Gottwalt at 877-632-9255 or [sgottwalt@ifound.org](mailto:sgottwalt@ifound.org). Attendance is limited to 50. Includes a complimentary networking lunch.

### **Nonprofit Essentials: Nuts and Bolts of Practical Management**

*Tuesday, June 23, 2009*

*9:00AM – 4:00PM (registration begins at 8:00AM)*

*University of St. Thomas, St. Paul*

You are invited to join the Minnesota Council of Nonprofits and the University of St. Thomas for our affordable, day-long conference, [Nonprofit Essentials: Nuts and Bolts of Practical Management](#). In addition to attending yourself, teams are encouraged in order to build common foundation and vocabulary around basic management, increasing team morale and efficiency. You can choose from many topics, such as:

- The Essentials of Supervision
- Creating High Performance Board and Staff Relationships
- What Happened? Cost Effective Yet Persuasive Evaluation
- Recruiting, Retaining and Rewarding your Volunteers
- The Basics of Web 2.0
- and many other dynamic [breakout sessions](#)

In addition to learning key nonprofit management skills, Nonprofit Essentials features a morning plenary with Jon Pratt, executive director of the Minnesota Council of Nonprofits and Ann Johnson, director of the Center for Nonprofit Management at the University of St. Thomas.

\$65 for MCN members / \$95 for nonmembers. Visit [MCN's website](#) for more information and to [register](#).

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## **Funding Opportunities**

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### **Grants and Training Available to Nonprofits Fighting Poverty**

Central Minnesota faith-based and community based organizations can strengthen their internal operations in the fight against poverty and other critical issues, thanks to a minimum of \$65,000 in grants and free training available through a partnership between the Initiative Foundation and the Greater Minneapolis Council of Churches.

Organizations that serve low-income people and/or meet vital needs are eligible for grants up to \$10,000 and related training on several nonprofit management topics. Awards will be announced in August. For more detailed information visit, <http://www.ifound.org>.

To learn more about this program and obtain application information, organization leaders should attend one of two identical, [informational sessions](#) scheduled from 1:30PM-4:00PM or 6:30PM-9:00PM on Wednesday, June 10<sup>th</sup> at the Initiative Foundation in Little Falls.

To register, contact Tricia Holig at [tholig@ifound.org](mailto:tholig@ifound.org) or 877-632-9255. Registration deadline is June 8, 2009.

The program is funded by the Compassion Capital Fund of the U.S. Department of Health and Human Services. Other partners include Fairview Health Services and Minnesota Council of Churches.

### **Clarification of TANF Emergency Funds for Transitional Jobs**

The U.S. Department of Health and Human Services (HHS) has released a Policy Announcement that offers new guidance on how the Temporary Assistance for Needy Families (TANF) Emergency Fund can be used to support [Transitional Jobs programs](#). This announcement clarifies that states can use the Emergency Fund to support all expenditures related to operating a subsidized employment program.

The American Recovery and Reinvestment Act of 2009, signed by the President on February 17, established an Emergency Fund of \$5 billion to be used to reimburse states for 80% of new TANF expenditures in key areas, including subsidized employment. The Policy Announcement from HHS emphasizes the flexibility of Emergency Funds, and urges states to carefully consider how to best "help families unable to find jobs or with low earnings weather this difficult economic time," including efforts to "expand subsidized employment programs that can provide wage-paying jobs when too few exist in the private labor market."

The Policy Announcement also clarifies the allowed uses of Emergency Fund dollars for subsidized employment activities, including Transitional Jobs programs. According to the Definition of Terms (Attachment B) in the Policy Announcement, HHS starting with the "work subsidies" category from the TANF financial reports, which includes "payments to employers or third parties to help cover the costs of employee wages, benefits, supervision, and training." HHS further states that jurisdictions applying for subsidized employment funding should include "all expenditures related to operating a subsidized employment program, including the cost of overseeing the program, developing work sites, and providing training to participants."

See the entire Policy Announcement here: <http://www.acf.hhs.gov/programs/ofa/policy/pa-ofa/2009/pa200901.htm>

The National Transitional Jobs Network (NTJN) and Center for Law and Social Policy (CLASP) recently co-hosted an audio call "Making the Employment Connection: New Opportunities to Develop Transitional Jobs Programs" discussing how Transitional Jobs programs could be developed or expanded under the TANF Emergency Fund and the benefits to TANF recipients and states.

If you could not join us, we've archived the call here <http://www.transitionaljobs.net/Policy/031809.m3u> so you can listen to the discussion or forward this announcement.

To help TANF administrators and advocates across the country, we've developed a toolkit that includes resources and information to help jumpstart your TJ program development efforts. Click here [http://www.transitionaljobs.net/Policy/American\\_%20Recovery\\_Reinvestment\\_Act.htm](http://www.transitionaljobs.net/Policy/American_%20Recovery_Reinvestment_Act.htm) to access NTJN's toolkit and other resources from the audio call.

If you are interested in starting a transitional jobs program and need assistance please contact Chris Warland at 773-336-6082 or [cwarland@heartlandalliance.org](mailto:cwarland@heartlandalliance.org)

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## Things to Know

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### **Initiative Foundation Seeks VISTA Volunteers to Serve Central Minnesota Nonprofits**

*Applications are currently being accepted until all positions are filled or until early June*

Through a partnership with the AmeriCorps\*VISTA (Volunteers In Service To America) program, the Initiative Foundation is seeking 25 full-time volunteers for community service in one of many project sites across central Minnesota.

AmeriCorps\*VISTA is a national service program similar to the Peace Corps. Working with administrative organizations like the Initiative Foundation, it places volunteers in local nonprofit organizations and government agencies to help bring individuals and communities out of poverty.

The Initiative Foundation is seeking VISTAs to serve in: Bemidji, Brainerd, Cambridge, Deerwood, Foley, Little Falls, Milaca, Pine River, St. Cloud, and Staples in a wide variety of programs.

Although the program is coordinated by the Initiative Foundation, each nonprofit organization interviews and selects its own VISTA, who must commit to a one-year community service leadership position. Benefits include training, a monthly living allowance of \$865, health insurance, and a \$4,725 education award or end-of-service stipend of \$1,200.

Interested persons can visit the Initiative Foundation website at [www.ifound.org](http://www.ifound.org) for more details on these positions or contact Chris Fastner at (877) 632-9255 toll-free or [cfastner@ifound.org](mailto:cfastner@ifound.org).

### **Summer Community Volunteer Projects Sought in Stearns and Benton Counties**

The Stearns-Benton Employment and Training Council (SBETC) has received \$601,000 to serve low-income youth and young adults in Stearns and Benton counties in an innovative summer "earn while you learn" program. The work readiness program, **CareerONE**, will be serving 192 low income youth and young adults, ages 14-24, in this program beginning on June 22 on the campus of St. Cloud State University.

SBETC is soliciting work project requests from public and nonprofit entities in Stearns and Benton counties for **CareerONE**. Please see [Project Information Letter](#) and [Work Project Request Form](#) for more information.

### **Central Minnesota Habitat for Humanity Seeks Development Director**

CMHFH seeks a Development Director to direct and implement all aspects of our fundraising efforts. The ideal candidate will be a mission-driven, motivated, self-starting professional with proven success in meeting and exceeding fundraising, sales and/or marketing goals. At a minimum, candidates will

demonstrate strong relationship building, speaking and writing skills as well as proven experience managing development data. Experience in engaging staff and volunteers in development functions and web-based communication are important.

A full job description may be obtained by e-mailing Bruce Johnson, Executive Director at [bjohnson@cmhfh.org](mailto:bjohnson@cmhfh.org). To apply, send a cover letter, resume, writing sample (no more than two pages) and three references to: Executive Director, Central MN Habitat for Humanity, 701 Second Street N., St Cloud, MN 56303. No calls, please.

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*This newsletter is designed to share funding opportunities, resources, and conferences or training events of common interest for program participants and supporters of the Initiative Foundation. For more information about these and other training opportunities, contact Cathy Hartle [chartle@ifound.org](mailto:chartle@ifound.org).*

*If you wish to be removed from this mailing list or if you have other names/e-mails to add please contact Tricia Holig, [tholig@ifound.org](mailto:tholig@ifound.org).*