

“Breaking Barriers”

November 1st, 2017 • 8 – 4:00 PM
Embassy Suites La Vista • La Vista, NE



8:00 – 8:30 **Registration and Breakfast**

8:30 – 9:00 **Guidelines and Principles Panel**

This panel will provide a brief overview of the Guidelines and Principles for Nonprofit Excellence Program and Best Practices Partnerships. The panel is comprised of three vignettes of nonprofits at different stages of the process, highlighting benefits, challenges, and lessons learned.

9:00 – 9:20 **Break**

9:20 – 10:35 **Morning Breakout Session (attendees choose 1)**

“You’ve got your strategic plan, now what?” – Beth Morrisette and Mary Lee Fitzsimmons

“You’ve got your strategic plan, now what?” presentation will assist Executive Directors, Board Presidents, Board members, committee members and leadership teams understand the importance of not letting dust collect on the strategic plan. The intention of any strategic plan is to help move an organization forward to a shared vision of the future. But how do you do that work and still do all of the daily work? One is by setting realistic yearly goals and breaking those goals down into quarterly action steps with accountability assignments. Another is knowing your role and how you can support the implementation and not block progress. Participants will explore strategies to engage the Board, how to ensure participation by the employees, and be given the names of a variety of technology platforms they can use.

Why Nonprofits Should Make Money, Not Just Raise It – Randy Hawthorne

The nonprofit sector has fought the stigma for years because someone decided to name us by our tax status. It’s not the way we should run our businesses – and yes, your nonprofit needs to be treated like a business. In order to allow your mission to not just survive and truly thrive, we need to diversify our revenue, and not continue to rely on traditional donations and grants. Don’t miss this workshop where we give nonprofits the tools they need to start generating revenue, and stop depending just on donations to run their organization.

Move Your Mission: What you need to know about advocacy and lobbying to move legislation related to your mission

Nonprofits and service providers have a powerful voice. That voice, along with their expertise, can inform public policy on behalf of their clients and members. Yet, social impact often cannot be done by just one organization or using one tactic. In this session, we’ll explore important advocacy tools and resources, which allow and encourage organizations to engage in policy, provide a case study example (to show you how easy it can be) and discuss how strategic collaboration around policy issues can advance your mission.

Panelists include:

Marj Plumb, Executive Director, Coalition for a Strong Nebraska
Jo Giles, Policy and Training Director, Coalition for a Strong Nebraska
Michelle Zych, Executive Director, Women's Fund of Omaha
Traci Bruckner, Research and Policy Director, Women's Fund of Omaha
Lisa Sock, Consultant

10:35 – 11:00

Break

11:00 – 12:15

Lunch

11:00 – 11:45

Keynote Presentation

Equity 201: Moving Beyond the Conversation – Vu Le

Equity is the new coconut water. Everyone is drinking it. We've been talking a lot about Equity as a sector, but what does this look like when translated into everyday actions? We'll explore how Equity looks like across critical areas: Fundraising, programs and services, board engagement, hiring, data, communications, community engagement, etc. Vu Le, writer behind NonprofitAF.com (formerly nonprofitwithballs.com), will bring his brand of humor and no-nonsense, will discuss these and other areas and challenge us all to take tangible actions as a sector to advance an equitable society.

11:45 - 12:15

Catalyst Award | Nonprofit Executive Institute Class 12

12:15 – 1:30

Workshop

Equity 201: Implementing Equity at Your Organization – Vu Le

After Vu's presentation, which will be filled with pictures of baby animals, he will facilitate interactive group conversations delving deeper into the specific issues addressed in the keynote, as well as other issues that arise. Although Equity is complex, there are actions we can all take even as we work to address systemic challenges. Every organization will leave with a list of tangible items that can be quickly implemented at their organizations.

1:30 – 1:45

Break

1:45 – 3:00

Afternoon Breakout Sessions (attendees choose 1)

Sharing What Works: Using Data to create culturally sensitive and respectful practices—Renee Franklin

In order for children to succeed, programs need to simultaneously work with children, teachers and families to achieve shared goals and outcomes. In this interactive session, attendees will learn:

- how to develop culturally sensitive and respectful practices using multiple data points for continuous improvement
- how to carefully assign meaning to the results using stakeholder input
 - how to use data to overcome stereotypes (i.e. people in poverty can't...)
- include data from participants in genuine decision making

The Learning Community has successfully designed an early childhood and family learning program which has resulted in outcomes exceeding the school district average as well as nationally recognized benchmarks.

Our strong third party evaluation results has allowed the Learning Community to become the first organization in Nebraska to be recognized as a partner in the Aspen Institute's 2 Gen network.

Intentional Inclusion//Who's in your circle? –Cammy Watkins with Inclusive Communities

As non-profit professionals we often depend highly on our networks to build our organization and our brand. Often our social network highly influences our business network, which could lead to boards, advisors or staff that aren't always representative of the communities of which we serve and work. During this workshop on Intentional Inclusion we will reflect on how networks are formed and what unconscious bias have shaped those networks. We will then discuss ways to expand those networks and work to bring new perspectives to your organizations.

How to reach the next generation of diverse young professionals for board membership – Roger Garcia, MYLPA and Urban League of Nebraska Young Professionals

This workshop will tackle the issue of connecting nonprofit boards with diverse young professionals in the Omaha metro area. Many boards say they struggle with recruiting diverse board members, yet so many well-educated young and diverse professionals live in the Omaha metro area. What is needed to connect a bridge between nonprofit boards and potential new, diverse board members? This workshop will educate nonprofits on easy ways to connect with young professionals for potential board membership and will also provide insight into the modern, diverse young professional. A panel of diverse young professionals will also be present to answer questions regarding how to engage them into nonprofit boards.

3:00 – 3:20

Break

3:20 – 4:00

Embracing Uncertainty Funder Panel

This panel discussion will end the day with reflection and reaction from previous sessions, current trends, and/or how nonprofits can embrace uncertainty.

Panelists include:

Tahnee Markussen, Lozier Foundation
Kristin Williams, The Sherwood Foundation
Pete Tulipana, Iowa West Foundation

4:00-5:30

Networking Happy Hour

Hosted by DA DAVIDSON. | LaVista Embassy Suites

The Summit convenes nonprofit professionals to hear from thought leaders, network with peers and gain insight on best practices for enriching the quality of community life throughout Nebraska and Western Iowa

DA Davidson and Nonprofit Association of the Midlands are not affiliated.