NEBRASKA COMMUNITY FOUNDATION

NEBRASKA COMMUNITY FOUNDATION EDUCATION & TRAINING

We have set an ambitious goal with the education and training resource we provide to Nebraska community leaders: *Affiliated Funds have the capacity, competence and confidence to inspire, lead and support progress in their place.*

Below you will find a list of resources, education and training opportunities available to affiliated funds, Fund Advisory Committees and their communities through Nebraska Community Foundation. These resources are designed to help affiliated fund volunteers engage donors, educate the public about their work, make a real difference through impact grant making, and much more.

All NCF services outlined below start by contacting your Affiliated Fund Development Coordinator.

Visit www.nebcommfound.org/about/team for contact information.

FUND ADVISORY COMMITTEE LEADERSHIP

ACTION PLANNING: This process is designed to help FACs that are serious about growing their unrestricted endowments. FACs will host a town hall visioning session facilitated by NCF staff and peer mentors and use input from their community to write vision, mission, and values statements. You will look at your community's Transfer of Wealth data, set goals for your unrestricted endowment and commit to action steps. Action Planning is conducted over three 3-hour sessions over a span of six weeks to three months.

ACTION PLAN UPDATE: This customized session is for FACs that have previously completed Action Planning and helps you update your vision, mission and values, as well as your goals related to leadership, fund development, communications, and community impact.

IMPACT PLANNING: Think of Impact Planning as a masterclass in effective grantmaking. Using the principles of Rural Development Philanthropy and Asset-Based Community Development, we'll investigate your community from every angle and strategize how to make the most of local assets and relationships in order to maximize your affiliated fund's impact.

PEER LEARNING SESSIONS: Gather together with peers from other communities working on similar goals and issues to learn from one another. These sessions can be organized by topic or geography. Contact your Affiliated Fund Development Coordinator if you'd like to host or organize one in your community.

FAC ORIENTATION: Gain an introduction to the NCF network, benefits of affiliation, resources available, policies and procedures, and the relationship between NCF and affiliated funds. Great for rookies and veteran members alike!

TREASURER TRAINING: Dig deeper into the financial side of your affiliated fund and better understand NCF's financial policies and resources available. Great for Treasurers, Chairs, and all members who want to understand your Fund's finances. NCF's Chief Financial & Administration Officer, Jason Kennedy, leads this as a regional training in several locations around the state each year.

FAC COACHING GUIDE: Each FAC member takes a comprehensive survey covering multiple aspects of your FAC including leadership, FAC culture, fundraising, youth engagement, communications, etc. NCF staff and peer mentors provide a comprehensive report with feedback on the FAC's strengths and recommendations for growth.

FAC SUPERPOWERS: This workshop will help each individual FAC member identify their own strengths and how those strengths can be used to accomplish your vision.

LUNCH & LEARNS: Thirty-minute, peer-led virtual learning sessions featuring cutting-edge topics and real-life success stories. View our Lunch & Learn archive online (www.vimeo.com/ncf). Upcoming sessions are posted on the events page of the NCF website (www.nebcommfound.org/events).

ASSET MAPPING: This interactive workshop helps your FAC identify important and sometimes overlooked assets in your community. Recommended for all FACs, especially those interested in working on grantmaking and building partnerships.

GRAPHIC HISTORY: NCF staff will lead you through a process using graphics and images to tell the story of your FAC's history and identify key people, ideas and events. Through reflection on past successes and lessons learned, we can create a brighter future. It's a great way to engage new and honorary FAC members!

GRANTMAKING WORKSHOP: This workshop will help you reflect on the grants you've made in the past and set goals and priorities for the change you'd like to make in the future. Recommended for FACs with $10,000+ in annual endowment payout; may also be customized for FACs new to grantmaking.

SEVENTH GENERATION LEADERSHIP: The name of this session is inspired by an ancient Iroquois philosophy that the decisions we make today impact seven generations in the future. This workshop will inspire you to reflect on the way your life and community is shaped by leaders who came before you and dream about how your unrestricted endowment could create positive change for generations in the future.

ANNUAL AFFILIATED FUND TRAINING: NCF's biggest event of the year happens every November. Highly interactive and designed to provide practical, action-oriented guidance you can actually put to work in your own community, the training focuses on topics like people attraction, workforce development, youth engagement, early childhood development, quality of life investments, and more.

FUND DEVELOPMENT

MAKE THE ASK WORKSHOP: Gain confidence in making the ask and gain motivation to get outside of your comfort zone! This workshop will share proven tips and techniques and lead you through activities to practice making the ask.

CAMPAIGN PLANNING WORKSHOP: This is a must-do for any FAC that has received a challenge grant or is embarking on a campaign. NCF staff and peer mentors who have led successful campaigns will share what we've learned about different phases of campaigns and recommendations every step of the way.

FINDING MY VOICE: This storytelling workshop will help you articulate your "why" and tell authentic stories about why your community fund matters to you and the impact it makes in the community.

PUT YOURSELF IN THE DONOR'S SHOES: This session aims to help you build stronger relationships by exploring who your prospective donors are and the stories that resonate with them.

PLANNED GIVING

GATHERING EVENTS: A donor education event that helps introduce planned giving to people who are familiar with your fund. This casual social event—involving donors, friends, neighbors, and family—is typically held in someone's home with refreshments followed by a brief overview of various planned giving tools.

LEGACY DINNERS: A Legacy Dinner is a "thank you" to donors with a history of giving to your affiliated fund and an educational event about the most popular planned giving methods. It is also an opportunity to engage local professional advisors by inviting them to attend and bring a client who may be a top planned giving prospect.

PROFESSIONAL ADVISOR WORKSHOP: This educational session is for professional advisors (such as CPAs and attorneys) to learn more about adding value to their clients through charitable giving.

ESTATE PLANNING WORKSHOP: This workshop is a partnership between an FAC, NCF, local professional advisors and sometimes other local charitable organizations to provide education on overall estate planning including planned giving to prospective donors and others.

COMMUNITY ENGAGEMENT

COMMUNITY VISIONING SESSIONS: These town hall style gatherings bring constituents of all ages together to create a unified vision and answer the question, "What future do we want for our community?" Youth visioning sessions are also an option to engage middle or high school students.

ToP FACILITATION METHODS: NCF periodically hosts a two-day workshop with Technology of Participation (ToP) trainers on facilitation methods to help participants lead focused conversations, consensus workshops, and Action Planning. The training is recommended for FAC members and peer mentors interested in convening and facilitating groups.

YOUTH SURVEYS: Youth input is invaluable to creating magnetic communities. NCF can help you survey your community's youth about their interests, engagement with the community, and plans after graduation.

CUSTOMIZED FACILITATION SERVICES: Available by request. If your FAC is convening several groups and partnerships or could benefit from professional facilitation services, NCF staff may be able to help. Contact your Affiliated Fund Development Coordinator for more information.

DIVERSITY & INCLUSION

INTERCULTURAL DEVELOPMENT INVENTORY: Intercultural competence is a key leadership skill in a changing world. This assessment tool facilitated by a trained consultant will help your FAC members assess their intercultural competence and take steps to improve it. FAC members meet one-on-one with a coach to review their confidential results and meet together as a group to identify action steps together.

THE BELONGING GAME: This interactive game will have your FAC members identifying constituent groups and brainstorming creative ways to use your community's assets to build a culture of belonging and inclusiveness.

CUSTOMIZED TRAININGS: Available by request. Contact your Affiliated Fund Development Coordinator to start the conversation.

MARKETING & COMMUNICATIONS

NCF's marketing team is happy to provide support on a number of promotional projects, from reviewing press releases and donor letters, to helping with graphic design. See the following page for more information on how to request assistance.

PEER MENTORS

Over 90 community volunteer leaders serve as peer mentors by sharing what they've learned through creating positive change in their own community with peers in neighboring hometowns. Peer mentors help conduct and facilitate several workshops and trainings. Periodically, advanced learning opportunities are available to this special group of people.

ON-SITE TRAINING AND TECHNICAL ASSISTANCE

We'll meet with you one-on-one to set goals, plan, answer questions, share techniques, and provide assistance by request.

For more information on Education and Training resources available through NCF, contact your Affiliated Fund Development Coordinator.

WORKING WITH THE NCF MARKETING TEAM

Services the Marketing Team provides:

- Reviewing and polishing press releases, donor letters, and other materials your Fund develops
- Reviewing bylined/contributed content for newspapers and other media outlets
- Talking through media opportunities and interview messaging points
- Designing marketing materials like flyers, tri-fold brochures, fact sheets, event invitations, and pledge sheets
- Promoting and educating people about your fund
- Creating social media graphics and/or content ideas

Information the Marketing Team needs to help you:

- Ample time
  Please allow us (at minimum) 2–3 weeks to work on your project (from the time you supply us with images and any other materials necessary to produce what you need).
- Marketing pieces you've developed to date
  What do you like? What do you want to see changed? Have you already established a "brand" or look? Think colors, shapes, fonts, etc.
- Dynamic, high resolution image files
  Think beyond big check photos and find or capture images that show your grantmaking in action!
- High resolution logo file
  If you have one (preferably an Illustrator file (ai or eps) or a high resolution JPEG).
- Any specific language you would like included
  Vision? Mission? Values? Details on any matching funds/challenge grants that should be included? Fund accomplishments and/or a list of projects previously granted to? Dreams and goals for the future?
- Contact details to include on printed materials
- Your deadline
  When do you need the piece in hand? Are you having it professionally printed? Let us know so we can work backwards.

Where the Marketing Team cannot assist:

- Annual report development/design
- Logo design (we encourage you to work with local talent on creation of a high-resolution or vector logo!)
- Tracking down images (we have some great suggestions for where you can find them.)
- Researching and acquiring bids from printers (we can send the files to your chosen professional printer once the files are finalized!)

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