Nonprofit Leadership Program

Mid-Shore Community Foundation, in partnership with the QAC Chamber of Commerce and QAC Local Management Board, is hosting a Nonprofit Leadership Program for nonprofit staff, board members and volunteers. Led by award-winning nonprofit leader Rob Levit, Licensed Consultant with the Standards for Excellence® Institute, the 4-Session Program will provide an interactive, accessible, and in-depth look at the essential pillars of operating an excellent nonprofit organization. Participants are encouraged to attend all 4 sessions.

SESSION #1 - VISIONARY NONPROFITS: MISSION, EXCELLENCE AND ACCOUNTABILITY
Nonprofits that harness their missions as a strategic tool and create strong systems of operational excellence and accountability have a competitive advantage when it comes to funding, programming, and innovative initiatives. When mission acts as a “strategy screen” and operational excellence is in place, a nonprofit has margin or breathing space to focus on what is most critical. Although rarely discussed, true operational excellence is visionary. Find out why and how your nonprofit can deepen its commitment to strong internal operations and strategic thinking and the amazing outcomes that follow. In the new era of nonprofit operations during COVID-19, nonprofit survival depends on it.

SESSION #2 - MEANINGFUL METRICS: DATA AND STORIES THAT DRIVE EXCELLENCE
It can be persistently difficult for nonprofits to gather, interpret and make effective use of metrics and data. In addition, metrics and data alone are not enough to create a compelling picture of an effective nonprofit. Behind meaningful metrics and data are meaningful stories that provide funders, donors, and stakeholders with the human side of a nonprofit’s mission. Meaningful metrics and data create strong internal benchmarks for nonprofit improvement and growth. Learn a variety of simple strategies and techniques to fully capture the data and stories your nonprofit needs to reach its next level of effectiveness.

SESSION #3 - WRITING WINNING GRANTS: POSITION TO WIN/AVOID THE PITFALLS
Grants are no guarantee of funding or good funding. Many nonprofits get trapped by grants that are too restrictive or with reporting requirements that tax the capacity of the organization. Still, grants are a critical component of nonprofit funding and there are important indicators of an effective grant - organizational history, metrics and data, timelines, budgets, artifacts, letters of support, logic models and much more. Is your organization poised for successful grant submission? Learn out the hard truths and the exciting possibilities of grant writing using actual examples and guidance from organizations and foundations.

SESSION #4 - BOARD-STAFF RELATIONSHIPS: VISION, REALITY AND FOCUS
There is nothing more positive and serendipitous than a board that works well with nonprofit staff. Unfortunately, there are many obstacles and hazards to creating a healthy board-staff relationship that enables a nonprofit to fully thrive. Using the nonprofit lifecycle, the common dysfunctions of a board and the Standards for Excellence®, learn practical strategies to improve communication, resolve conflict and act ethically so that the board-staff relationship is pillar of effectiveness and strength for your nonprofit. A board and staff aligned around the mission of the nonprofit organization creates an unstoppable “force for good.”

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