Continuing our Mission

We provide Fox Valley nonprofits with opportunities for leadership development and learning to better achieve their missions.

When we began our initiative in 2016, we knew there was a need for nonprofit leadership training. What we didn’t know, is if two years later there would be the same enthusiasm for our training and programming. As we began our third year this past July, we found the answer to be YES, WE WANT MORE!

The compelling stories of success from executive directors and board members engaged in our programming continue to drive our commitment to this additional resource in our local community.

Our founding funders had a commitment to the vision and made three-year funding pledges to begin this initiative. Those funders include the Community Foundation for the Fox Valley Region, Community First Credit Union, United Way and Thrivent.

Recently the Community Foundation has committed their support for the Nonprofit Leadership Initiative to continue as one of their programs supporting local nonprofits for an additional three years, beginning July 1, 2019.

We are especially excited about the Community Foundation’s decision to double their financial contribution to our programming.

With this backing we are not only continuing our current programming, but also identifying the gaps and reaching out to external resources to help fill them.

Technology Workshops

NPLI has also partnered with Microsoft Techspark Wisconsin to help nonprofits create a strategy to use technology to move their missions forward.

Microsoft contracted with Wipfli to provide a series of workshops for 11 nonprofits to develop a comprehensive road map for success in using technology to meet their missions.

“Technology is not just a tool, it is a strategy to better achieve your mission,” stated Ryan Peasley, Wipfli Technology Manager who led the workshops. “Instead of only focusing on how much technology costs, we should focus on the improved outcomes technology enables.”

NPLI received a $30,000 grant this year from Microsoft for the work we are doing to help nonprofits in this arena.

Throughout this project, FVTC has joined us and continues to be a resource to our local nonprofits by offering IT planning, guidance and much more.
Join us!

On behalf of the committee members investing their time, talent and treasure toward fulfilling our mission, I thank you for your support.

We are motivated to make a better community through our thriving nonprofits and the lives they touch.

*Your financial contribution builds strong nonprofit leaders who are making an impact on our community.*

If you would like to learn more about our current events, future plans, or funding opportunities, please don’t hesitate to contact me.

If you are able to include us in your will or estate planning, we would love to hear from you. Gifts of cash, securities, IRA assets, real estate or other assets help make our programs available.

*Kim O’Brien*

Executive Director
Nonprofit Leadership Initiative
kobrien@cffoxvalley.org
920-470-2300

Meet our Steering Council:

- Gary Cebulski, Accounting/Finance Executive
- Lynn Coriano, POINT
- Mary Downs, Catalpa
- Jenni Eickelberg, Thrivent Financial
- Tammy Geenen, Community Foundation for the Fox Valley Region
- Tony Gonzalez, United Way Fox Cities
- Jeff Hahn, Real World Strategies
- Marti Hemwall, Community Volunteer
- Nancy Heykes, On Point Consulting
- Mary Sullivan, Community First Credit Union
- Kim Wetzel, Bemis Company Foundation

NPLI Programs

- **Leadership Institute**
  
  **What:**
  Nonprofit Management Certificate program
  39 participants, 35 nonprofits

  **Strengths:**
  Cohort building, content depth & breadth, leadership growth of participants

- **Executive Director Forum**
  
  **What:**
  Training events on best practice for nonprofits
  14 events, 400 attendees, 142 nonprofits,
  29 topics, 32 trainers

  **Strengths:**
  Content value for time invested, networking,
  ability to blend with Leadership Institute offerings

- **Board Support**
  
  **What:**
  Mentoring for new board members
  7 events, 60 plus attendees, 12 topics

  **Strengths:**
  High value/low time investment, networking,
  aligned with Leadership Institute's curriculum

- **Join A Board**
  
  **What:**
  Creating community awareness of nonprofits
  10 events, 450 attendees, 65 nonprofits

  **Strengths:**
  Build awareness of nonprofit engagement,
  attract new volunteers, focus on young professionals

- **Curated External Resources**
  
  **Nonprofit Next:**
  Online portal of information for nonprofits
  covering 512 best practice resources
  402 users, 252 nonprofits

  **Strengths:**
  Curated information, 24/7 availability

  **Network for Good and Technology Workshops**
  Listed on front page

  **Strengths:**
  Access to key resources, low cost investment