



Center for Nonprofit Excellence

In This Issue

[Workers Comp Symposium- Cancelled](#)

[The Mini-MBA Institute](#)

[2012 Nonprofit Directory](#)

[HR Networking](#)

[Development Networking](#)

[Member Brown Bag](#)

[PPUW City/CDBG Fund Allocations](#)

[Proposition 103](#)

[Understanding Giving](#)

[Health Care Tax Credit](#)

Dear Reader,

If your 501(c)(3) is on a fiscal year, chances are the Secretary of State has mailed you a reminder to renew your charitable status. The deadline for many organizations is Nov. 15, so don't forget! In fact, this newsletter has several reminders about important federal, state, and local news, from checking eligibility for the IRS Health Care Tax Credit, to learning about Colorado's Proposition 103, to getting involved in City/CDGB Fund Allocations.

Finally, the Colorado Nonprofit Association has released a new report called "Understanding Giving: Beliefs & Behaviors of Colorado's Donors." This is a great resource during this fall season of giving.

Sincerely,

Dave Somers

Executive Director of Center for Nonprofit Excellence

Pinnacol: Workers Comp Symposium-~~Cancelled~~

Wednesday, October 26th at the Crowne Plaza.

Community Calendar

Please visit our website for all calendar information

[October 27& 28: Mini MBA](#)

[November 2: HR Networking](#)

[November 3: Development](#)

[November 8: CEO Breakfast](#)

[November 10: Member Brown Bag](#)

The Mini-MBA Institute

When: October 27 & 28, 2011 - 8:30 a.m. to 4:00 p.m.

Where: Pikes Peak United Way, 518 N. Nevada Ave.

Cost: \$180 CNE members, \$300 Non-members

In response to member requests for advanced training opportunities, the Center for Nonprofit Excellence is proud to present the "Mini-MBA" 2-day institute for mid-level and advanced nonprofit professionals.

This fast-paced training will provide an overview of six critical business topics:

- Financial Management
- Human Resources
- Operations & Project Management
- Marketing
- Information Technology
- Planning

Led by presenters for a variety of business industries, each 90-minute session will include a review of business terminology, best practices and issues. Opening and closing sessions will highlight tactics for integrating sound business skills in the nonprofit setting.

Click [here](#) for more information.

Member of the Month

El Paso County Parks Naturalist Docent Organization

Mission:

Creating community through stewardship, education and outdoor recreation at Bear Creek and Fountain Creek Nature Centers.

New Member of the Month

Cottonwood Center for the Arts

Mission:

To provide art instruction, space for artists to work and exhibit; and a space for a thriving arts community.

2012 Nonprofit Directory Submission

The Pikes Peak Regional Nonprofit Directory is published annually as a joint project of the Center for Nonprofit Excellence and the Colorado Springs Business Journal, and last year's directory contained about 600 listings. Last year's directory can be found online at our [website](#). This is a free listing for any nonprofit in El Paso County.

Click [here](#) to register your organization.

***Submission deadline is October 31st; please only one submission per organization.**

Listing and ad space are available for corporate partners too; please call 719-575-4341 for details.

HR Networking

Topic: Effective Employee Meetings

Speaker: Amy Dinofrio, Pikes Peak United Way

When: Wednesday, November 2, 2011

Time: 8:00-9:00 AM

Where: Pikes Peak United Way, 518 N Nevada Ave, Colorado Springs

Please RSVP to danielle@cncoloradosprings.org

Development Networking

Topic: Donor Recognition

Speaker: Debbie Fowler, Colorado College

When: Thursday, November 3, 2011

Time: 8:00-9:00 AM

Where: Pikes Peak United Way, 518 N Nevada Ave, Colorado Springs

Please RSVP to danielle@cncoloradosprings.org

CEO Breakfast

Topic: Management and staff training

When: Tuesday, November 8, 2011

Time: 8:00-9:00 AM

Where: La Baguette, 117 E Pikes Peak Ave

Please RSVP to danielle@cncoloradosprings.org

Member Brown Bag

Topic: Cervis Technologies

Speaker: Matthew Mayberry

When: Thursday, November 10, 2011

Time: 12:00-1:00 PM

Where: Pikes Peak United Way, 518 N Nevada Ave

Please RSVP to danielle@cncoloradosprings.org

Discover the new www.volunteerpikespeak.org website and how to use it most effectively to promote volunteer opportunities. Also, find out the benefits of developing your own volunteer database.

Pikes Peak United Way

VOLUNTEERS:

Join us: City/CDGB Fund Allocations Volunteers Needed

When: October 27 - December 7, approximately 20 hours

Where: Pikes Peak United Way

Contact: Lori Bellingham

lori1@ppunitedway.org or phone at (719) 955-0767

Pikes Peak United Way and the City of Colorado Springs are looking for volunteers to serve on our 2012 City/CDBG Fund Allocation Committee alongside some other community-minded leaders! This Committee determines some of the most effective and valuable investments in human service programs in the Pikes Peak Region. As a volunteer, you'll be a member of a dynamic team that will evaluate proposals and programs requesting funding. Each year we find that there is not enough money to cover all of the need, so your perspective and discernment are critical in determining which programs should be funded. Please understand that your decisions will affect the lives of our neighbors in need.

On behalf of Pikes Peak United Way and the City of Colorado Springs, we hope you'll consider this incredible opportunity to make a significant impact!

Does Proposition 103 Help Nonprofits?

The Center for Nonprofit Excellence, while not taking a formal stand on Proposition 103, seeks to raise awareness about issues like this that may have broader implications for the nonprofit community. Working directly with the Colorado Nonprofit Association in Denver, we have asked how Proposition 103 helps nonprofits. Here's what we received in reply:

- Colorado nonprofits need a high quality education system to ensure they can recruit well-educated, homegrown employees who are competitive with those from other states. Strong public schools are the backbone of a strong state economy. Proposition 103 ensures that ongoing cuts do not continue to weaken our education system.
- A quality education empowers and provides economic opportunity to the people that nonprofits serve. Investments in education also support the effectiveness of nonprofits.
- By increasing funding for education, Proposition 103 could free up existing state funds to expand support of other public services that nonprofits deliver or otherwise benefit people that nonprofits serve.

The Colorado Nonprofit Association strongly supports Proposition 103 because it not only addresses the above issues, but also:

- offers a five-year timeout from short-sighted and irresponsible school cuts by restoring tax rates that Colorado had throughout the 1990s;
- creates strong public schools that are the backbone of a strong economy;
- reinvests \$540 dollars of funding per K-12 student;
- prevents tuition increases for public higher education institutions

If your organization stands to be impacted by Proposition 103, please remember that 501 (c)(3) organizations have the right to advocate on behalf of their missions.

Click [here](#) for Proposition 103 Tool kit.

For additional information regarding upcoming local election issues, please go to: <http://www.citizensproject.org/what-we-stand-for/civic-engagement/2011-general-election-information/>

New report - Understanding Giving: Beliefs & Behaviors of Colorado's Donors

Colorado Nonprofit Association (CNA) has released a new report, [Understanding Giving: Beliefs & Behaviors of Colorado's Donors](#). Throughout 2011, CNA has conducted an extensive research project to learn about Coloradans' values and beliefs regarding charitable giving and nonprofits, and about the causes and connections that lead to making a donation. The study includes a wealth of information about how donors make decisions to give to particular causes and organizations and how they act out those decisions, combined with demographic data such as gender, age, education, income, and trends among different regions of Colorado.

To learn more about the trends and themes found among Colorado donors, and to download the full report, please visit www.ColoradoNonprofits.org/GivingReport2011.

Health Care Tax Credit for Nonprofits

The IRS has asked for help in getting the word out to small organizations about the Small Business Health Care Tax Credit. You may follow this link for more information:

<http://www.irs.gov/newsroom/article/0,,id=223666,00.html>. If you have questions, please contact the IRS or use the links on the IRS website that will connect you to FAQs.



Eligible tax-exempt employers that have fewer than 25 full time equivalent employees earning annual average wages of less than \$50,000 may qualify for a refundable tax credit. Eligible 501(c) employers who pay at least half of the cost of their employees' health insurance coverage may qualify for a tax credit of up to 25% of those premiums. On January 1, 2014, this rate will increase to 35% for tax-exempt employers.

The Center for Nonprofit Excellence

strengthens Southern Colorado's nonprofit sector through leadership and resource development, advocacy and collaboration.

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