



Funding Alert

February 2, 2010

The Development and Funding Alert is a publication of NOPA, Inc. and is provided as a service to the community with the purpose of educating and informing elected officials, municipalities, civic and non-profit organizations about fundraising and grant opportunities to support programs that empower and improve the lives of Portuguese-Americans.

NOPA provides technical assistance and workshops on fundraising, grant development, and non-profit management. For more information contact NOPA, Inc. at 703-389-3512 or info@nopa-us.org.

2010 Census

The 2010 Census is quickly approaching, it is important for Portuguese-Americans to partake in this simple and easy questionnaire that will affect them for the next 10 years. Our job is to ensure that our community is counted! NOPA needs the help of nonprofits and community-based organizations to educate and motivate their constituents about the importance of completing the 2010 Census questionnaire. We want to ensure that when the federal government allocates over \$400 billion to communities based on this data, the Portuguese-American community gets what it needs and deserves. Census data can be used for grant proposals and to help determine social services needs and funding for nonprofits, community-based organizations and the government. Additionally, census data helps community-based organizations estimate the number of potential volunteers and residents who need services in the community.

***The 2010 Census is Easy, Safe and Important.
Census Day is April 1, 2010. Make sure our Portuguese-American Community Counts!***

Federal Grants

*****NEW*** Veterans Business Outreach Center Program**

Small Business Administration (SBA) announces funds to conduct Veteran's Business Outreach Center (VBOC) projects. The projects are to provide outreach, assessment, long and short-term business training, counseling, directed referring, electronic or on-line assistance and other technical assistance services to veteran, service disabled veteran and US Military Reserve Component business owners and entrepreneurs, including discharging service members eligible for participation in the DOD/DOL Transition Assistance Program.

Eligibility: City or township governments, county governments, state governments, nonprofit organizations, for-profit organizations other than small businesses and small businesses

Deadline: February 22, 2010.

Funds: 12 awards ranging from \$150,000-\$150,000 will be funded.

Information: <http://www.sba.gov/aboutsba/sbaprograms/ovbd/index.html>.



*****NEW*** OVW FY 2010 Grants to Enhance Culturally and Linguistically Specific Services for Victims of Domestic Violence, Dating Violence, Sexual Assault and Stalking Program**

Department of Justice (DOJ) announces funds to support community-based organizations in providing culturally and linguistically relevant services to victims of sexual assault, domestic violence, dating violence, and stalking.

Eligibility: Nonprofit and community-based organizations, and others.

Deadline: March 4, 2010.

Pre-Application Conference Calls: 2 p.m. - 4 p.m. E.T. on: February 11, 2010; February 16, 2010; and February 18, 2010. Registration is required.

Funds: \$7,650,000 is available to fund 25 awards, ranging from \$150,000-\$300,000.

Information: <http://www.ovw.usdoj.gov/docs/fy10-culturally-linguistically.pdf>.

*****NEW*** VA Grant/Per Diem, 2010 Capital Grant**

Department of Veterans' Affairs (VA) announces funds to support community agencies providing services to homeless Veterans. The purpose is to promote the development and provision of supportive housing and/or supportive services with the goal of helping homeless Veterans achieve residential stability, increase their skill levels and/or income, and obtain greater self-determination.

Eligibility: City or township governments, county governments, state governments, nonprofit organizations and public housing authorities.

Deadline: March 31, 2010.

Funds: \$24,000,000 is available to fund 40 awards. A match is required.

Information: <http://www1.va.gov/homeless/page.cfm?pg=3>.

*****NEW*** Challenge America Fast-Track**

National Endowment for the Arts (NEA) announces funds to support small and mid-sized organizations for projects that extend the reach of the arts to underserved populations -- those whose opportunities to experience the arts are limited by geography, ethnicity, economics, or disability.

Eligibility: City or township governments, county governments, independent school districts, special district governments, public and state controlled institutions of higher education, state governments, nonprofit organizations and private institutions of higher education.

Deadline: May 27, 2010.

Funds: Awards range up to \$10,000. A match is required.

Information: <http://www.arts.gov/grants/apply/GAP11/Challenge.html>.

*****NEW*** Learning in the Arts for Children and Youth**

National Endowment for the Arts (NEA) announces funds to support projects that help children and youth acquire knowledge and understanding of and skills in the arts. Projects must provide participatory learning and engage students with skilled artists, teachers, and excellent art.

Eligibility: County governments, independent school districts, nonprofit and community-based organizations.

Deadline: June 10, 2010.

Funds: Awards range from \$5,000-\$150,000. A match is required.

Information: <http://www.arts.gov/grants/apply/GAP11/LITA.html>.

Excellence in Economic Education Program

Department of Education (ED) announces funds to promote economic and financial literacy among all students in kindergarten through grade 12 through the award of one grant to a national nonprofit educational organization that has as its primary purpose the improvement of the quality of student understanding of personal finance and economics.

Eligibility: Nonprofit organizations.



Deadline: February 16, 2010.

Funds: 1 award is available ranging up to \$1,447,000.

Information: Julius Cotton at (202) 245-6140 or julius.cotton@ed.gov; or go to: <http://www.grants.gov> and enter CFDA# 84.215B.

Regional AIDS Education and Training Centers

Department of Health and Human Services (DHHS) announces funds to improve healthcare and health outcomes for people living with HIV/AIDS. This is accomplished through providing education, training, clinical consultation and other forms of decision support to HIV/AIDS clinical care providers currently serving this population and to clinical providers in minority and other highly impacted and high risk communities, where enhanced access to HIV treatment resources is needed.

Eligibility: Public and state controlled institutions of higher education, nonprofit organizations, private institutions of higher education and others.

Deadline: February 19, 2010.

Funds: \$30,000,000 is available to fund 11 awards.

Information: Lynn R. Wegman at (301) 443-5658 or lwegman@hrsa.gov; or go to:

<https://grants.hrsa.gov/webExternal/FundingOppDetails.asp?FundingCycleId=0327C5A2-FC53-49DA-A91C-E49B92E38ADE&ViewMode=EU&GoB>.

Summer Seminars and Institutes

National Endowment for the Humanities (NEH) announces funds to support faculty development programs in the humanities for school teachers and for college and university teachers.

Eligibility: City or township governments, county governments, independent school districts, special district governments, public and state controlled institutions of higher education, state governments, nonprofit organizations and private institutions of higher education.

Deadline: March 2, 2010.

Funds: Awards range from \$60,000-\$200,000.

Information: Division of Education Programs at (202) 606-8463 or sem-inst@neh.gov; or go to:

<http://www.neh.gov/grants/guidelines/seminars.html>.

Community Action for a Renewed Environment (CARE) Program

Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) announces funds to support an unique community-based, community-driven, multimedia demonstration program designed to help communities understand and reduce risks due to toxic pollutants and environmental concerns from all sources.

Eligibility: Nonprofit organizations and private institutions of higher education.

Deadline: March 9, 2010.

Funds: \$2,000,000 is available to fund 9 awards, ranging from \$100,000-\$150,000.

Information: (202) 343-9213 or oconnor.dennis@epa.gov or go to

http://www.epa.gov/air/grants/care_rfp_12_09.pdf.

State Single Point of Contact: This grant is subject to "Intergovernmental Review" under EO 12372. Please go to <http://opgs.dc.gov/>, select "State Single Point of Contact" to comply.

Learn and Serve America Higher Education FY2010

Corporation for National and Community Service (CNCS) announces funds to support institutions of higher education that use innovative service-learning programming to meet the needs of local communities. Programs promote institutional commitment to the local community while promoting lifelong civic engagement for student participants.

Eligibility: Public and state controlled institutions of higher education, state governments, nonprofit organizations



and private institutions of higher education.

Deadline: March 9, 2010.

Funds: \$6,800,000 is available to fund 18 awards, ranging from \$85,000-\$500,000. A match is required.

Information: (202) 606-7510 or lsahighered@cns.gov; or go to:

http://www.nationalservice.gov/for_organizations/funding/nofa_detail.asp?tbl_nofa_id=76.

21st Century Museum Professionals

Institute of Museum and Library Services (IMLS) announces funds to increase the capacity of museums by improving the knowledge and skills of museum professionals in multiple institutions.

Eligibility: Public and state controlled institutions of higher education, nonprofit organizations, private institutions of higher education and community-based organizations.

Deadline: March 15, 2010.

Pre-Application Conference Calls: Wednesday, February 3, 2010 at 2:00 p.m. Please check the website for details.

Funds: Awards range from \$15,000-\$50,000. A match is required.

Information: <http://www.ims.gov/applicants/grants/21centuryMuseums.shtm>.

Presidential Awards for Excellence in Science, Mathematics and Engineering Mentoring

National Science Foundation (NSF) announces funds to support the Presidential Awards for Excellence in Science, Mathematics and Engineering Mentoring (PAESMEM) program. The program seeks to identify outstanding individual mentoring efforts or organizational programs designed to enhance the participation of groups underrepresented in science, technology, engineering, and mathematics.

Eligibility: Individuals.

Deadline: March 23, 2010.

Funds: \$400,000 is available to fund 16 awards, ranging up to \$25,000.

Information: Daphne Y. Rainey at (703) 292-4671 or go to:

http://www.nsf.gov/publications/pub_summ.jsp?ods_key=nsf10520.

Digital Humanities Start-Up Grants

National Endowment for the Humanities (NEH) announces funds to encourage innovations in the digital humanities. Digital Humanities Start-Up Grants may involve research that bring new approaches or documents best practices in the study of the digital humanities; planning and developing prototypes of new digital tools for preserving, analyzing, and making accessible digital resources, including libraries' and museums' digital assets; scholarship that examines the philosophical implications and impact of the use of emerging technologies; innovative uses of technology for public programming and education utilizing both traditional and new media; and new digital modes of publication that facilitate the dissemination of humanities scholarship in advanced academic as well as informal or formal educational settings at all academic levels.

Eligibility: City or township governments, county governments, special district governments, public and state controlled institutions of higher education, state governments, private institutions of higher education, nonprofit and community-based organizations.

Deadline: March 23, 2010.

Funds: 40 awards are available ranging up to \$50,000.

Information: <http://www.neh.gov/grants/guidelines/digitalhumanitiesstartup.html>.

Foundation Grants

*****NEW*** Communities Creating Healthy Environments: Improving Access to Healthy Foods and Safe Places to Play in Communities of Color**



Robert Wood Johnson Foundation (RWJF) announces funds to support programs that aim to prevent childhood obesity by increasing access to healthy foods and safe places to play in communities of color.

Eligibility: Nonprofit organizations and community-based organizations.

Deadline: February 25, 2010.

Pre-Application Web Conference: February 6, 2010 (11 a.m. ET).

Funds: \$2,500,000 is available to fund 10 awards, ranging up to \$250,000. A match is required.

Information: <http://www.rwjf.org/applications/solicited/cfp.jsp?ID=20961>.

*****NEW*** Family and Adult Literacy Programs**

Dollar General Literacy Foundation announces funds to support family literacy service providers and organizations that provide direct service to adults in need of literacy assistance.

Eligibility: Public and private schools, libraries and and nonprofit organizations.

Deadline: February 25, 2010.

Funds: Awards range up to \$20,000.

Information: <http://www.dgliteracy.com/grant-program/>.

*****NEW*** MetLife Foundation Community-Police Partnership Awards Program**

MetLife Foundation announces funds to recognize, sustain and share the work of innovative partnerships between community groups and police to promote neighborhood safety and revitalization.

Eligibility: City or township governments, nonprofit organizations and community-based organizations.

Deadline: February 26, 2010.

Funds: Awards range from \$15,000-\$25,000.

Information: <http://www.lisc.org/section/ourwork/national/safety/awards>.

*****NEW*** EcoStar Grants**

Constellation Energy announces funds to support qualifying nonprofit organizations to implement environmental stewardship projects. The EcoStar Grant program targets community-based projects that fit into one or more of five stewardship categories: pollution prevention, education and outreach, energy efficiency, conservation, and community activism.

Eligibility: Nonprofit organizations.

Deadline: March 16, 2010.

Funds: Awards range up to \$5,000.

Information:

<http://www.constellation.com/portal/site/constellation/menuitem.999b6fed85785a2399084010016176a0>.

*****NEW*** Youth Program Grants**

Entertainment Software Association Foundation (ESA) announces funds to support positive programs and opportunities that make a difference in the lives of America's youth. Grants



will be made to support programs and services that utilize technology and/or computer and video games to educate America's youth and young adults.

Eligibility: Nonprofit organizations.

Deadline: April 15, 2010.

Funds: Awards range up to \$50,000.

Information: <http://www.theesa.com/foundation/application.asp>.

Affordable Housing Built Responsibly Grant Program

Home Depot Foundation announces funds to support organizations whose missions align with the Foundation's interests in supporting the production and preservation of affordable, efficient and healthy housing.

Eligibility: Nonprofit organizations.

Deadline: March 15, 2010. LOI due January 15, 2010.

Information: <http://www.homedepotfoundation.org/grants.html>.

Shelter Grant Program

Mary Kay Foundation announces funds to support shelters serving victims/survivors of domestic violence.

Eligibility: Nonprofit organizations.

Deadline: June 30, 2010.

Funds: Awards range up to \$20,000.

Information: <http://www.mkacf.org/Pages/ShelterGrantProgram.aspx>.

Intel Schools of Distinction Awards

Intel Education Initiative announces an awards program that recognizes U.S. schools that demonstrate 21st century teaching and learning environments and implement innovative programs that inspire their students to excel in math and science.

Eligibility: K-12 public, private, charter, and/or parochial schools.

Deadline: February 17, 2010.

Funds: Awards ranging from \$2,500-\$25,000.

Information: <http://www.intel.com/education/schoolsofdistinction/?iid=CAG1005>.

New Voices

J-Lab: The Institute for Interactive Journalism announces funds to launch participatory news ventures serving defined communities.

Eligibility: Public and state controlled institutions of higher education, nonprofit organizations, private institutions of higher education and individuals.

Deadline: March 1, 2010.

Funds: Awards range up to \$25,000.

Information: (202) 885-8100 or news@j-lab.org; or go to: <http://www.j-newvoices.org/site/story/2010rfp/>.

Shade Structure Program

American Academy of Dermatology announces funds to purchase permanent shade structures designed to provide shade and ultraviolet (UV) ray protection for outdoor areas.



Eligibility: Nonprofit organizations and public schools.

Deadline: April 12, 2010.

Funds: Awards range up to \$8,000.

Information: shadestructure@aad.org; or go to:
<http://www.aad.org/public/sun/grants.html>.

Starbucks Shared Planet Youth Action Grants

Starbucks Foundation supports organizations that: provide training to young people to develop necessary skills and knowledge to incubate ideas, identify and assess community needs, create a plan of action, execute a plan and evaluate outcomes against goals; build ongoing leadership capacity and long term engagement of young people; and communicate young peoples' success stories through various media (print, video, web based).

Eligibility: Nonprofit and community-based organizations.

Deadline: Open. Complete an online profile, the Foundation will contact your organization if they want a full proposal.

Funds: Awards range from \$10,000-\$25,000.

Information: <http://www.starbucksfoundation.com/index.cfm?objectid=525D51E7-1D09-317F-BBF9A860BE884D22>.

Announcements and Resources

2010-11 Catalogue for Philanthropy: Greater Washington

The Catalogue for Philanthropy: Greater Washington is an annual publication and website that feature high-performing nonprofit organizations in the District of Columbia and nearby Virginia and Maryland counties. A collaborative project of foundation, corporate, and individual funders, the Catalogue introduces potential donors to new charitable opportunities. For inclusion in the Catalogue, interested nonprofits must complete an online application, which is then reviewed by a selection committee. Sixty-eight organizations will be chosen for presentation in the print Catalogue.

Deadline: February 22nd, 2010.

Information: www.cfp-dc.org.

Bezos Scholars Program @ the Aspen Institute Seeks Applications from Public High School Juniors

The Bezos Scholars Program @ the Aspen Institute will select twelve top public high school juniors and twelve dynamic educators from their respective schools to receive seven-day, all-expense-paid scholarships to attend the Aspen Ideas Festival, July 5-11, 2010. The program seeks students who are independent thinkers, demonstrated leaders, and engaged community members. To be eligible, applicants' schools must be public high schools (including charter and magnet schools) where at least 25 percent of students are eligible for the free/reduced lunch program. Potential scholars must be legal U.S. Citizens or Permanent Residents in their junior year with a GPA of 3.5 or higher and be taking Advanced Placement or International Baccalaureate classes.

Information: <http://www.bezosfamilyfoundation.org/scholars/>.



Gloria Barron Prize for Young Heroes

The Gloria Barron Prize for Young Heroes seeks nominations for its 2010 awards. The Barron Prize honors young people between the ages of 8 and 18 who have made a significant positive difference to people and our planet. Each year, ten national winners each receive \$2,500 to support their service work or higher education.

Deadline: April 30, 2010.

Information: <http://www.barronprize.org/>.

Inspired thought Award

C.Fox Communications is accepting applications for its *inspired thought Award* (the *it Award*), which is worth up to \$20,000 of pro bono public relations and marketing services including: Strategy, Writing/Messaging, Media Relations, Branding and Social Media. To win the award, an organization must demonstrate a mission-driven nature to its work and a particular need for PR or marketing services. All US-based organizations of five or more full-time employees are eligible to apply.

Deadline: March 1, 2010.

Information: www.cfoxcommunications.com.

Jenzabar Foundation Announces Call for Nominations for Annual Student Leadership Awards

The Jenzabar Foundation Student Leadership Awards will honor ten student-led campus groups or activities that have made a difference in the world through community service and philanthropic activities. A \$5,000 grant is included with the recognition to support the student or group's future humanitarian endeavors.

Deadline: March 31, 2010.

Information:

http://www.thejenzabarfoundation.org/ICS/Foundation_Homepage.jnz?portlet=Student_Leadership_Awards_2010_-_Open_Nominations.

"Make a Powerful Difference Contest" for Women

The makers of Pine-Sol cleaners, a product line of Clorox Company, have launched the 2010 Make a Powerful Difference Contest, which will award grants online to women who are helping improve their communities and are making extraordinary change. One grand-prize winner will receive \$10,000 to make a difference for their community or cause, while an additional nine finalists will each receive \$1,000 to help support their initiatives.

Deadline: March 22, 2010.

Information: <http://www.powerfuldifference.com/>.

National Summer Learning Association Excellence in Summer Learning Award

The Excellence in Summer Learning Award recognizes outstanding summer programs that demonstrate excellence in accelerating academic achievement and promoting healthy development for young people between kindergarten and twelfth grade. To be eligible for the award, applicants must be a public or private organization or agency (schools, community-based organizations, libraries, universities, faith-based organizations, etc.) or a collaboration of the aforementioned organizations or agencies. Programs must serve young



people between kindergarten and twelfth grade over the summer months.

Deadline: February 24, 2010.

Information: http://www.summerlearning.org/?page=excellence_summer.

Princess Grace Foundation-USA Announces 2010 Princess Grace Awards

The Princess Grace Foundation-USA has announced the availability of applications for the 2010 Princess Grace Awards in theater, playwriting, dance performance, choreography, and film. Founded in 1982 in memory of Princess Grace (Kelly) of Monaco, the foundation identifies and assists emerging artists in theater, dance, and film and has awarded grants in excess of \$7 million to nearly five hundred individuals nationwide.

Deadlines: vary.

Information: <http://www.pgfusa.org/>.

Previous Announcements and Resources

Purpose Prize Nominations

The Purpose Prize provides five \$100,000 and five \$50,000 awards to social innovators over 60 in encore careers. Nominations are currently open for the 2010 Purpose Prize.

Deadline: March 5, 2010.

Information: <http://www.encore.org/>.

The Point Foundation Opens 2010 LGBT Scholarship Application Season. The Point Foundation has announced the opening of its 2010 application season. Students who will be enrolled in undergraduate or graduate programs for the 2010-11 school year are eligible to apply for the prestigious multiyear scholarships. The average amount of annual support devoted to each scholar is between \$25,000 and \$33,000. A Point Scholarship award includes financial support as well as programmatic support in leadership training, community service, and mentoring.

Information: <http://www.pointfoundation.org/instructions.html>.

Free Series of Webinars on Nonprofit Governance and the Revised IRS 990

The DC Bar Pro Bono Program offers a webinar series addressing the revised Form 990 which requires nonprofits to describe in detail their governance practices, including such issues as how the nonprofits manage conflicts of interest and set executive compensation. The series is designed to help you understand and comply with the new disclosure requirements. The webinars are held once a month from 12 p.m. - 1 p.m. Topics include: Managing Conflicts of Interest (1/6/10); Setting Executive Compensation (2/3/10); The Role of the Board and the Audit Committee in Supervising the Independent Audit and Reviewing the Form 990 (3/3/10); and Developing a Culture of Transparency (4/6/10). To register, go to: <https://www1.gotomeeting.com/register/598666041>.

ING: Unsung Heroes Awards

The ING Unsung Heroes Awards program recognizes innovative and progressive thinking in education through monetary awards. Full-time educators, teachers, principals, paraprofessionals, or classified staff members with effective projects that improve student



learning at an accredited K-12 public or private school are eligible to apply. The maximum award is \$25,000.

Deadline: April 30, 2010.

Information:

<http://www.ing-usa.com/us/stellent2/groups/dc/documents/companylobinformation/001143.pdf>.

Investing in Innovation Fund Fact Sheet

The *Department of Education (ED)* announces competitive grants to expand the implementation of, and investment in, innovative and evidence-based practices, programs and strategies that significantly: improve K-12 achievement and close achievement gaps; decrease dropout rates; increase high school graduation rates; and improve teacher and school leader effectiveness. To view the fact sheet to learn more about this upcoming opportunity, go to: <http://www.ed.gov/programs/innovation/factsheet.html>.

Samsung's Four Seasons of Hope Offers Technology Donation Competition

Samsung's Four Season's of Hope invites students, parents, and teachers to help improve technology in classrooms by submitting a brief essay for the opportunity to receive a portion of over \$1 million in technology from Samsung Electronics America's Four Seasons of Hope campaign. Participants are invited to submit hundred-word essays on how the consumer electronics, computer equipment and software awarded through Samsung's Four Seasons of Hope could benefit their school. Participants should nominate a public or state-accredited private school for grades K-12 in their community. Complete contest rules and online entry forms are available at http://pages.samsung.com/us/4seasons_hope/education.jsp.

Free Positive Youth Development Training

Introduction to Positive Youth Development (PYD), a new self-paced online course developed by the Family and Youth Services Bureau's National Clearinghouse on Families & Youth, will familiarize you with the theory and practice of PYD. When you take the course's two modules, you'll learn: the internal and external influences that help young people thrive; how to build individual strengths in youth; and how to create positive places for young people. For more information about PYD, see Putting Positive Youth Development into Practice and other NCFY publications at <http://ncfy.acf.hhs.gov/publications/pyd/index.htm>. Access the online course at: <http://ncfy-learn.jbsinternational.com/course/category.php?id=3>.

Gear Up for Giving: Social Media Tutorials for Nonprofits

Gear Up for Giving: Social Media Tutorials for Nonprofits is a month-long series of trainings designed to help nonprofits understand how to best leverage social media to create awareness for your cause, raise funds, and engage with new constituents. In the introductory video, issues addressed include: how social media affects monitoring and control of your brand; using social media for fund- and friend-raising; and who within your organization should be responsible for social media. After you've watched this video, browse other resources on some of the most popular social media tools and techniques, so you can learn more at your own pace. You can also view live presentations every Thursday at 1pm



EST. To access the resource, go to <http://www.casefoundation.org/social-media-tutorials>.

990 Online Resource

In collaboration with the National Association of Attorney's General/National Association of State Charity Officials (NAAG/NASCO) and GuideStar, the National Center for Charitable Statistics NCCS has developed an online system, the 990 Online, for charities to complete all their federal Form 990 and state registration filing requirements and file these forms electronically. E-Filing of IRS Form 990s and state charity forms benefits nonprofit organizations, regulators, researchers, and donors alike. This online service offers an easy-to-use web-based system for completing IRS Form 990s, 990s-EZ or 8868 (application for extension). The system is free for organizations with less than \$100,000 in gross receipts and there is a sliding scale for larger organizations. To complete and electronically file your Form 990, 990-EZ, 8868 (extension request) and State Charity Registration Forms go to: <http://efile.form990.org>.

Awards for Local Arts and Education Programs

Barnes & Noble Booksellers offers ongoing fundraising opportunities for local level pre-K-12 schools, not-for-profit arts and literacy organizations. Opportunities include in-store bookfairs and holiday gift-wrapping. They offer a limited number of sponsorships and donations to organizations that meet their mission of seeking partnerships that offer in-store events, visibility, and reach a wide audience. Opportunities must be located in the community or communities in which Barnes & Noble operates, and it must serve the greater good of the local community or region.

Information:

http://www.barnesandnobleinc.com/our_company/sponsorship/sponsorship_local/donations_local.html.

Breakthroughs in Shared Measurement and Social Impact

William and Flora Hewlett Foundation released an online report based on interviews conducted with dozens of practitioners and thought leaders in the social sector. The report describes twenty different shared measurement systems already in use and documents their contribution to increasing grantees' efficiency, knowledge, and impact. The findings identify shared approaches to performance, outcome, or impact measurement across multiple organizations. The report includes four in-depth case studies where collaborative learning and measurement systems are used to create systemic and adaptive approaches to solving social problems. To access the online report go to:

http://www.fsg-impact.org/ideas/item/breakthroughs_in_measurement.html.

Raise Odds of Winning Federal Funds

The competition for federal grants continues to increase as other funding sources--foundations, businesses, and state and local governments--keep cutting back. If you're applying for a federal grant, ratchet up your chance of success with Stacie Harting Marsh's comprehensive list of steps to take at each stage of the grants process ("Securing Federal Grants: Best Practices from Proposal Planning through Award Notification," *CharityChannel*, December 9, 2009). Some highlights from her advice:



Before the Request for Proposal (RFP) is issued:

- Begin your planning as early as possible
- Find out which organizations have received grants previously from the agency
- Retrieve past proposals for the program area
- Examine the RFP from the previous cycle
- Identify potential partners
- Register on Grants.gov

After the RFP is published:

- Assess your chances of receiving the grant based on the number of projected awards and your previous federal grants experience
- Try to learn who else from your area is seeking the same grant, and see whether a partnership would make sense
- Establish an inclusive proposal development team to meet with weekly
- Get a commitment from an external evaluator for the project
- Set up a proposal development calendar
- Participate in any opportunities the agency provides for learning more about the application process
- Ask the program officer if they will review a concept paper

When preparing your application:

- Develop a proposal outline that follows the RFP and review criteria before you begin to write
- Involve people from the constituency to be served by the project in the proposal development process
- Demonstrate the unique qualities of your organization
- Clearly establish the need for the project in your geographic area and for your constituency
- Be aware of specific grantee characteristics that the funding agency tends to favor
- Write so a stranger will understand your request
- Demonstrate institutional commitment and community support

Finally use an external proofreader, and submit your proposal *before* the deadline.

Please Give Us Feedback

Please email us at info@nopa-us.org and let us know what type of funding opportunities you or your organization are interested in e.g. HIV/AIDS, social services, youth focused, or civic participation.

NOPA is a national non-profit organization that supports and works with communities and organizations to advocate for and empower Portuguese-Americans.