

Wyoming

Nonprofit News

Wyoming Association of Nonprofit Organizations



Holiday Greetings from the Board Chair...*Barb Rea*

This holiday season please take time to think about what Wyoming would look like without the nonprofit sector. We are one of the fastest growing sectors of the economy because our work is so valuable to quality of life in our communities. I am so pleased that the Wyoming Association of Nonprofit Organizations has become a reality and is growing stronger each day. With so many worthy missions among us, WANO can provide one voice to support our combined contributions to the state.

This newsletter highlights objectives for 2006—the product of a strategic planning meeting held in October. In addition, you'll find articles about volunteers, funding opportunities, and plans for the second annual Wyoming Nonprofit Day at the Legislature.

While the nonprofit sector is expanding in our state, so is the Wyoming Association of Nonprofit Organizations—with 45 members! Our mission is to strengthen and support nonprofit organizations in the very important work that they do. Thank you for joining this progressive, new organization. Please refer others to our web site for membership information: www.wynonprofit.org.

Finally, we'd like to congratulate the new officers, elected to take their seats in January: Chair Rachel Chadderdon, Vice Chair Arlen Taggart, Secretary Holly Turner, Treasurer Ken Hoff, and Assistant Secretary Dan Neal.

Wishing you a very, Merry Christmas and a prosperous New Year!

Important Reminder: Health Fair vouchers expire Dec. 31

As part of the health and wellness program, WANO provided members with Blood draws scheduled in December include:

- Dec. 6, 7—UW Half Acre Gym, Laramie
- Dec. 8, 9—Herschler Building, Room 1699, Cheyenne
- Dec. 14—Eppson Senior Center, Laramie
- Dec. 15—Wyoming Health Fair Office, 3500 CY Ave., Casper
- Dec. 15—YMCA, Cheyenne

This test—valued at \$150—is free to employees of WANO members. Please encourage your employees to use the vouchers before the end of the year.

Hours for blood draws are 7 am until 10 am. For questions about the schedule, please call Wyoming Health Fairs, 800-979-3711.

The Wyoming Association of Nonprofit Organizations (WANO) was formed to strengthen the leadership, skills, effectiveness and efficiency of Wyoming's nonprofits; enabling them to further enrich the quality of community and personal life in Wyoming. WANO will promote a stronger nonprofit sector and a supportive public climate by providing member services, public awareness and advocacy.

2nd Annual Wyoming Nonprofit Day at the Legislature: March 1

The second annual Wyoming Nonprofit Day at the Legislature is scheduled for March 1, 2006, at the Historic Plains Hotel in downtown Cheyenne.

Last year, nearly 100 nonprofit executives and board members participated in the event, which concluded with a legislative reception. Event organizers were pleased that Governor and Mrs. Freudenthal attended.

The goal of the first Nonprofit Day was to raise the awareness of the nonprofit sector in Wyoming, and to help nonprofits learn how to more effectively communicate with their state and local policy makers.

While the objectives remain the same, the

planning committee is working on a slightly different, and equally stimulating, agenda.

A primer on lobbying for nonprofits will be held on the afternoon before. So if you'd like a refresher course, or weren't able to attend the event last year, then mark your calendar for a lobbying workshop on Feb. 28, from 2-5 pm.

Then on March 1, WANO is planning a series of panels on issues such as: The Power of the Nonprofit Sector in America, Wyoming's Children and Families Initiative, and the Role of Nonprofits in Energy-Impacted Communities.

Block out these dates now—and watch for registration information coming soon!

Preliminary Schedule

Feb. 28

12-2 pm..... WANO board meeting
2-5 pm..... Advocacy workshop
5:15-6 pm..... Membership meeting

March 1

7:30 am..... Continental breakfast
7:30—8:30 am Registration
8:30 –11:30 am Nonprofit Day Panel Presentations
11:30 am—12:30 pm Forum
12:30—1:30 pm Luncheon
2-4 pm..... Visit capitol or appointments with agencies
5:30-7:30 pm.. Legislative reception

What is a volunteer hour worth?

Volunteer hours for 2003 were worth \$17.19. According to the Independent Sector website (www.independentsector.org), "the value of volunteer time is based on the average hourly earnings of all production and non-supervisory workers on private non-farm payrolls (as determined by the Bureau of Labor Statistics). Independent Sector takes this figure and increases it by 12 percent to estimate for fringe benefits."

As this is an average of all the states, the numbers vary by location. For example, the national estimate of \$17.19 means that there was a large increase in 2003, from \$16.74 in 2002.



Building nonprofit capacity—1 workshop at a time

Attendance has averaged 27 at the four workshops presented this fall by the Wyoming Association of Nonprofit Organizations and Faith Initiatives of Wyoming.

With topics ranging from starting a 501(c)(3) organization to volunteerism to board development—the workshops were designed to address the needs identified by our members.

➔ What type of training would be useful for your organization in 2006? Please e-mail your suggestions to: lisa@compasswy.net.

The Board of Directors of the Wyoming Association of Nonprofit Organizations met in Casper on October 18-19 for a strategic planning meeting. The board set priorities for the new association: *access to health care and insurance, advocacy, networking, and training and resources.*

Sub-committees were established to develop work plans for each priority. The strategic plan will be posted on the web site, but some of the highlights include:

- *Health insurance*—Technical assistance is being provided by the National Council for Nonprofit Organizations and the Colorado Nonprofit Association to research and develop a comprehensive, catastrophic insurance plan.
- *Advocacy*—Board members are busy planning the second annual Nonprofit Day at the Legislature (as indicated in the related article on this page).
- *Networking*—WANO is planning to rotate board meetings around the state and schedule local receptions for area nonprofits. A second strategy is to provide networking opportunities for board chairs by convening Board Chair Circles on a local or regional basis.
- *Training & Resources*—WANO will conduct at least 2 organizational assessments. A team of 2-3 professionals with experience in various aspects of nonprofit management will meet with representatives of a nonprofit. They will develop recommendations to address the specific needs or issues identified, including identifying resources for follow-up support.

Helping your employees helps other nonprofits

In an effort to address the most pressing need identified by nonprofits across the state, the Wyoming Association of Non-profit Organizations formulated a health and wellness program to offer affordable health insurance. The current plan is a supplemental plan that provides a significant savings for employees' out-of-pocket expenses.

The supplemental insurance program through Symetra is only the first step.

For WANO to offer comprehensive, catastrophic health insurance, we need to have a critical mass of at least 400 participating employees. Of our current membership base, the total employment exceeds 500, but there are only 6 organizations that have

chosen to take advantage of the health and wellness program.

Now is the opportunity to collaborate with peers to raise the level of employment benefits. Many organizations are in the

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process of finalizing budgets for 2006. WANO encourages you to look into offering this valuable benefit to your employees. More information about the Symetra Select Benefits plan can be found on our web site:

www.wynonprofit.org.

Please contact our Symetra Financial Representative for more information, or to request enrollment forms: Tye Whitlock, (307) 254-0584.

Information for employers: Medicare Part D

As a requirement of Medicare Part D, employers/plan sponsors must communicate whether their current prescription drug coverage is the equivalent to or as good as Medicare Part D's prescription drug coverage.

The drug discount feature which accompanies the supplemental health insurance

offered as a service to WANO members is NOT a drug reimbursement plan. The WANO plan is simply a drug discount with indirect effects, and with no direct cost/claim reimbursement from Symetra.

Any WANO member whose employees are eligible for the new Medicare Part D (prescription drugs) should

inform them that the WANO plan is NOT a "creditable plan" and should not be considered in deciding whether to participate in the Medicare plan.

For a copy of the Notification from Symetra, please call Lisa Johnson, WANO Coordinator, at 307-834-2293.

CALL FOR PHOTOS
Help us put a face with the name—
and submit electronic photos of your nonprofit that we could feature in our newsletters or on our web site. Please email photos with a brief description to:
lisa@compasswy.net.

New grant money available for domestic violence, prevention programs

Faith Initiatives of Wyoming, in cooperation with the Wyoming Coalition Against Domestic Violence and Sexual Assault, have teamed together for a Faith-Based and Community Organization Pilot Program grant.

Approximately 30 sub-awards ranging from \$5,000 to \$50,000, from the original \$420,000 pilot program grant will be given to organizations with a staff of ten or less and a budget of less than \$100,000.

The purpose is fund priority areas which include advocacy, training and treatment, emergency financial assistance to victims, and development of domestic violence education and prevention strategies.

The goal is to provide faith and community based organizations with financial and technical assistance to support rural victims of domestic violence, including underserved groups such as migrant workers, geographically isolated victims, older adults, individuals with disabilities and cultural, linguistic or ethnic minority groups.

RFP Trainings:

- December 5 - Cody, 1st Presbyterian Church, 2025 23rd Street, 1 pm
- December 6 - Casper, Middle Cross Baptist Church, 1744 S. Poplar, 10 am
- December 7 - Cheyenne, First Christian Church, 219 W 27th, 9 am

- December 8 - Green River, Hilltop Baptist Church, 405 Faith Dr., 9 am

The open period of sub-awards application submission is December 12, 2005 - January 6, 2006. Written award notification will be mailed on February 14, 2006.

Requests for assistance in the development of a response to this RFP or questions about this RFP should be directed to the Wyoming Coalition Against Domestic Violence and Sexual Assault at 307-755-5481.

Visit this website for more information or to download RFP:

<http://fiwy.org/WCADVSA.htm>

Mark these dates!

2006 CALENDAR

Feb. 28..... WANO Membership Meeting—Cheyenne

March 1 Nonprofit Day at the Legislature, Cheyenne

June 14-16 Philanthropy Days, Evanston

The board of directors holds a conference call on the first Wednesday of each month.

Speakers announced for January methamphetamine awareness conference

On January 4th and 5th, 2006, the Casper Police Department, the Casper Community Meth Watch Committee, along with numerous other local and state agencies and businesses, will be hosting the 3rd annual Methamphetamine Awareness Conference.

The Conference will be held at the Parkway Plaza and Convention Centre in Casper, Wyoming.

More than twenty professionals will be speaking on various topics related to methamphetamine and substance abuse in our community and throughout the country. Richard Rawson, Ph.D., Associate Director of UCLA Integrated Substance Abuse Programs, Kathryn Wells, M.D. with the Kempe Center in Denver, Colorado and Antonio Loya, Coordinator of the National Methamphetamine Chemicals Initiative are an example of the speakers that will be at the conference. Topics will include: school, business, family issues, treatment, Drug Endangered Child, risk and protective factors, student and victim panels as well as medical issues related to methamphetamine use.

The Conference is directed towards professionals in social service fields, first responders (including law enforcement, firefighters and EMT's), educators, other professionals, business owners and the community at large.

The community is invited to a free public session on January 4th at 7:00 p.m. The session will be an update from the panel of recovering addicts who spoke at the last conference. There will also be a panel of family members/victims/employers talking about how they have been impacted by this drug. The discussion will be moderated by Victim Witness Coordinator, Nancy Johnson. A panel of recovered addicts will also discuss their addictions and recovery.

Registration information can be found by accessing the City of Casper website, www.casperwy.gov, accessing the Casper Area Chamber of Commerce website, www.casperwyoming.org, or by calling Mary Ellen Stewart at 235-8225. Cost for conference is \$75.00.

Job Openings

The University of Wyoming has two job openings for Director of Development, in the College of Law and the College of Education.

Both positions serve as a senior development officer at the University of Wyoming (UW) and maintain the College's focus on the task of raising private support. Each Director is charged with planning and implementing a comprehensive development program of prospect identification, cultivation, solicitation and stewardship for prospective and present donors that is consistent with the mission, goals and objectives of the College of Law, or the College of Education, and the University. The overarching goal is to maximize private support from friends and alumni with an emphasis on strategic major gift fund raising.

The complete job descriptions are available online.

- Director of Development, College of Law
<http://uwadmnweb.uwyo.edu/hremployment2/Administrative.htm#DOD0485>
- Director of Development, College of Education
<http://uwadmnweb.uwyo.edu/hremployment2/Administrative.htm#DOD2094>

WANO Members

Albany County Crime Victim/Witness Program • Albany County Resource Center • Alzheimer's Affiliation of Wyoming • Association Resources of Wyoming Inc. • BE WELL • CASA of Laramie County • Central Wyoming Rescue Mission • Cheyenne Interfaith Hospitality Network • Child Development Services of Wyoming • Compass Communications • Elder Care Advocates • Equality State Policy Center • Faith Initiatives of Wyoming • Fremont County Good Samaritan Center • Girl Scouts Council of Wyoming • Gottsche Rehabilitation Center • Hospice of Laramie • Laramie Child Development Corporation • Lincoln Self Reliance, Inc. • The Nicolaysen Art Museum & Discovery Center • Platte River Parkway Trust • Rehabilitation Enterprises of North Eastern Wyoming • Sheridan County YMCA • The Science Zone • Serve Wyoming • Special Olympics Wyoming • United Way of Laramie County • Western States Learning Corporation • Wildlife Heritage Foundation of Wyoming • Wyoming Children's Access Network • Wyoming Coalition Against Domestic Violence • Wyoming Community Action Partnership • Wyoming Community Foundation Coalition Against Domestic Violence • Coalition Against Domestic Violence • Wyoming Council for the Humanities • Wyoming Drug Courts Association Coalition Against Domestic Violence • Wyoming Food Bank of the Rockies • Wyoming Housing Network, Inc. Coalition Against Domestic Violence • Coalition Against Domestic Violence • Wyoming Independent Living Rehabilitation Inc. • Wyoming Services for Independent Living Coalition Against Domestic Violence • Wyoming State Bar Foundation • Debra Beck • Pamela Jelaca • John Lumley • Susie Ponce • Barb Rea

For more information: [Lisa E. Johnson](mailto:lisa@compasswy.net), WANO Coordinator

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We're on the web!

