

# **Foundation Prospecting**

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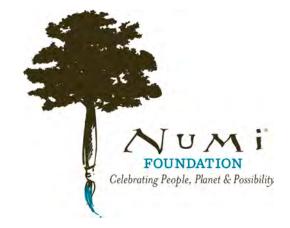
#### Nonprofit Management 101

#### CRAIGSLIST FOUNDATION



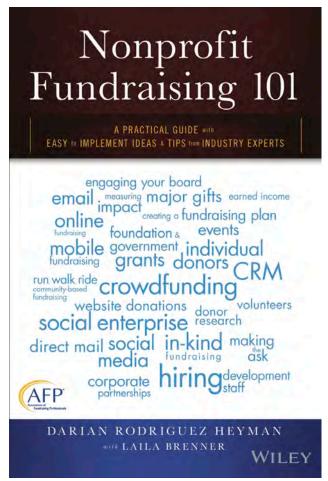


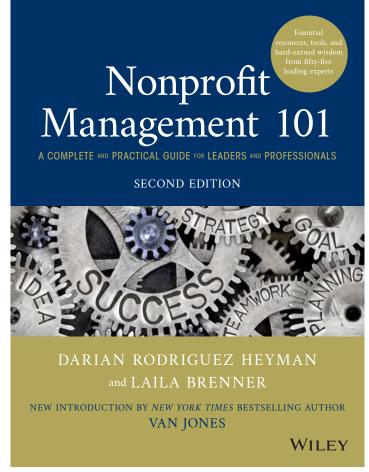






#### Nonprofit Management 101







#### **Grants are Gold**

\$76B to U.S. Nonprofits in 2020

**\$491B** in 2020 U.S. Gvnt. Grants







### Why Don't More Nonprofits Write Grants?







#### Results are Poor When you Crash the Party!



# Our Agenda

- Fundraising Context for Coalitions
- Identifying Prospects
- Getting in the Door
- Get Your Story Straight
- From 20% to 50%
- LOI & Proposal Tips
- Follow Up

# **Context for Coalition Fundraising**

- Be sensitive to the potential of competing for funding with local programs.
- Any fund development strategies or plans need solid and strong support from your coalitions' members.

# **Specific Steps to Build Local Support**

- Review policies about sharing revenue with your local programs, when holding an event in their community.
- Review any policies about promoting the local agency's direct services.
- Reach out 6-12 months in advance with members, to avoid scheduling conflicts.

# **Keep in Mind**

- Coalitions cannot bill their staff time or other expenses (e.g., consultant, etc.) for government grants.
- Factor or budget for any staff time needed for staff to have unrestricted time to work on specific fundraising activities.





### **Identifying Prospects**

FoundationCenter.org

In Person & Foundation Directory Online

**Grantstation.com** 

Searchable Subscription Service + Training





## **Identifying Prospects**

- Current Trends & Training: TechSoup, Granthub
- Focus on Top Prospects, But Err on the Side of Outreach
- Don't Forget About OE (Operation Effectiveness) Grants
- Attend Meet the Funder/Giving Network Events
- Know Your Peers: Collaborate with Similar Orgs & Member Agencies





# **Identifying Prospects**

- Research Funders of Similar Orgs
- Focus on Areas of Greatest Need
- Divvy Up Outreach: Create a Culture of Philanthropy
- Be Creative with Positioning Program Areas
  - NNEDV's Hotline Framed as Technology





#### **How to Get In the Door**

- Leverage Personal Relationships
  - LinkedIn; Email Staff, Board, & Advisors
- Develop Social Capital
  - Twitter
- Water Down the Stone
  - VMs, Google Alerts



# **Get Your Story Straight**



It's Not About the What...

# It's Not About the What... It's About the So What





# Your Message







# **Typical Message**







# **Ideal Message**







# The Best Story Ever Told: Vision Meets *Credibility*

- 1.The Problem
- 2. Your Solution
- 3. Your Plan
- 4.(The Ask)

# 99

# People don't give to you, they give through you.





### From 20% to 50%







#### Rule #1: Never Submit a Cold Grant



Taking responsibility for our shared future.

We're dedicated to economic, environmental and social advancement. And to help achieve it, we're committing \$3 billion to help those who need it most.

#### 10M

youths provided with digital skills training by 2030.

#### 1M

small businesses provided with resources to help them thrive in the digital economy by 2030.

#### 100%

carbon neutral in our operations by 2035.

#### **500K**

individuals prepared for jobs of the future by 2030.





#### Rule #1: Never Submit a Cold Grant

- Warming it Up:
  - Secure an Invitation
  - The Pasta Test
    - Programs & Positioning





#### Rule #1: Never Submit a Cold Grant

Dollar Amount

Deadline

Jedi Mind Trick





### **LOI & Proposal Tips**

- Never Go Cookie Cutter
- Lead with:
  - Your Story
  - Context
  - The Ask & Related Impact
- Details Follow Need & Impact





## **LOI & Proposal Tips**

#### Leverage Stories and Stats



Data: Current,Accurate, &Compelling





#### **Do Your Homework**

- Understand the History & Objectives
- Integrate Insights & Language from Meeting
- ToC: Speak to How You Advance Their Goals





# **Theory of Change**

 $A \rightarrow B \rightarrow C$ 





#### **Follow Instructions**

- Follow All Directions & Guidelines
  - Deadlines
  - Length
  - Format
  - Font
- Answer All Questions





#### **Follow Instructions**

- Show Vision & History
- Don't Provide Additional Info





## Make it Easy to Read

- Put Headers in Bold or CAPS
- Minimum 11 Point Font
- Avoid Jargon
- Define Terms & Acronyms
- Get an Outsider's Eye





#### **Check Yourself**

- Double Check all Math
  - Especially Budgets
- Verify all References
- Don't Exaggerate





#### Follow Up

- Be Persistent
  - Follow Up in *Their* Time Frame
- If Declined, Ask Why
  - Avoid Disrespect
  - Call/Revisit Website Annually to Learn of Changing Priorities
- If Approved, Say Thanks!
- Build Relationships With Program Officers



#### **Resource Review**

www.GrantProfessionals.org

www.FoundationCenter.org

www.engageforgood.com

www.Grants.gov

www.AFPNet.org

www.eCivis.com

www.Google.com/grants

Bev Browning's Grant Writing for Dummies



# **Thank You!**

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