



Creating Exceptional Boards

November 18–19, 2011

Burpee Center, Rockford College

In these critical times, non-profit boards will be called upon to help elevate the organizations they oversee to new levels of success. Board members will have to work differently – using their skills and networks to better leverage resources for the organizations they serve.

Sponsors joining together to offer this
unique training opportunity:

Neighborhood Housing Services of Freeport

Northern Illinois Center for Nonprofit
Excellence (NICNE) at Rockford College

Rockford Area Affordable Housing Coalition



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Supported by a grant from:



Keynote by Vernetta Walker, BoardSource

Vernetta Walker, J.D., is director of consulting and a senior governance consultant for BoardSource. Vernetta frequently delivers training to a variety of nonprofit organizations, and works with sophisticated organizations in addressing governance issues. Clients include Independent Sector, YMCA, NeighborWorks, Habitat for Humanity, and Concordia University System, among others. As director of consulting for BoardSource, Vernetta provides project management, consulting and training services to clients on governance, emerging trends and developments in the nonprofit sector.

Vernetta brings a broad depth of knowledge to BoardSource, having served as director of consulting and contract training and associate general counsel for the



Maryland Association of Nonprofit Organizations. Her expertise includes working with newly-formed to complex organizations in the areas of board governance, nonprofit legal compliance, organizational structure and nonprofit advocacy.

Creating Exceptional Boards will provide local nonprofit board members, volunteers and staff with the tools necessary to meet the growing challenges within their organization.

Friday, November 18, 2011 – Workshop

Registration, 8:00–8:30 a.m. (*Regents Hall, second floor Burpee Center, Rockford College*)

Recruiting strong board members, 8:30–10:15 a.m.

It is a constant challenge for nonprofits to find ideal board candidates willing to make the major time commitment it takes to be effective board members. Diversity is also a challenge. Ideally, board recruitment should be an ongoing process. An organization should always have a candidate pool where individuals are at different stages of cultivation.

This innovative, participatory session shares strategies for finding the “right” candidate committed to further your mission.

Break, 10:15–10:30 a.m.

Principals of exceptional governance, 10:30 a.m.–12:30 p.m.

Exceptional boards add significant value to their organizations, making discernible differences in their advance on mission. How does a board rise to this level? Are there standards that describe this height of performance? “The Source: Twelve Principles of Governance That Power Exceptional Boards” defines governance not as dry, obligatory compliance, but as a creative and collaborative process that supports chief executives, engages board members, and furthers the causes they all serve.

“The Source: Twelve Principles of Governance That Power Exceptional Boards” enables nonprofit boards to operate at the highest and best use of their collective capacity.

Lunch, 12:30–1:30 p.m.

Leading in turbulent times: What your board can do now, 1:30 – 4:00 p.m.

As the nonprofit sector continues to feel the impact of our turbulent economy, it is critical for organizations to be able to look to their boards for leadership and stability. In order to help ensure that their organizations remain viable, boards need financial acumen, strategic thinking and strong communication skills; they must also stay up-to-date, entertaining new ideas and different perspectives. This dynamic workshop addresses the critical activities that will help transform your board and your governance for sustainability. The course will also remind board members about the importance of leadership and the link between good governance and effective, well-run organizations.

Saturday, November 19, 2011 – Breakfast Keynote

Registration, 8:00–8:30 a.m. (*Regents Hall, second floor Burpee Center, Rockford College*)

Breakfast, 8:30–9:00 a.m.

Keynote with Vernetta Walker: GOVERNANCE AS LEADERSHIP—Exploring solutions to board leadership challenges, 9:00–10:00 a.m.

Questions and answers, 10:00–10:30 a.m.

Registration—Creating exceptional boards with BoardSource

Name _____

Job title _____

Name of organization _____

Address _____

City/State/Zip _____

County _____

E-mail _____

Phone _____

Cost

Two-day workshop (includes Friday lunch and Saturday Breakfast), \$50.00 \$ _____

Please select one:

Bistro grill chicken sandwich Grilled vegetable baguette

Saturday only (includes Breakfast), \$40.00 \$ _____

2011 NICNE membership discount (_____)

Total Cost \$ _____

Payment

Check enclosed (payable to NICNE)

VISA MasterCard Discover

Name on card _____ Security code (from back) _____

Account # _____ Exp. date _____

Amount _____ Signature _____

Billing address _____

Registration deadline is Noon, Monday, November 14, 2011

Sorry, no phone registrations will be accepted. Payment must accompany registration.

Mail the completed registration form and payment to:

Northern Illinois Center for Nonprofit Excellence (NICNE)

Rockford College

5050 East State Street, Rockford, IL 61108