

May 29, 2014

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No More "Coulda, Woulda, Shoulda"

I don't know how. I'm not connected. I wouldn't know what to say.

Do thoughts like these keep you from advocating for your cause? Now you have an easy solution! Join us for **NC Nonprofits Days, June 2-3** in Raleigh. For both seasoned advocates and those brand new at it, come for one or both days.

At the **Nonprofit Public Policy Forum** on June 2 at the McKimmon Center, you'll get tools and connections to advocate for your mission with strength and confidence. The program features lawmakers, nonprofit leaders, and successful advocates eager to share their tips with you.

Then, on June 3, join your nonprofit sector colleagues at the N.C. General Assembly to put your skills into action. Tell your organization's story directly to your Senator and Representative.

Online registration is closed, but you can register on Monday morning at the McKimmon Center. The cost to attend the Forum is \$60 (scholarships available). There is no charge to attend the Legislative Day.

NCTech4Good Conference **Three Days Left To Register For Only \$75!**

The N.C. Center will co-host the **2014 NCTech4Good Conference** on June 5-6 at the Friday Center in Chapel Hill. For nonprofit professionals, volunteers, and consultants working with nonprofits, the conference offers technology sessions on everything from databases to social media. Don't see a session that answers your need? Pitch an idea during the opening session to have it voted on and added to the program.

Beth Kanter, an international leader, trainer, and author in nonprofits' use of social media, will conduct this year's Pre-Conference Workshop, *Becoming A Networked Nonprofit: Digital Strategies for Community-Based Nonprofits*, on June 5. Beth will also be the Keynote speaker on June 6 (additional fee applies).

Learn more and register for \$75 through May 31.

How Cloud Is Your Nonprofit?

Once upon a time, software had to be directly installed onto computers. More and more, vendors are hosting software that users access via the Cloud. But few nonprofits understand what keeping their data in the Cloud means. Is it dangerous? Less expensive? Easier to maintain?



How do you know if it's right for you? The answer is simple: by evaluating it against your needs. Idealware designed a free new workbook, *Should Your Organization Consider The Cloud*, to help you do just that.

With a series of nine easy-to-understand worksheets, you can define your software and security needs and weigh them against the benefits and weaknesses of the Cloud, including cost, security, and functionality. You'll also identify if the Cloud is a good cultural fit for your organization, if your existing technology will complement the Cloud, and if it would be a worthwhile investment to make the switch.

Photo: www.wunderlandgroup.com/wp-content/uploads/cloud-on-cloud.jpg

Executive Succession The Best Way to Say Goodbye

Are you contemplating leaving your nonprofit after numerous years at the helm? What is the best way to say goodbye so that your nonprofit doesn't lose momentum during the transition? Boardsource's *"Successful Chief Executive Departure"* has tips, tools, and useful resources to help you plan. For more succession planning resources, check out *Information Central*.

Stay In the Know or Brush Up

Brush up on all your Center membership has to offer with two *Your Benefits in a Nutshell* webinars in June:

- **June 11** at 12:30 p.m.
- **June 20** at 12 p.m.

Can't make it? Stay tuned for more webinars in July or visit the *webinar archive* to download a recording.

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Get Engagement, Not Buy-In

People support what they help create. This engagement starts in the planning itself, getting commitment at the start rather than buy-in at the end. "Buy in" implies that decisions are already made and others simply need to get on board. Engagement means that people helped to decide the desired outcomes so they are invested in, committed to, and passionate about those outcomes.

From *Chris Aycock*, President, *The Aycock Group*

Photo: www.flickr.com/photos/lucasjames123/5040993203

Thank you for being a valuable Member of the N.C. Center for Nonprofits. Remember, everyone in your organization can share in Member benefits by visiting *our website*, creating an individual password, and linking their profiles to your organization.

Let community partners, supporters, funders, and other stakeholders know you're dedicated to being a sustainable nonprofit, following best practices, and contributing to a strong collective voice. **Download** a "Proud Member of the N.C. Center" e-decal for your website and e-newsletters!

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