Understanding Nonprofit and For-Profit Cultures

Partnerships in NRM PROSPECT Course















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Goals

- Review both the 501(c) non-profit and agency persona and their individual drivers
- Understand what non-profits look for in partnerships
- Examine ways to utilize and integrate strengths of partners
- Understand how non-profit partners can provide advocacy/lobbying
- Learn why for-profit corporations and private individuals give





501 (C)(3) GROWTH

There are 50,000+ new nonprofit organizations each year
 = 150/day = 6/hour

 Large growth between 2001 – 2004 (1.6 million new nonprofits)

• 45,000 military nonprofits





Non-Profit Culture vs. USACE

Non-Profit

- Articles, By-laws
- Strategic Plan
- Initiatives Plan
- Funding Plan
- Impact

USACE

- Regulations
- Operations Plan (OMP)
- Implementation Strategy
- Budget
- Execution





Make-up of Non-Profit vs. USACE

Non-Profit

- Board of Directors
- Executive Director
- Staff
- Members
- Volunteers
- Donors & Funders

USACE

- Division/District Commander
- Park Manager
- Rangers
- Visitors
- Volunteers
- Donors & Funders





Funding for Non-Profit vs. USACE

Non-Profit

- Contributions donations; grants
- Time, Treasure & Talent
- Earned Revenue –
 sales; service fees

USACE

- Congress- Appropriations
- Contributions





What Does The Non-Profit Want?

- Mission fulfillment For Impact!
- Opportunity to expand its resources
- Respect: 2 way partnership not your ATM
- Community recognition
- Long term relationship

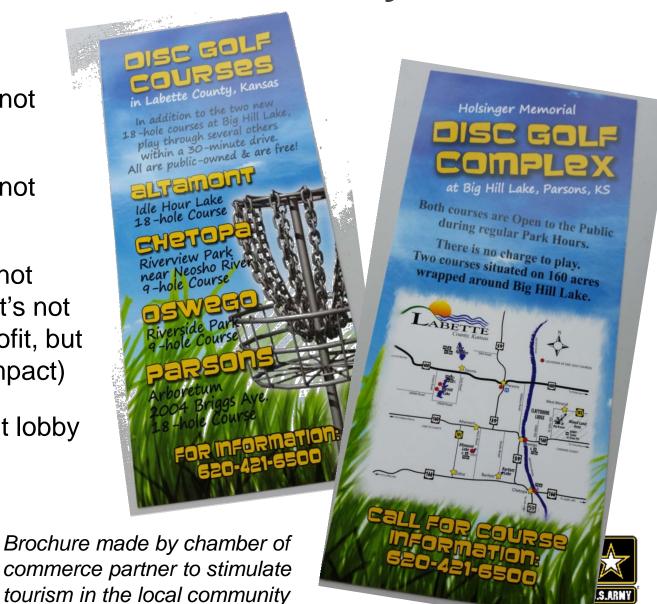






Non-Profit Common Myths

- Non-profits are not accountable
- Non-profits are not businesses
- Non-profits cannot make a profit (It's not really not-for-profit, but instead = For impact)
- Non-profits can't lobby

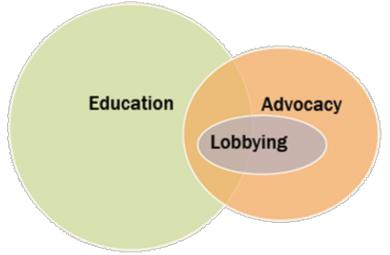


http://foundationcenter.org 990 information on foundations

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Non-Profit Advocacy/Lobbying

- Public lands and non-profits have opportunities and needs that are affected by the choices of legislators and policy makers.
- 501 (c)(3) organizations <u>can</u> engage in education, advocacy, and lobbying (in limited quantities... 20% of a non-profit's \$ and time can go to lobbying) that furthers their charitable purpose
- Government employees may NOT engage in lobbying as part of their professional lives, but can as private citizens**
 **(Caution: Be careful to avoid the appearance of impropriety.)







Benefits of Non-Profit Advocacy

- Enhance agency reputation
- Attract partners
- Support agency priorities
- Leverage federal funding with other sources and volunteers
- Inform public
- Carry out stewardship

NOTE: Local advocacy is very important! Elected officials pay more attention to what's written in their local/state papers than what's in the Washington Post. New authorities rise from the constituents.

Non-Profit Advocacy/Lobbying

- Education: Providing unbiased info to the government or public
 - Ex: "The Corps legal decision to terminate cooperative joint management agreements affected operations of 8 coop associations, 34 parks and 4 visitor centers."
- Advocacy: Sharing info with legislators, executive branch or the public to influence them, but not a specific legislation or call to action
 - Ex: "The Corps really needs to have the ability and legal authority to have cooperative joint management agreements to benefit the public and its partners."
- <u>Lobbying</u>: Attempts to **influence specific** government decisions or actions. Reflects a viewpoint and is a call to action.
 - Ex: "Please support /vote "Yes" on HR 4100 LOCAL Act and the S 2055 Corps of Engineers Cooperative Joint Management Restoration Act"



Partnering with For-Profit Organizations

- What beliefs do we hold about partnering with Corporations?
- What questions do we have about partnering with Corporations?
- What barriers have we encountered?





Corporate Giving Impact

- □ \$24.5 billion annually
 - www.corporatephilanthropy.org
 - 49% direct cash; 33% foundation cash; 18% non-cash
 - 3% to environmental causes and programs
- 81% have a corporate foundation
- 56% have formal paid-release time volunteer programs
- Corporate giving continues to rise
- □ Trends
 - More focused giving (cause and trust)
 - High priority on matching gift and employee engagement programs
 - International giving is on the rise (lead by manufacturing companies)





What Do Corporations Give?

- ☐ Funding
- ☐ In-kind goods and services
- Volunteers
- Industry expertise
- Promotion and communication





Why Do Corporations Give?

Social responsibility

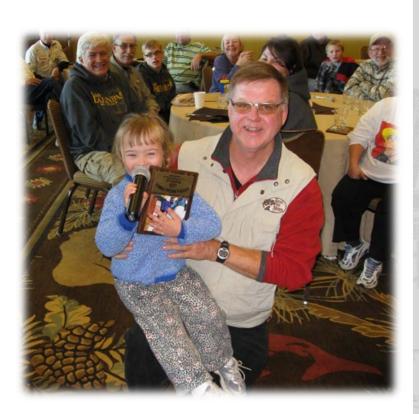
- Care about the cause
- To be citizens, not just residents

Marketing

- Internal and external customers
- Employees involved in something "greater"
- Market share or competitive advantage

Public Relations

- Key leaders have tie to the cause
- Industry experience sharing
- Influence







Why Would Corporations Give to Corps Projects?

- ☐ Think broader than Corps... we provide access/network to:
 - Our friends groups and cooperating associations
 - Our established MOU partners
- Match between the land's needs and corporate interests
- Variety of volunteer opportunities
- Testing of products
- We manage areas that impact their industry
 - Tourism
 - Outdoor recreation
- Government connection
- ☐ Employee retention (lifestyle/community building)
- Past success trust





Risks for the Corps

- Perception of commercialization
- ☐ Implied endorsement
- Corporate image
- ☐ Contracting and/or litigation conflict
- Loss of trust unable to keep our end of agreement
 - Budget changes
 - Regulation or law changes







Where to Meet Corporations

- Partners of current partners
- ☐ Chambers, economic development and civic groups
- ☐ Look at which corporations are within 100 miles of your project
- ☐ Internet NRM Gateway & corporations with common goals
- Current State partnerships with corporations
- ☐ Topical conferences/trainings (conservation, tourism...)









How to Approach a Corporation

- Research and understand the corporation before approaching
 - What is their mission and future goals
 - Social responsibility and community engagement
 - Past giving
 - Bring friends that already have a relationship to the table
- Personal contact
 - Set up a meeting w/foundation director or community outreach point of contact
 - ❖ First meeting is getting to know each other follow their lead based on interest
 - If mutual interest, set up second meeting and offer to bring proposal
- ☐ Simple, to the point partnership proposal
 - Don't lead with a bunch of policy and paperwork
 - Benefits to them and for the public (Corps)
 - What we can offer to the partnership and what we need
 - Plan for recognition and public relations





Private Donors

- ☐ 72% of private sector giving is from individuals (~\$228 Billion)
 - ❖ 3% to the environment (~\$9.5B)
- Types of donors
 - "Why should I give a damn?" = show how they profit from your lake
 - "Save the puppies" = emotional donors
 - "I'm kind of a big deal" = donors who want prestige/network



- Why do they give?
 - ❖ Because they <u>can</u>: They have the \$ and ability to donate
 - ❖ Because they <u>should</u>: Sense of community
 - ❖ Because they <u>must</u>: The money isn't coming from other sources





Resources

- □ http://www.tgci.com/funding.shtml grant opportunities/foundations by state
- □ http://foundationcenter.org 990 information on foundations
- http://philanthropy.com go to corporate giving
- http://foundationcenter.org/findfunders/topfunders/top50giving.html





Questions?





