# Understanding Nonprofit and For-Profit Cultures









Partnerships in NRM PROSPECT Course





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US Army Corps of Engineers ®



#### 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





#### 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







### **Common Myths About Non-Profits**

- 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



Brochure made by chamber of commerce partner to stimulate tourism in the local community



http://foundationcenter.org 990 information on foundations

#### What it tells you:

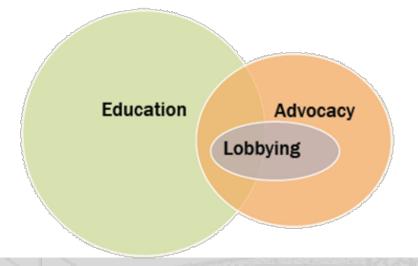
- Size/operating budget of organization
- Total revenue and source of revenue
- Total expenses
- Cash reserves
- How much top employees make in salary





### 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."

- <u>Advocacy</u>: 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**

- □ \$20.8 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/Find 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





#### Resources

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





### Questions?





