



**center for
corporate social
responsibility**

PREP

Partnerships, Resources, Expertise and Power
for Nonprofits
Cohort Program



**BAYER CENTER FOR
NONPROFIT MANAGEMENT**

Program Overview

In 2020, the Center for Corporate Social Responsibility at Waynesburg University partnered with the Washington County Community Foundation, the Greene County Community Foundation, and local leaders to best understand the response and need of local nonprofits in response to the COVID 19 pandemic. The results of this survey showed an incredible resilience and strong response in service to the community. It also showed that current partnerships and the need for deeper partnerships is key to both community and nonprofit resilience. Fund development practices that are rooted in partnerships with individuals, foundations and companies are key to success.

To that end, the Bayer Center is partnering with this strong local collaboration to launch the PREP cohort program. This PREP project helps build a stronger future for the Greene and Washington Counties' nonprofit community. The PREP program will address two key areas of nonprofit management – partnership development and fund development. The current COVID crisis has not only impacted people in 2020 and 2021, but we know that there are permanent shifts in how communities address needs and achieve their work. This program is intended to not only address current issues but adapt to the new realities.

A thoughtful application and selection process will ensure selection of organizations to create a cohort ready to make full use of the expertise offered. This is a selective executive leadership program that has been carefully crafted to advance each one of your organizations. Once accepted into the program, participants can expect a process that will include:

1. Eight consecutive Friday mornings from 9 – 11:30.
2. Assignments and reading in between sessions
3. Outreach between groups in the cohort outside planned sessions.
4. An accompanying “textbook” Collaboration: What Makes it Work will be provided

Participating organizations will establish a “leadership team” that includes two to three (2-3) people, a combination of staff and board members. Members of this leadership team are expected to make a real commitment of time by attending all required meetings and trainings, and fully invest in the success of the project. *There is no fee for participation other than engagement in the full process.*

Program Guidelines

A. Eligibility Requirements

Eligible organizations must meet the following criteria to be considered for funding:

1. Organization must be an incorporated, nonprofit entity, eligible for exemption from Federal Income Tax under the provisions of the U.S. Internal Revenue Service Code 501(c)(3) or have a sponsor organization with nonprofit status
2. Organization, or its sponsoring organization, must have a board of directors with governing, legal and fiduciary responsibilities
3. Organization, or its sponsoring organization, must have a charter and by-laws that clearly define its mission
4. Organization must have been in operation for at least 12 months
5. Organization must have an Executive Director (or equivalent position). This position must be at least a half-time, paid position

6. Organization's internal fiscal management policies must meet accepted Pennsylvania Institute of Certified Public Accounts standards and conform to generally accepted accounting principles

B. Evaluation Criteria

Submitted proposals will be evaluated and ranked by a panel including representatives from the Bayer Center for Nonprofit Management at Robert Morris University, the Washington County Community Foundation, the Community Foundation of Greene County, and members of the Center for Corporate Social Responsibility at Waynesburg University.

Honest Assessment

- Does your organization believe that partnerships are an important piece to achieving your mission?
- Is your organization thoughtful about how we engage our funding partners?
- Does your organization have a history of being proactive in making necessary change?
- Are both staff and board involved in identifying problems and building solutions?
- Does your organization usually complete what it starts?

Ability to Fully Engage in Project

- Does your organization have the people and time to dedicate to the work required to successfully complete this program?
- Will your organization's Leadership Team commit to attending all of the eight course sessions as well as the assignments in between meetings?
- Is there a willingness and ability to implement new practices and systems to achieve deeper (or new) partnerships and a more diversified fund development program?

Application

The online application is due by Tuesday, January 26.

Apply online at <https://preppapplication.questionpro.com/>

About the Bayer Center for Nonprofit Management (BCNM) at Robert Morris University

In 20 years of service to the nonprofit community, BCNM has completed over 2,200 consulting engagements and educated over 11,500 students. Our consulting clients include human services, arts, faith-based, community development, environmental and education organizations with budgets ranging from \$25,000 to more than \$50,000,000. Our intensive, customized management, governance, and financial consulting services are designed to educate leaders and have resulted in:

- Higher functioning governing boards
- Enhanced financial planning and management
- Increased partnerships and strategic alliances
- More effective approaches to fundraising
- Better informed, evidence-based decisions for future directions
- More capable nonprofit leaders and organizations
- Effective management information systems
- A strategic approach to decision-making

In short, at the Bayer Center, we work with you: To provide effective and practical management and governance tools, information, education and research that strengthen nonprofit missions and multiply all investments of time, talent and money in regional nonprofit organizations.