

VIEWPOINT

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Spotlight Feature

Donka, Inc 5



WSPN mission:

Offering support to development professionals and advancing philanthropy since 1986.

Strategic Planning is Smart Business

By Doug Porter

No matter the mission of your nonprofit organization, the one thing we all have in common is that we are businesses. Being faced with key operational, financial or human resource issues relentlessly drives that point home.

At the core of running a successful business is a smart strategic plan that maps out our approach to achieving our objectives and maximizing the impact of our efforts in the communities we serve.



A strategic plan is no more than the *direction* we choose to *optimally allocate* our resources to reach a *specific outcome*. The definition may be simpler than developing an actual plan, but it is imperative for every nonprofit to have a plan covering the next three to five years. It creates value for the nonprofit by aligning all stakeholders, prioritizing our

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Looking to give back? Look right here . . .

Giving DuPage's Volunteer and Opportunities Portal

By Shefali Trivedi



There are over 3,000 nonprofits in DuPage with several hundred agencies providing critical services in hunger relief, support for seniors, combating homelessness, assisting veterans, tutoring children and helping those with disabilities. Although the needs are great, the good news is that humanitarians are generous and want to give back to local nonprofits.

The challenge is, if you are a student, family, church, community group or company who wants to volunteer, how do you become aware of charitable organizations? How do you know where to reach the organizations in need of in-kind donations? It's difficult to find the right opportunity to make a difference.

(continued on page 11)

WSPN mission:

Offering support to development professionals and advancing philanthropy.

WSPN core services:

education, networking and advocacy

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We invite your membership. Annual, non-transferable dues are \$40. Register online or make checks payable to West Suburban Philanthropic Network and mail to:

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President's Message

Abundance is such a lush, descriptive word that when you think about it, sometimes it makes you feel a little guilty—as if you have too much while others have so little.

When I'm at the grocery store and see an elderly person trying to determine if they can afford one item over another, I often think of that word. I struggle with it when I see a homeless person. I grapple with it when I raise funds to feed students who come to school hungry in the morning.

This is the time of year when many of us are anticipating gifts that will be made to our organizations. For some of us, most gifts come in at this time of year. For others, new strategies are tested. For a few, the same practices will be implemented because they've always garnered good results.

Are you ready for year-end giving at your nonprofit? Is your #GivingTuesday push prepared? Are the newsletter articles ready to go? Is your Twitter feed primed? Have you written your volunteer thank you notes? Drafted donor acknowledgement letters? Scheduled telephone calls to major donors? Are you all set to mail your holiday cards? Do you know how to tap into the abundance around you for your constituents?

If you're in the development profession, you know that planning and implementation are two very separate concepts. Having sufficient staff and/or volunteers to execute your plans is essential. You also know that sometimes what we do seems overwhelming and our goals sometimes seem unattainable. However, we keep focused on attaining an abundance of support for our nonprofits because that will benefit our constituents and our communities.

I'd like to be one of the first to wish you a very happy holiday season and an abundant new year. I wish you all abundance in every aspect of your life. Abundantly qualified volunteers, abundantly engaged board members, abundant financial support, abundant focus and abundant energy. I think that you're all terrific, and I am proud to be in the same profession as you.

Abundant peace,

Ann E. Spehar



Philanthropy Collection News

New tool! Foundation Maps

By Christine Kickels, Librarian
College of DuPage's Philanthropy Collection

We are pleased to now offer a new online tool in our core collection. **Foundation Maps** is Foundation Center's new interactive mapping tool that brings philanthropy data to life so you can see who is funding what and where. Some of the most exciting features include:

- **Map View** displays with colored bubbles for foundations and recipients.
- **Charts** show funding trends and allow comparisons of funding by subject areas over time.
- **Funding pathways** visually reveals networked relationships between funders and recipients. Start with a recipient or foundation and view multiple layers of funding.
- **U.S. Demographic** overlays add a rich dimension to the maps, demonstrating the need for funding in a region or subject area.



Next time you are in the Library, search your nonprofit and find out its "family tree" of funding.

The Philanthropy Collection has some new books. All are available for four-week loans and can be renewed. Some of the latest additions include:

- *Sponsorship Seeker's Toolkit* by Kim Skildum-Reid and Anne-Marie Grey
- *Mobile for Good: A How-to Fundraising Guide for Nonprofits* by Heather Mansfield
- *The Money Raising Nonprofit Brand: Motivating Donors to Give, Give Happily, & Keep on Giving* by Jeff Brooks
- *Research Methods and Statistics for Public and Nonprofit Administrators: A Practical Guide* by Masami Nishishiba

The Philanthropy Collection is located on the upper floor of the Library and is open to the public. If you live or work in DuPage you are eligible for a COD library card. Questions? Please contact me at (630) 942-2313 or kickels@cod.edu. ●

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of strengthening Illinois philanthropy and
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Editor's Note

Dear VIEWPOINT readers:

The 13th Annual Awards Luncheon is right around the corner so please mark your calendar and take the time to submit your nominations.

Thank you for taking the time to read VIEWPOINT. It's truly a pleasure and privilege serving as editor. Should you have any topic ideas, comments or suggestions, please email them to jillm@elm-hurst.edu.

Wishing you a joyous holiday season and a healthy and prosperous New Year.

Sincerely,



Jill McWilliams

Advertising in VIEWPOINT

A limited number of business-card size (3.5 x 2 inches) advertising spaces are available in VIEWPOINT.

\$190 - four issues

\$160 - three issues

\$125 - two issues

\$ 70 - one issue

\$475 - four-issue insert ad (8.5x11)

To place an ad, visit www.wsp-nonline.org/page-1299890.

Please consider our advertisers when seeking services. Their ad fees help with the production costs of our award-winning publication.

West Suburban Philanthropic Network's 2015 PHILANTHROPY AWARDS

Call for Nominations

The West Suburban Philanthropic Network calls for nominations in eight major philanthropic categories for its **13th Annual Philanthropy Awards Luncheon at 11 a.m. on Wednesday, May 20 at Bobak's Signature Events, 6440 Double Eagle Drive, Woodridge, IL 60517**. The purpose of the awards program is to recognize and celebrate those individuals, businesses, foundations and organizations that provide so much to sustain and enhance the rich philanthropic environment that is fundamental to the quality of life in the western suburbs.

Categories consist of:

- **Philanthropist of the Year** - presented to an individual who has demonstrated an exemplary model through financial support on behalf of nonprofits in the western suburbs.
- **Philanthropic Leadership Award** - presented to an individual who has provided extraordinary leadership and action that has significantly impacted the philanthropic process of several local nonprofits and the broader philanthropic culture within the western suburbs.
- **Humanitarian of the Year** - presented to an individual who has demonstrated an extraordinary humanitarian effort in making a major impact on the quality of life in the western suburbs.
- **Corporate/Foundation/Service Club Philanthropic Award** - presented to an organization that has demonstrated commitment to the western suburbs through financial support, leadership and volunteerism.
- **Nonprofit Executive of the Year** - presented to a senior-level nonprofit executive who has demonstrated exceptional leadership in advancing the mission and services of his or her organization for the benefit of residents in the western suburbs.
- **Grantmaker of the Year** - presented to a corporate or foundation philanthropic officer who has represented the donor organization with professional leadership while providing exceptional assistance to the west suburban nonprofit community.
- **Nonprofit Volunteer of the Year Award** - presented to an individual who has taken a leadership role in advancing the philanthropic programs of the local charity with which the individual serves as a volunteer.
- **WSPN Distinguished Service Award** - presented to a WSPN member whose efforts have helped to significantly advance the mission of WSPN.

The deadline for submitting nominations is 5 p.m. Friday, January 30. All nominations must be written in the form of a nomination letter (no more than two pages) and emailed to Maeven Sipes, msipes@northernilfoodbank.org, or mailed to Northern Illinois Food Bank, 273 Dearborn Court, Geneva, IL 60134.

Nomination letters should include:

- A detailed list of the nominee's philanthropic accomplishments in the western suburbs.
- Biographical information including the nominee's address, phone, email and relevant professional experience.
- If selected, a headshot of the nominee will be requested for publicity purposes. (Corporate/Foundation Philanthropic awardees will be asked to submit a logo.)

Awardees and their nominators will be notified in February. Reservations for the luncheon will be accepted in early February. Individual tickets are \$50 per person or \$500 for a table of 10.

For more information regarding reservations or to inquire about ad rates and sponsorship opportunities, please contact Maeven Sipes at msipes@northernilfoodbank.org. ●

Spotlight

Featuring a WSPN Member Organization



Donka, Inc.

Changing lives of persons with disabilities through technology



When Kent Carson woke up in a hospital bed to find that his legs and arm had been amputated, he was left in a daze. Carson felt sick after returning from a vacation and, while doctors correctly diagnosed him with Legionnaires' disease, the disease had progressed so quickly and wreaked havoc on his body before it could be contained. Doctors had to amputate Carson's left arm and both legs.

Grateful to be alive but faced with a daunting physical disability, Carson knew he needed to do something to regain his independence. He signed up for Donka's one-to-one assistive technology and computer training program and now, with programs like Dragon NaturallySpeaking, Carson is learning how to control the computer using his voice.

Donka, Inc. is a nonprofit that provides computer training and job readiness services to persons with physical, visual and limited learning disabilities. Donka was founded in 1987 by Don Van Haveren, a retired Wheaton businessman, who became friends with residents of the DuPage Convalescent Center where he volunteered.

Van Haveren believed that computer training was the way to increase opportunities for people limited by disabilities, even those with the most severe physical and visual limitations. Through use of computers and assistive technology, Donka students become more self-sufficient and independent members of the community.

Donka computer and assistive technology training is unique in that:

- Donka provides one-to-one training and individualized curriculum to ensure success for each student.

- Donka has a staff that is knowledgeable in assistive technology and the most current technology.
- Donka is the only program of its kind in DuPage and in the state of Illinois.

Donka's Train-the-Trainer program trains future and current special educators about assistive technology and the use of computers in expanding possibilities for the special-needs students in their classrooms.

Speech and physical therapists, vocational rehabilitation staff, para-professionals and parents with children with disabilities are trained in software and adaptive equipment to encourage their patrons' independent use of technology.

Both Benedictine University and Trinity College have long partnered with Donka through its Train-the-Trainer program.

Carson is one of many students who came to Donka looking for a chance to regain his independence. After completing the program, he is on the road to going back to work to his job as a bank manager in Round Lake Village.

As of 2014, nearly 700 students have graduated from Donka's computer training program. Each student comes in with a goal, whether it is to gain skills for employment, education or to regain independence, and Donka's instructors work hard to train them to reach those goals.

To learn more about Donka's programs, visit www.donkainc.org.

Blasts from the Past

Program Highlights

by Jill McWilliams

Engaging Professional Advisors in the Fundraising Process



L to R: John Kaiser, Brett Dale, Nancy Hermann, Randy Fox and Mike Sitrick

On Sept. 18, Mike Sitrick, director of development of The DuPage Community Foundation, moderated a panel at ArtfulIMPACT! at The School of Performing Arts in Naperville.

Panelists included Attorney Brett Dale, chairman of Huck Bouma PC's Estate Planning Group; Randy Fox, an insurance agent and principal with The Fox Agency; Nancy Hermann, senior vice president and managing director at The Private Client Reserve of U.S. Bank; and John Kaiser, CPA, MBA, a founding partner of Cray, Kaiser Ltd.

Professional advisors such as accountants, estate planning attorneys, financial planners, and life underwriters can be critical referral sources to your organization for outright and deferred gifts. A critical element in fostering philanthropy is cultivating relationships with these individuals to ensure they know and understand your organization and the types of charitable tools that are available to help their clients accomplish their charitable goals.

The panelists' key tips included:

1. Nonprofits and advisors (of all kinds) should partner in the philanthropic conversation with donors.
2. One great way to find advisors is by asking donors who their current advisors are and reaching out to them.
3. Donors and advisors alike need education about giving. It's a complex process and may take some time to complete a large gift.
4. Some donors are more motivated by a onetime tax transaction while others are motivated by their passion for a cause. It's up to the team to discover where their interest lies.
5. Don't miss an opportunity to leverage, tell or show your success stories and testimonials. While some donors are driven by the numbers, others are motivated by how the organization has impacted lives.

6. Listen for family cues that would indicate openness to giving. These can be donors without children, very successful children or spoiled children to name a few. Establishing a planned giving strategy can help promote a family culture focused on more giving for generations while helping the greater good.
7. Donors generally don't know what they don't know about philanthropic giving. Leverage each donor's professional advisory team to help donors consider all of their options and give the appropriate assets in the appropriate way and at the appropriate time.

Advanced Moves Management: From Cultivation to Asking



On Oct. 16 at Ham-burger University in Oak Brook, William T. Sturtevant presented on cultivation and solicitation best practices to about 100 participants.

His riveting, lively half-day workshop was intriguing and filled with stories and relevant quotes.

One inspirational and apropos quote he shared was:

"You will be hurt more by those who would have said 'yes' but were not asked ... than by those who said 'no.'"

— Jerry Panas

Although it's difficult to sum up briefly the wealth of knowledge Sturtevant shared related to the resources and handouts he provided, some of his advice included:

1. Personal communication is most effective for major gifts and highly involved donors. Communication through phone or mail is most appropriate for newly acquired giving of donors who are not very involved.
2. Select your top 10-25 prospects. The ideal prospects are those with the greatest financial capabilities with cultivatable interests and involvement. Next, create a file with easy-to-access research on each prospect and identify natural partners.
3. As the size of the gift decision grows, the prospect needs and motives will take longer to develop. Effective communication and building of personal relationships is needed with larger gifts.
4. Utilize natural partners who have an established relationship with the prospect. Natural partners can recommend what kinds of contacts would be best and can assist in building needed relationships.

5. Avoid too general and unrealistic cultivation objectives in communicating with prospects. Prior to communication, determine the best possible outcome and the minimum acceptable outcome.
6. Find effective volunteers and board members who have a natural relationship or interest in the organization and a willingness to communicate with others about the organization.
7. At the end of the year, review the status of each prospect, refine strategies and objectives and plan moves for the next year. Add and delete prospects from your list as appropriate.
8. Donors prefer precise, concise solicitations. Be open and ready to handle objections effectively.
9. Understand the four types of nos: a) forever, b) not now but maybe later, c) not for that amount but perhaps another, d) not to this project but another project—and know how to respond to each.

William T. Sturtevant, www.sturtevantfundraising.com, is a specialist in major and deferred gift philanthropy who has successfully practiced the craft for over 30 years. His special niche is developing and implementing strategies for the cultivation and solicitation of major donors.

ABCs of Planned Giving



On Nov. 20, David Terrill, president of Terrill Consulting, delivered an introduction about planned giving at Outreach Community Center in Carol Stream.

When adding planned giving to your overall development strategy, you should consider:

1. Reasons to start a planned giving program:
 - a. 72% of current giving comes from individuals and 8% from bequests.
 - b. 90% of an individual's assets are liquid, i.e. stocks, IRAs and real estate.
 - c. Retirement plans are among a donor's largest assets.
 - d. Individuals often make their biggest charitable gift through their will or trust. Don't miss their biggest gift!
2. Benefits of planned gifts:
 - a. Donors know they should create a will or trust to protect their loved ones. Donors treat a nonprofit like family when they make a gift through a will or trust.
 - b. Giving an appreciated asset, like stocks, is appealing because donors avoid capital gains taxes while serving a cause.

- c. Changing a beneficiary designation of an IRA, bank account or insurance policy is easy to implement.
3. Start with:
 - a. Identifying your longest-giving most loyal donors.
 - b. Creating a legacy society.
 - c. Treating bequest and legacy donors with the special respect they deserve.
 - d. Sharing compelling stories of why your living legacy society members made a commitment.

Email daveterrill@terrillconsulting.com to request a one-page "Let's Get Started with Gift Planning Checklist." ●

Resource Round-up

William Sturtevant provided several resources during his half-day seminar. Some of the resources at the top of his reading list include:

1. *Mega Gifts* by Jerold Panas
 2. *Asking: A 59-Minute Guide to Everything Board Members, Volunteers, and Staff Must Know to Secure the Gift* by Jerold Panas
 3. *The Artful Journey: Cultivating and Soliciting the Major Gift* by William T. Sturtevant
 4. *Moves Management Manual™* by William T. Sturtevant and Jerold Panas
- Note: The above are available through the Institute For Charitable Giving Fundraising bookstore, www.panaslinzy.com.
5. *Fund Raising: The Guide to Raising Money from Private Sources* by Thomas E. Broce
 6. *Designs For Fund-Raising: Principles, Patterns, Techniques* by Harold J. Seymour

Do you have favorite resources you would like to share with ViewPoint readers? Please send them to jillm@elmhurst.edu. ●

Member News



In August, **Joshua Bailey** joined the Teen Parent Connection team as development associate. With a passion for human services fundraising, Bailey brings grant writing, event planning and database management experience to the agency.

He is motivated to be an ambassador for the organization and the young parents it serves. Founded in 1985, Teen Parent Connection, teenparentconnection.org, provides teen parents vital support, information, and resources to promote a child's healthy development and empowers parents to reach their goals.

Bailey earned a bachelor's degree in English writing and political science from North Central College; he lives in Naperville with his wife, Ali.



Chrissie Howorth, CFRE, vice president of philanthropy and business relations at VNA Health Care, was selected as a 2014 honoree for the Daily Herald Business Ledger's 17th annual Influential Women in Business Awards.

The Influential Women in Business Awards are presented to outstanding women executives who excel in business, civic and personal arenas. Howorth was nominated by Art Littlefield, president of FSG Financial Strategies and Solutions Group, and was selected based on her contribution to VNA's growth and her service to the greater Chicagoland nonprofit community.

Howorth currently serves as immediate past-president of WSPN and vice chair of the Friends of the Forest Preserve District of DuPage County.



Sarah Lichtenwalter was hired as the new grant writer for People's Resource Center in September.

Her responsibilities include grant writing as well as coordinating sponsorships for the organization. She brings three years of development experience from her time as a student intern at Elmhurst College.

Nearly 32,000 DuPage residents rely on People's Resource Center each year for food and other basic necessities like clothes and rent assistance during tough times. With a team of almost 2,100 volunteers, People's Resource Center connects people with resources—education and tutoring, jobs, technology, art, a caring community—to create a future of hope and opportunity for all. For more information or to volunteer, visit www.peoplesrc.org.



Jake Meding began working at Elmhurst College as assistant director of annual giving in February. Meding's responsibilities include reconnecting young alumni with Elmhurst College and managing faculty and staff giving.

Meding previously worked at Food Allergy Research and Education for over a year as the Midwest regional coordinator, and worked as a paid intern for a campaign during the 2012 elections and volunteered for another.

Meding earned a bachelor's in political science from Elmhurst College and was named the 2012 Elmhurst College Senior of the Year.



In April, **Evan T. Munch** joined the Marianjoy Foundation as communications and grant specialist. As the philanthropic arm of Marianjoy Rehabilitation Hospital, the Marianjoy Foundation raises funds to benefit patient care, education, research and community outreach programs.

With the generous support of private donors, corporate donations, and public and private foundations, Marianjoy unveiled a new Aquatic Therapy and Fitness Center, Assistive Rehabilitation Technology Institute, and Conference and Education Center in November.

Munch joins the Marianjoy Foundation with a background in journalism and public education.

Share your Member News:

Tell us about your job change, promotion, professional development, awards and honors. Please email your news and photo to Jill McWilliams, VIEWPOINT editor, at jillm@elmhurst.edu. ●

Building Our Membership

Networking, networking, networking . . . is the secret to success. If you attended Bill Sturtevant's half-day workshop "From Cultivation to Asking," you learned methods and techniques for becoming a more effective fundraiser.

In addition, we co-sponsored the event with Suburban Chicago Planned Giving Council, thus providing an expanded opportunity for networking with other fundraising professionals.

Did you leave feeling inspired? Did you pick up good ideas? Did you meet someone who you've been in contact with? Did you think of anyone who would have benefited from being at the seminar?

These are the opportunities WSPN provides for you to network with your peers. We all know someone who can benefit professionally from joining WSPN, so please take the time to invite them to an event, become a part of their network and see where it leads.

If you know someone who would benefit from joining, please email me, and I'd be happy to contact them about WSPN member benefits.

Thank you,

Mark Dyer, membership chair, mdyer@dupageforest.com

Become a member:

Check out www.wspnonline.org to learn more about WSPN benefits including our monthly educational events, job opportunities and scholarship information.



Scan to join.

Join online or by downloading a membership application.
Non-transferable dues are \$40 per year.



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Attention members:

We want to keep in touch!

Have you changed jobs or received a new title?

Do you have a new email or mailing address?

Simply log into your profile on www.wspnonline.org with your email and password and update your contact information.
You can request a new password if you've forgotten yours.

Also, join WSPN on LinkedIn to extend your networking possibilities. Be a part of the dialog.

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actions, allocating precious human and capital resources and defining metrics for the organization's success.

A good plan starts with involving the right people. It should be a broad mix of professionals representing diverse skills and engagement points with your nonprofit. A good plan is developed when the process includes healthy debate across a spectrum of issues. You certainly don't want all like-minded "yes" people.

After assembling a team, ensure you have their commitment to the entire process. Clearly articulate the time-frame the planning will take, the number of scheduled meetings and identify key checkpoints to confirm you are on track. A good plan generally takes three to six months to develop.

Once the logistics are set, begin identifying key data that will help you make decisions based on sound rationale. Certainly include your nonprofit's performance metrics, and also spend time gathering external data that might include demographic projections, industry trends or macro-economic data. It is critical to understand the landscape and establish a broader context within which your nonprofit operates.

With data in hand, undertake a thorough SWOT (strengths, weaknesses, opportunities and threats) analysis. Don't let this intimidate you as there are plenty of good examples and templates on the internet, e.g. www.businessballs.com/swotanalysisfreemtemplate.htm.

At this point, it is useful to have team members complete a SWOT analysis from their perspective (homework!) and then work for consensus on a holistic analysis.

Look long-term and begin envisioning where you want to be as an organization. Set goals and objectives, define a vision, develop a mission statement (why you exist) and create metrics for how you will measure success. You wouldn't just get in the car and drive around without an end-point in mind. Likewise, start with where you want to go as you initiate a plan.

Now the fun part starts as you ponder different approaches to reach your vision and success measurements. Have a rigorous debate about how you can achieve success. Will you expand your geographic footprint, will you add services, will you develop a new target group for your mission, will you alter your business model, do you need a capital campaign or what human resources will you need?

During this stage of development, stay away from specific tactics that tend to bog you down—keep it strategic and high level. Remember, you are considering the path (strategy) to reaching your goals. This is not time for a tactical discussion or who will do what!

Don't be overly concerned with the time this debate takes; it is important that everyone is heard and involved. In the end, you want commitment to the direction chosen. Just getting head nods instead of total buy-in will come back to haunt you in the long term.

After your planning team has settled on the best approach, start organizing the plan. Define the resources needed, develop the priorities, lay out the key steps and timeline to implement the plan and define the accountabilities for each department or person. At this stage, there should be absolute clarity around who does what and by when.

Next, carefully consider how you will communicate the plan to the entire organization including the board, staff, volun-

teers, donors and, finally, those you serve. There are many ways to accomplish this, but it warrants time to consider how to powerfully introduce your thoughts in the most compelling manner. You don't get a second chance to make a first impression, so devote the right time and resources to make it a winning presentation.

After implementation, it is very important to go back and measure your progress on a regular basis. You might have developed a plan with three- to five-year goals, but that doesn't mean you wait that long to see how you are doing. At least quarterly, see if you are on the right track to accomplish your plan. No doubt you will make adjustments along the way. The world changes and you should adjust with it!

With an effective strategic plan in hand, you will be a much stronger nonprofit. You will have laid the foundation for building annual plans, developing a guide to making critical decisions and creating a roadmap to success. Enjoy the journey!



Doug Porter, CEO of the Ronald McDonald House Charities of Chicagoland and Northwest Indiana, began his career in 1985 at Leo Burnett Advertising in Chicago, where he received awards for achieving outstanding marketing results and creative excellence.

He joined RMHC as CEO in 2004. In this role, he oversaw a merger of all the assets in the Chicago area forming one cohesive organization that is dedicated to the health, well-being and education of children.

Today, he leads five Ronald McDonald Houses, three Ronald McDonald Family Rooms that provide a "home away from home" for 153 families in medical crises, and a Ronald McDonald Care Mobile offering free pediatric medical services and a scholarship program. ●

Giving DuPage's Volunteer and Opportunities portal offers the answer and a centralized starting point. Among other resources, the Volunteer and Opportunities portal provides volunteers and donors with an easy-to-use online search tool listing 100-plus local volunteer opportunities. The search portal is the easiest way for volunteers and donors to connect with local give-back opportunities.

Using the Volunteer and Opportunities portal, volunteers can filter their search, create individual profiles, become fans of their favorite organizations, track agency needs and learn about upcoming charitable events and fundraisers. The site also lists in-kind donation needs, advocacy opportunities and employment opportunities.

To access the portal, visit www.givingdupage.org and select the **Volunteer Now** blue button located on any page. To find opportunities, select the Volunteer tab, where you can search by geography or by type. To view a list of organizations, select the Nonprofits tab and search by name, category or geography. Some of the volunteer opportunities include:

- Holiday basket distribution
- Aquatic therapy assistance
- Christmas tree lot volunteers
- Music volunteers
- Arts program volunteers
- Book rescue volunteers
- Christmas day meal servers
- Art volunteers
- Nature workdays
- Youth sports coaches
- Horse leaders and sidewalkers
- Tutoring opportunities

Giving DuPage invites nonprofits or community groups seeking volunteer support to utilize this FREE resource. Since launching the updated version in September, Giving DuPage has generated nearly 200 volunteer responses for local nonprofits and over 1,000 monthly "opportunity views."

Organizations are welcome to submit volunteer impact stories, which Giving DuPage shares via e-news, social networks and on the portal's main page. Organizations can also add their logo, photos and a video on their profile page. Giving DuPage will also create referral reports for all active organizations starting in 2015.

In addition to the Volunteer and Opportunities portal, Giving DuPage provides other capacity-building resources for local nonprofits. In early November, Giving DuPage hosted a full-day training workshop with Chuck Loring, a senior governance consultant for BoardSource. More than 200 executive directors, senior staff and board members learned about creating a purposeful board. Giving DuPage's Board² Program recruits, matches and places board members to area nonprofits. Every spring, Giving DuPage hosts the Human Race, a 5K fundraiser supporting over 50 charities, with over 1,500 participants.

For more information about Giving DuPage or the Volunteer and Opportunities portal, please contact givingdupage@dupageco.org or call (630) 407-6458.



Shefali Trivedi, executive director of Giving DuPage, has worked in nonprofit and government service for 13 years. Trivedi has been actively involved with all facets of nonprofits for 28 years as a volunteer, employee, donor and board member. ●

"It is every man's obligation to put back into the world at least the equivalent of what he takes out of it."

– Albert Einstein

Scholarship Program

The WSPN board was pleased to award funds through WSPN's Scholarship Program to WSPN member Carol Anglet, a grant development consultant.

In November, Anglet attended the Council for Resource Development's 48th Annual Conference.

HOW TO APPLY:

Scholarships for training and continuing education opportunities are available to WSPN members.

Scholarships can be applied to a variety of learning opportunities including AFP Chicago Chapter Midwest Conference on Philanthropy or other educational opportunities related to fundraising and nonprofit management.

The scholarship application can be found on the WSPN website.

Save These Dates . . .

West Suburban Philanthropic Network Programs

Please save these dates . . . and join us for the exciting events we have planned.



WSPN programs are free to WSPN members and \$20 for non-members.
Programs are usually held on the third Thursday of each month.

Registration and refreshments begin at 8 a.m. and the program begins at 8:30 a.m., unless otherwise noted.

For more information or to register, visit www.wspnonline.org.

Thursday, Jan. 15 **Topic:** How to Acquire and Use Governmental and Public Data to Demonstrate Trends and Enhance Proposals, Grants and Policy-Making
 Speaker: Sherrie J. Taylor, MPA, Northern Illinois University
 Location: The Forest Preserve District Headquarters, 3S580 Naperville Rd., Wheaton, IL 60189

Thursday, Feb. 19 **Topic:** Giving Tuesday 2015: Developing a Plan
 Speaker: Barbara Rozgonyi, Cory West Media
 Location: TBA

Save These 2015 Dates, too.

[More details to come.](#)

March 19 • April 16 • June 18 (Funders Panel)



13th Annual Awards Luncheon

Wednesday, May 20 LOCATION: Bobak's Signature Events, 6440 Double Eagle Drive, Woodridge, IL 60517
Networking begins at 11 a.m., luncheon follows. Reservations begin in February;
\$50 per person or \$500 for a table of 10 which includes a business card ad in the program.

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