

2023 U.P. Nonprofit Conference Workshop Descriptions

ChatGPT for Nonprofits: Amplifying Impact with AI

Presenter: Nicole Fende, President, The Numbers Whisperer®

Skill Level: Introductory

Discover the untapped potential of Artificial Intelligence (AI) in the nonprofit sector in this hands-on workshop. Unleash the power of ChatGPT and explore other AI alternatives, gaining insights into how they can improve your organization's operations. Learn how to leverage AI to streamline tasks, save resources and time, enabling your nonprofit to make an even greater difference in the communities you serve. During this workshop, we'll guide you through the art of crafting effective prompts to get the most out of AI interactions while navigating the potential pitfalls. Gain a deeper understanding of the ethical considerations involved in AI adoption. *I used ChatGPT to help me write this description.

Planning for a Capital Campaign

Presenter: Carole Pence, President, Pence Consulting

Skill level: Intermediate

Review the eleven critical steps an organization needs to learn to successfully complete a capital campaign. Capital campaigns are held for buildings, endowments and special projects. They are not large dollar campaigns for general use. Most campaigns should start the planning process at least one year in advance of kicking off the campaign. The campaign raises 60-70% of their dollars in the silent large dollar campaign. These prospects already have a link, ability and interest in the organization. This workshop will review the campaign cycle and each step used in the planning phase, silent or advanced gift phase and general solicitation.

Mindful Leadership

Presenter: Angela Miller-Porter, Great Start Collaborative Director, Marquette Alger RESA

Skill level: Introductory

Mindfulness is a practice of cultivating compassionate present moment awareness. A growing body of research shows mindfulness (meditation) has the potential to heal on multiple levels from the personal (reduced stress, improved sleep, etc.) to the interpersonal (expanded activity in the area of the brain associated with compassion, improved interpersonal relationships, etc.). In this workshop, Angela will share how to practice mindfulness both formally (meditation) and informally (in everyday life) so that participants can either feel comfortable establishing a regular practice and/or strengthening the one they already have. Angela will also share stories and practical examples of how a regular mindfulness practice can impact leadership in powerfully fulfilling and transformative ways. There will be ample time for personal sharing, reflection and questions.

Careful, Can Your Donors See You're Thirsty? Strategies for Strengthening Donor Connections

Presenter: Irma González-Hider, Director of Fund Development, Schoolcraft Memorial Hospital

Skill level: Intermediate

The success of any fundraising campaign hinges on the quality of the relationships you cultivate with your donors. This interactive and insightful workshop will explore common pitfalls that can undermine donor relationships and how to counteract them with data-driven strategies. You will gain valuable tips, self-awareness about what drives you, and actionable plans to strengthen existing donor connections, boost donor retention rates, increase joy in your work, and attract new supporters to your cause.

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Local Talent Pool Update

Presenter: Jenna Smith, Market Manager, Manpower

Skill Level: Intermediate

Overview of current trends in our current labor market across the Upper Peninsula of Michigan, including anecdotes and some ideas for solutions.

Data Driven Strategic Planning

Presenter: Liz Seefeldt, Executive Director, The BRICK Ministries, Inc.

Skill Level: Intermediate

Join in a review of The BRICK Ministries' strategic planning process. Rather than the navel-gazing that too often informs the development of a strategic plan, The BRICK's leadership team determined that their investment in the organization required a data driven approach to achieve optimal results. We'll also hear from Grow & Lead: Community and Youth Development's staff about the role they played in guiding The BRICK along the way to ensure a meaningful and viable end product.

Anishinaabe 101- for Home Visitors

Presenter: Meredith Kennedy, Mother, Director, Storyteller, Miigwech Inc.

Skill Level: Introductory

Your service area includes the Indigenous peoples of Michigan, the Anishinaabe. How much do you really know about them? What implicit bias do you hold that we can address? What historical traumas have they experienced that lead to modern day barriers to outreach and care? What are some cultural protocols for a diverse group of people like the Anishinaabe? Let's take a walk together and learn from Waganakising Odawakkwa, Meredith Kennedy.

Growing Generosity in the U.P.

Presenters: Victoria Leonhardt, Leadership Manager - US Communities, GivingTuesday; Michael Babcock, Director Marketing & Communications, Copper Shores Community Health Foundation; Taylor Olson-Brutto, Outreach Coordinator, Grow & Lead: Community and Youth Development

Skill Level: Intermediate

GivingTuesday is coming up! Are you ready? Join us to learn about how the U.P. bands together on GivingTuesday to inspire generosity across the map. We'll cover why the U.P. has GivingTuesday Community Campaigns, inspiring local stories of generosity, and data informed tactics to engage all types of givers.

Productivity and Wellbeing: Principles and Tools to Make Your Life Easier

Presenter: Sean Rose, Senior Manager of Nonprofit Engagement, Catchafire

Skill Level: Introductory or Intermediate

So often it feels like we're being asked to do more with less. In this practical and honest workshop, we'll explore principles for getting work done without sacrificing wellbeing. We'll look at specific tools and practices that you and your staff can use right now to improve your productivity such as: how to plan, create and manage a to-do list that you actually use; why to time block your calendar so you can focus on what really matters; how and when to automate your tasks and how to schedule meetings and interviews quickly.

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Evaluation 101: Telling Your Story Using Evaluation

Presenter: Liz Delaney, Senior Learning Officer, Ralph C. Wilson, Jr. Foundation

Skill Level: Introductory

How do you show the impacts of your work or assess where changes could help your organization? In this introductory and interactive session, we will learn ways to best prioritize and set up systems in your organization for effective evaluation. We will practice setting up theories of change and logic models, writing and thinking about how to measure outcomes, talk about the differences between publicly available and primarily collected data, and how to develop your own data menu. This session will be useful for those running organizations or working in the field.

Evaluation 102: Designing an Evaluation Using a Case

Presenter: Liz Delaney, Senior Learning Officer, Ralph C. Wilson, Jr. Foundation

Skill Level: Intermediate

Do you have some knowledge of evaluation techniques and tools but want some practical experience developing an evaluation plan? This is the workshop for you. In this session, we will use a case study and groups to set up an evaluation plan for the case study. We will talk about different options, including hiring an external evaluator, developing systems for your organization to implement internally, budget implications, and finding the best fit for your organization. This will be highly participatory and will be drawing on the knowledge of the collective group. This is meant for a beginner to advanced level. If you are a beginner, the Eval 101 workshop would be a helpful knowledge base.

Maintaining Workplace Culture in Times of Change

Presenter: Kevin Store, Executive Director, Copper Shores Community Health Foundation

This workshop will cover organizational culture, leadership norms and employee empowerment. More information coming soon.