

# IDM's Impact-Enhancing Services for Nonprofit Organizations

## ◆ "Whys, Ways, and Means" – Organizational Planning

Increasingly, Iowa's citizens and our numerous community organizations are striving to enhance the qualities of our life together "in community," including sharing and expanding rich cultural opportunities and vital community services.



Our "Whys, Ways, and Means" planning provides an organizational strengths evaluation and, normally, one or two custom-designed

and productive planning sessions with summary reports. A typical summary report includes recommendations, next steps and a consensus-based draft plan.

### *Benefits:*

- Gaining a clear, shared direction
- Effectively and efficiently applying the valuable time and ideas of your volunteers

## ◆ Resolving Issues to Avoid or Overcome Barriers

IDM guides community-based and other organizations in identifying and resolving issues related to avoiding or overcoming barriers to progress.



### *Benefits:*

- Surfacing barrier-type questions; clarifying and prioritizing them
- Resolving key issues through consensus
- Identifying forward-moving strategies

## ◆ Setting Priorities amid Differing or Competing Agendas

Organizations and communities frequently face the thorny challenge of blending competing interests. IDM offers an efficient service to produce shared, consensus-based priorities. Through fair, focused group decision making, practical session design and IDM's unbiased facilitation, our approach combines what individuals personally know and care about in order to produce a set of priorities the group is able to care strongly about and support.



### *Benefit:*

- Establishing new common ground and commitment

## ◆ Organizing Self-Directed Fundraising Campaigns



We help your volunteers and other staff members prepare for fundraising efforts for your organization. We help you build a case to support your efforts, train the volunteers who will make the calls, and help create the materials necessary to conduct a successful fund drive. Costs for our assistance vary depending upon your organization's size and the services you are seeking.

### *Benefits:*

- Obtaining professional fundraising assistance
- Getting your fund drive off on the right foot regardless of the amount of dollars sought

## ◆ Engaging Community or Group Participation

Your organization or community might not need a full planning process, but you could likely benefit from the professional service of an outside facilitator. We design and implement public input sessions, town hall meetings or community meetings that enable a nonprofit organization, or a community to gather input or seek consensus.



### *Benefit:*

- Non-biased facilitation to achieve the purpose of the meeting

## ◆ Take it To Them Training (T-4 Board Workshops)

We offer a series of interactive training sessions of 1 to 1 ½ hours that we can present in your community. Topics include Board Orientation and Responsibilities, Fundraising, and The Volunteers' Role, plus, we can develop a training session on a customized/localized topic. We can also deliver these sessions via the ICN Network, if you prefer. Handout materials for an ICN session will be provided prior to the session.



### *Benefits:*

- Helping your board members do a better job
- Allowing your organization to advance with the information provided at a choice time and place in your community; no travel for you is required, only some time

## Impact-Enhancing Examples

### ◆ “Whys, Ways, and Means” – Planning

Goodwill Industries of Northeast Iowa, Inc.

- ◆ Planning retreat with board/senior staff
- ◆ Developed needed consensus regarding expanded and continuing strategic initiatives

### ◆ Resolving Issues

Waterloo Center for the Arts ◆ Retreat with board/staff ◆ Developed consensus-based values and vision, identified and categorized key issues and resolved critical issues in two pivotal areas that permitted resolution/progress in those and other high-impact areas

### ◆ Setting Priorities with Practical Computer Support

Marion County Recreation Taskforce

- ◆ An integrated recreation-plan development, involving multiple interests and projects
- ◆ Developed consensus-based project priorities and action-oriented collaborative marketing, which brought award-winning results

### ◆ Organizing Self-Directed Fundraising Campaigns

Clark County Fair Board ◆ On-site sessions plus guidance: fundraising strategy, action plan and volunteer training ◆ The Board reports, “Donations for the new Clark County Fairground are coming in at an unprecedented pace...” Meeting a significant matching challenge grant is in sight

### ◆ Take it To Them Training (T-4 Board Workshops)

Training with a variety of organizations

- ◆ Roles and responsibilities
- ◆ Board and staff expectations
- ◆ Assessments of talents, functions and resources brought to the table
- ◆ Strategic change

## Access to IDM's Services

IDM's services are fee-based. Local community foundations are often excellent allies in helping local nonprofits to more easily afford impact-enhancing services.

### Institute for Decision Making (IDM)

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## Impact-Enhancing Services for Nonprofit Organizations

- ◆ Planning
- ◆ Issue Resolution
- ◆ Setting Priorities
- ◆ Fundraising
- ◆ Engaging Community or Group Participation
- ◆ Board Training

