



MASSACHUSETTS NONPROFIT SUMMIT

December 2 & 3, 2005

At the Crowne Plaza Hotel, 10 Lincoln Square, Worcester, MA

Maps/Direction: <http://www.ichotelsgroup.com/h/d/cp/1/en/direction/wrccp>

Collective Action for Collective Clout: Defining an Agenda and Voice for Massachusetts Nonprofits

What is the purpose?

On Friday, December 2nd and Saturday, December 3rd, an important meeting of Massachusetts nonprofit organizations is being held at the Crowne Plaza Hotel in Worcester.

The purpose of this two-day meeting is to define the short- and long-term common agenda for the nonprofit sector in Massachusetts and to identify a concrete mechanism for organizing a collective voice.

The expected outcome?

“A common nonprofit action agenda and a mechanism for carrying it out”

Why is it important?

Nonprofit agencies are an important component of the Massachusetts experience. There are 25,000 nonprofits in Massachusetts, representing 20,345 public charities and 4,191 private foundations. The sector:

- Accounts for over 24% of the state workforce and pumps \$50 billion into the state's economy through jobs and purchase of good and services in local communities;
- Manages \$ 2.5 billion in state contracts, providing critical services to the Commonwealth's most needy;
- Raises billions in private donations to supplement and enhance essential services, improve quality of life and enrich communities with art and music; and
- Keeps us organized, connected, vital, and engages citizens around issues of civil rights, social justice and civic affairs.

Despite these powerful statistics and the sector's societal importance, the nonprofit sector's impact is not always understood or

recognized by the public, policy makers, and public officials.

There is no mechanism for the sector to organize itself around issues important to all of us — be they the sector's public image, the needs of our constituents, opportunities and issues related to business practices, or the support needs of a sector that has grown from a volunteer sector to a mature, professional sector.

Who Should Attend?

Executive Directors
Nonprofit Leaders
Policymakers
Stakeholders
Consultants
Academics
Funders
Individuals with the passion and commitment to build a powerful nonprofit sector

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Crowne Plaza Hotel, 10 Lincoln Square, Worcester, MA 10608

An important meeting to define a common agenda and a collective voice for the nonprofit sector

For information contact:
Anand Dholakia,
Massachusetts Nonprofit
Working Group Coordinator,
adholakia@mass-service.org

Organized by: Massachusetts Nonprofit Sector Working Group

A statewide volunteer group of nonprofit leaders working to strengthen and reposition the nonprofit sector

This summit is made possible by contributions from The Boston Foundation, Nonprofit Working Group Members and Greater Worcester Community Foundation



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What will the outcomes be?

A common nonprofit action agenda and a mechanism for carrying it out

The Worcester Summit is a facilitated event, designed to develop a consensus-driven common agenda and a mechanism to speak as a “collective voice” on the issues. The event is a culmination of nine regional meetings across the Commonwealth attended by over five hundred nonprofit representatives, 98% of whom endorsed the idea of organizing nonprofits in a formal way.

Small and large group work facilitated by Jay Vogt and his team will guide us through an intense two-day agenda to achieve the desired outcomes.



The Agenda:

Friday December 2nd, 2005

Start	Time	Task
8:30	60	Gathering
9:30	15	Opening
9:45	70	High Points about the Mass NPO Sector
10:55	15	Break
11:10	110	Common Ground Agenda for Mass NPO Sector
1:00	60	Lunch
2:00	105	Desired Results
3:45	15	Break
4:00	45	Reports
4:45	15	Closing
5:00	00	Adjourn

Saturday December 3rd, 2005

Start	Time	Task
8:00	30	Gathering
8:30	15	Opening
8:45	120	Structure/Mechanism for Collective Action
10:45	15	Break
11:00	120	Governance Process for Collective Action
1:00	60	Lunch
2:00	90	Sponsorship Process for Collective Action
3:30	15	Next steps
3:45	15	Closing

Our Facilitator:



Jay Vogt is President of Peoplesworth, a consulting firm he founded in 1982. Jay specializes in working with large groups and has facilitated more than 70 events for over 7,000 participants. Jay lives in Concord, MA, and serves clients nationwide.

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Registration and Logistics:

Attendance & Commitment:

Because the desired outcomes are linked, it is critical that there be full participation.
We are asking for a commitment of two full days.

To Register:

There is tremendous interest in attending this important event. Registration will be on a first come first serve basis. To register, please RSVP at the earliest by e-mailing adholakia@mass-service.org. Please include your name, organization, city your organization is in and confirmation about your two-day attendance.

Cost:

Participation in the Massachusetts Nonprofit Summit is free.

A light breakfast, lunch and snacks/coffee will be provided on both days

Parking:

Parking costs are covered. Parking will be in signed designated lots on the hotel site.

Lodging:

For those coming from places that are at a distance or those who desire **to stay overnight, you will need to secure accommodation at your own expense.**

Some potential hotels that offer affordable rates include:

Conference Location

Crowne Plaza Worcester - ask for conference rate (508) 791-1600

Close by places recommended by Crowne Plaza,

- Hampton Inn (508) 757-0400
- Courtyard by Marriott (508) 363-0300

Other Worcester Accommodations

- Best Western Inn (508) 852-2800
- Holiday Inn Worcester (508) 852-4000
- Maple Manor Hotel (508) 756-3897
- Regency Suites (508) 753-3512
- Beechwood Hotel (508) 754-5789
- Auburn Motel (508) 832-7003

Background:

This event is organized by the **Massachusetts Nonprofit Strategy Working Group**, which started meeting about 18 months ago and now includes over 65 volunteers from across the Commonwealth. Working Group members represent different parts of the nonprofit sector ranging from arts programs to immigrant coalitions. Despite their different professional responsibilities, all of these volunteers are united by a deep commitment to identifying the ways in which the nonprofit sector in Massachusetts can speak on important issues with a "common voice."

In the past two years, the Working Group has strengthened representation,

raised funds, hired staff, coordinated regional meetings in Holyoke, Cape Cod, New Bedford, Boylston, Lowell, Lynn, Cambridge, Dorchester and Roxbury, and has organized this two-day Summit in Worcester.

The Massachusetts Nonprofit Strategy Working Group meets monthly and is open to anyone who has the passion, resources, and willingness to make a time commitment to help shape this important effort. The Working Group has a number of task groups: Fundraising, Outreach, Communications, Research, and a Coordinating Committee, which is made up of Task Group Chairs and at-large members.

To see a list of Working Group members go to:
www.mass-service.org/nonprofitworkinggroup.shtml