



HELENA DEVELOPMENT INITIATIVE

Professional Development for Excellence in Fundraising

The *Helena Development Initiative* (HDI) is a program of Big Sky Institute for the Advancement of Nonprofits (BSI). Launched in 2013, HDI provides community-based professional development in fundraising skills, while concurrently expanding local philanthropic resources. HDI's program components increase networking, sharing and collaboration among nonprofits headquartered in Helena.

HDI COMPONENTS

Helena Development Roundtable (HDR) <> HDR is an informal network of executive directors, development directors, fundraising staff and Board members who meet monthly for no-cost seminars on fundraising skills. HDR also provides opportunities for networking and relationship building. For staff who are new to Helena, HDR provides ready access to a talented and supportive peer network.

Excellence in Nonprofit Communications Grant Award Program (ENC) <> The ENC program is a partnership of six Helena-based communications businesses that provide consulting services and materials valued at more than \$15,000 for the nonprofit awardee.

Access Helena's Resources! <> New executive directors and new development staff, especially if they move to Helena for their jobs, need help to hit the ground running. BSI has developed handout materials to familiarize executive directors and development staff with important community resources to help these nonprofit leaders be successful. BSI conducts outreach to welcome new executive directors and development staff to the Helena nonprofit community, and shares a folio of information about community resources.

Helena Celebrates Community Philanthropy (HCCP) <> HCCP brings special recognition to donors whose generosity as "community philanthropists" broadly embraces the diversity of Helena's nonprofit sector. In November 2017, HCCP will honor donors, businesses, foundations and Youth in Philanthropy.

Addressing Nonprofit Sustainability Through Endowment Development <> Endowment development is an especially important tool to help nonprofits become more sustainable over time. BSI is surveying Helena-based nonprofits on their endowment development interest and training needs. The results will be used to customize a series of seminars for groups of nonprofits at similar stages of development and needs.

Lifting Up Helena's Nonprofits <> BSI has established a 12-month electronic calendar that has an easily accessible listing of nonprofit fundraising events. This will help nonprofits schedule around each other's events to minimize having the events collide and compete with each other, as well as provide another tool for publicizing the fundraising events.