

May 2008

Fresh for Spring

We have freshened up our website this Spring with a number of changes and additions to our web site intended to make your fundraising work easier.

We've organized our tool shed with grant writing tools (see box at right) that will be useful if you write grant proposals for your organization.

We've added a [calendar](#) to let you easily see when events are scheduled. If you know of an event that would be of general interest to our readers, let us know and we'll consider including it.

We are offering a grant writing class sponsor opportunity to interested nonprofits. Give us a call at 907-451-0885 and we can fill you in on the details. This is an opportunity to sponsor a grant writing class in your community, giving you an opportunity to market your organization in a positive light while saving participants the cost of travel.

We teach the class and as the sponsor, you receive a scholarship for someone in your own organization to attend the class free of charge.

[More info](#)

Check out A Giving Business: Philanthropy & Industry in Alaska under "Resources/[Alaska Grantmakers](#)". These Alaska-specific funding opportunities are searchable by industry topic and keyword.

Sharon's Desk: Funding Exchange Philosophy

by Sharon Charnell Gherman, AFE President/CEO

As you'll notice from browsing through the Funding Exchange's website, we've been busy since acquiring AFE in January. Now that the 'alligators' from the transition are beginning to subside, I'd like to share with you how some of the recent changes at AFE can benefit you and your organization.

Fundraising Assistance and More

AFE has always been about top-quality assistance with your development needs, particularly in the area of grants, and that hasn't changed. This is still an area of particular expertise for us, and we hope you'll call AFE first when you want a grant proposal written or need help locating or raising funds for your project.

But as a community development professional, I felt as though we were missing something by not offering more. What about making organizations stronger internally? What about flexing with the changing internal needs of organizations as well as the external development climate? What about sustaining great programs beyond the end of grant funding?

Our answer to those questions has been to reorganize AFE's services into a 'modular' format, and to add additional services that round out AFE's ability to help you develop your organization.

Modular Services

To use our services, you don't need to purchase a membership or buy a 'package' when you only need assistance in one area. You, the client, have complete flexibility to choose only the services you need at the time, with complete flexibility to alter those choices at any time. You pay only for the services you need, and our expertise ensures that you spend as little as possible to achieve quality results.

<i>Planning/ Consulting</i>	<i>Research</i>	<i>Writing/ Editing</i>	<i>Evaluation</i>	<i>Training</i>
Meeting Facilitation	FIDO Report	Letter of Interest	Evaluation Planning	Grantwriting Workshop
Project Planning	Funding Search	Concept Paper	Evaluation Instrument Design	Grantwriting Intensive Class - 5 days

Strategic Planning	Funding Strategy Report	Case for Support	Evaluation Analysis	Boundaries in Business
Community Development Planning		Corporate or Foundation Proposal		Conflict Mediation Training
Purchase Planning Templates		State Proposal		Handling Difficult People
		Federal Proposal		
		Edit your Proposal		
		Review a Denied Proposal and Make Recommendations		

How It Works

Here's an example: Let's assume you recently lost your development specialist, the person responsible to seek grant funding for your organization.

While you advertise and hire another specialist, AFE can insure that all your development efforts are continued uninterrupted by continuing that person's funding research, proposal writing, and grant reporting.

If you hire an inexperienced person into the position, AFE can train them in grant writing, funding research, and grants management and mentor them during the first few months of their work. While your new employee gains experience and confidence, you may choose to have AFE complete any federal or state proposals due while the new specialist gains experience on simpler foundation proposals.

Once the new specialist has gained the skills they need to handle all the organization's regular development needs, you may choose to use AFE's services only sporadically:

- When two or more large proposals are due at the same time, AFE can write one
- When an external evaluation is required on a large proposal, AFE can plan and complete the evaluation - with Alaska-based evaluators experienced in creating successful Alaska programs
- To write a concept paper for a new program that can be used by your development specialist to seek funding
- To facilitate a long-term planning session
- To analyze your organizational goals and make step-by-step recommendations for achieving them

In short, the addition of community development services makes it possible for AFE to comprehensively assist you strengthen your organization. We can help ensure that your good work will continue uninterrupted regardless of changing conditions inside or outside your organization. Contact me at sharon@funding-exchange.org to consider how AFE can help you reach your goals.

Spring into Spring with 10% off all AFE Services in May!

Book any AFE services before June 1st and receive 10% off our regular rates. Valid only on new work booked by May 30, 2008. Contact us at info@funding-exchange.org today!

Free Grantwriting Training

Would you like to have one of your Board or staff trained to write grant proposals, but don't have it in your budget? Here's how you can do it!

When you sponsor an AFE grantwriting workshop, you receive either one full scholarship to the 2-day grantwriting workshop, or a \$500 scholarship toward the 5-day intensive grantwriting class.

Sponsors provide a room for the workshop; light refreshments for students; and pencils and tablets for note-taking. If the workshop is more than 50 miles from Fairbanks, Alaska, the sponsor also covers instructor travel costs. The Funding Exchange provides the instructor, student curriculum and advertising materials, and assists you with registration.

Classes aren't limited to Alaska, so those of you in the "Lower 48" also have this option for training. It's a terrific service to offer in your community, and since AFE co-brands the advertising materials with both our logos, it's advertisement for you as well. Want more information? Take a look at our training calendar for an open spot (<http://www.funding-exchange.org/calender.php>) and contact us at info@funding-exchange.org for more information!

A Giving Business - Philanthropy & Industry in Alaska

A new *Exchange* feature for 2008, *A Giving Business* is a monthly philanthropy summary of companies and organizations featured in Alaska Business Monthly magazine. If ABM features the mining sector in January, in February *The Exchange* will list the philanthropy programs of the same mining firms. We'll archive previous listings in a searchable format on our website, so check back with us regularly!

This month, we offer philanthropy information for participating corporate travel firms from Alaska Business Monthly's March 2008 issue. See it here: <http://www.funding-exchange.org/exchange/may08/giving-business-corporate-travel.php>

Original issue: <http://www.funding-exchange.org/exchange/may08/issue.php>

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