



## **Nonprofit Leadership Communication: Aligning Board Members and Staff**

Monday, September 25, 2023

10am-12noon, or 5:30pm- 7:30pm

@ LaGrange County Community Foundation, Community Room

### **Overview**

Nonprofits look to their boards of directors to focus on governance and provide high-level oversight. At the same time, board members generally rely on the nonprofit's staff leadership to execute the organization's day-to-day priorities and steward resources in a way that maximizes its impact. While these relationships are usually collegial and at least somewhat effective, there can be significant room for improvement when it comes to how organizations communicate with their boards--and vice versa. And often, the gap between effective and ineffective communication can represent the difference between an organization that achieves its vision and one that falls short.

This session, designed exclusively for nonprofit board and staff leaders, will address the disconnects that often hold organizations back and outline strategies for more effective board/staff communication. Brought to life with real world examples, and rich with practical information, this session will inspire attendees to closely evaluate communication between the board and the organization and implement new methods for working together more collaboratively.

## Outline

### ❖ Introduction

- ◆ Understanding the unique dynamic between boards and nonprofit leadership: Why collaboration is critical, and where many organizations fall short

### ❖ Best practices for managing expectations

- ◆ What boards should expect from the organization
- ◆ What the organization should expect from its board

### ❖ Strategies and tactics

- ◆ Making the most of board member onboarding, board evaluation, and executive director performance evaluations.
- ◆ Agreements and protocols to promote collaboration
- ◆ Communicating effectively in board meetings- and *between* board meetings.
- ◆ Strategies for approaching difficult conversations and other high-stakes interactions

### ❖ Wrap up, Q&A, food