November Nonprofit Newsletter

Happy November!

The month known for giving thanks is upon us. So, thank you for the work you do every month and every day to make Hendricks County a better place to live, work, and play. Without organizations like yours, Hendricks County would not be what it is--thank you!

We hope to see you at next month's Nonprofit Networking at Pinheads in Brownsburg. This is the final networking event of the year and it would be great to celebrate 2026 with you. As 2026 begins to wrap up, we are starting to look ahead at 2027. To help us plan for 2027's Nonprofit Networking and Learning series take a moment to complete this **Nonprofit Feedback survey**.

There are several training opportunities to explore in this month's newsletter, including a **scholarship opportunity** to help with the cost of you and another team member to attend a course at The Fund Raising School. Below you'll also find a couple funding opportunities to close out the year. Don't forget to glance over the Miscellaneous section, as there are a few opportunties you may be interested in, including a **photo contest** and an **Emerging Leaders of Color Fellowship**.

Visit our Website

NPO Feedback Survey/Monthly Poll

As we prepare for 2027's Nonprofit Networking and Learning we want to hear from you! What kind of support could HCCF offer? What did you like about the networking events? What didn't you like? What kind of learning events are you interested in this coming year?

Instead of a poll this month, please take a moment to complete this **Nonprofit Feedback survey** before **Monday, November 16th**.

Take the Survey Here

Last Month's Poll Results

33% of respondents said they do their year-end appeal in November.
29% said October,
14% said December,
10% said September,
14% said none of the above.

Thanks for your feedback!

Community Calendar

Did you know we have a community calendar where you can submit local events and goings-on in the community? Press the button below to submit your event to the community calendar!

Community Calendar Access

2026 Nonprofit Networking

Nonprofit Networking

Join us and other Hendricks County Nonprofits for networking on the following Tuesday!

December 1, Giving Tuesday - 4 - 6 PM @ Pinheads in Brownsburg

Planning to attend? Reply to this email or contact **skylar@hendrickscountycf.org** to register. Registration is not required, but is encouraged so we have a headcount!

Training Opportunities

The Leadership Handoff: Preparing Nonprofits for ED/CEO Transitions

- **When:** November 4, 2026 - 11:30 AM
- **Where:** Online
- **Cost:** Free, Registration Required
- You'll hear about:
  - how to prepare your organization for a successful leadership transtion
  - a typical search process
  - the board's role in a leadership transtion

First Merchants 2026 Nonprofit Training - Creating Competitive Grant Proposals

- **When:** November 10, 2026 - 9:00 AM - 10:00 AM
- **Where:** Online
- **Cost:** Free, Registration Required
- You'll learn about:
  - strategies for writing clear, persuasive, and competitive grant proposals
  - key components including problem statements, program descriptions, outcomes, and budgets

Digital Donor Acquisition & Communications with the IU Lilly Family School of Philanthropy

- **When:** November 12, 2026 - 9:30 AM - 11:00 AM
- **Where:** Ivy Tech Noblesville (300 N 17th St, Noblesville, IN 46060)
- **Cost:** Free, Registration Required
- You'll learn about:
  - digital fundrasing and donor acquisition strategy
  - digital fundraising trends, donor acquisition data, platforms, and communication strategies to help your organization plan

Preventing Fundraiser Burnout: A Comprehensive Strategy

- **When:** November 12, 2026 - 12:00 PM - 1:00 PM
- **Where:** Online
- **Cost:** $19
- You'll hear about:
  - strategies that fundraisers, nonprofit CEOs, and the nonprofit sector can implement to prevent fundraiser burnout

Lilly Family School of Philanthropy - 2027 Hank Rosso Scholarship

- **What:** A partial (50%) scholarship for a team of *two nonprofit professionals and/or volunteers* from a nonprofit organization with operating budgets of $1 million or less.

- **Apply by: Monday, November 30, 2026**

If you see a training opportunity that is worth sharing, email it to Skylar Hazlett at her email skylar@hendrickscountycf.org with "Nonprofit News Training Opportunity" in the subject line!

Articles for Reading

Ethical Storytelling That Raises More Money - Podcast



How do you tell deeply human stories without reducing the people you serve to a tragic footnote? In this episode, Matt Kamin (founder of Envision Consulting and host of Nonprofit Happy Hour) joins us to tear down the outdated playbooks of nonprofit marketing and fundraising. We get vulnerable about what *true consent-based storytelling* looks like, why every client story needs an expiration date, and how staying visible in an AI-driven world requires transparent, outcome-focused truth over polished spin.

Click Here to Listen

Donor Thank-You Templates: Letters, Emails, Calls & SMS

Asking for a donation successfully might earn your nonprofit a single gift, but thanking a donor exceptionally well is the secret to earning multiple gifts over time. Deep down, donors want to feel good about the real-world impact they are making; a prompt, personalized expression of gratitude makes them feel seen and lays the foundation for a lasting, meaningful relationship.

Finding the perfect words for every unique scenario—from welcoming a first-time supporter to acknowledging a major corporate sponsor—doesn't have to be a time-consuming chore. To streamline your donor stewardship, this guide provides a comprehensive collection of free, customizable thank-you templates for formal letters, informal emails, phone calls, and SMS messages.

Click Here to Read More

Funding Opportunities

Indiana Humanities - Action Grants

- Support projects that help people *learn new information, consider different perspectives, share ideas and understand one another better*.
- Programs may come in a variety of formats—workshops, presentations, reading/discussion programs, exhibitions, podcasts, film documentaries and more.
- **Applications Due: November 30, 2026**

Indiana Humanities - Mini-Grants

- Support projects that help people *learn new information, consider different perspectives, share ideas and understand one another better*.
- Programs may come in a variety of formats—workshops, presentations, reading/discussion programs, exhibitions, podcasts, film documentaries and more.
- **Applications are accepted on a rolling basis, due the last day of each month**

HCCF Moonshot Microgrants

- This program is open to projects and programs that meet these priorities: *sparks community engagement and excitement surrounding the $1 Million Moonshot Grant opportunity, space-themed, in and for Hendricks County*
- These are fun, engaging, and exciting! Intended to build excitement and awareness surrounding the $1 Million Moonshot. Think creatively. *What would get you excited?*
- **Applications are accepted on a rolling basis and reviewed monthly, on the first Tuesday of the month.**

Still looking for funding opportunities? Visit your local Hendricks County Library for free *Candid Search* access!

Use the following links to apply to rolling grant funding programs.

Hendricks Power Operation Round-Up || **HCCF Community Unity Grants**

Indiana Humanities Mini-Grants || **Duke Energy Foundation**

If you see a funding opportunity that is worth sharing, email it to Skylar Hazlett at her email skylar@hendrickscountycf.org with "Nonprofit News Funding Opportunity" in the subject line!

Miscellaneous

Nonprofits Insurance Alliance - 2026 Nonprofit Photo Contest

- Submit your photo and you could win up to $1,000 to support your mission.
- This year's theme: *"You Are Not Working Alone"*
- **Submit your photo by: November 6, 2026**

Indiana Youth Worker Well-Being Project - Emerging Leaders of Color Fellowship

- This six-month fellowship will identify emerging leaders of color and help them build on their existing leadership skills and community networks required to lead and grow effective youth-serving organizations.
- Do you have someone on your team who mentors colleagues, advocates for young people and families, brings people together, speaks up for change, or takes initiative? That person may be ready for this opportunity, even without a formal leadership title. Encourage them to apply!
- **Applications Due: November 10, 2026**

Leadership Hendricks County - Hendricks County Leader of the Year

- This award is given to an individual whose leadership has had consistent, profound, positive impacts on the quality of life in Hendricks County and the strength of our communities. The award does not recognize leadership activities in a single year, but across the recipient's career as a community leader.
- **Nominate someone by: Friday, December 4, 2026**

Sheltering Wings - Hendricks County Coalition for the Prevention of Violence

- The idea behind HCCFVP is simple: *What if we could work together to create a community where violence is less likely to happen in the first place?*
- Together, we hope to:
    - Strengthen protective factors that support healthy relationships, resilience, and emotional well-being.
    - Promote belonging, connection, and positive support networks throughout Hendricks County.
    - Support positive youth development and opportunities for young people to thrive.
- We hope to bring together individuals and organizations from a variety of sectors, including education, healthcare, youth services, faith communities, law enforcement, local government, and other community organizations.

- If you're interested in participating or would like to learn more email Mal Trefts at **MTrefts@shelteringwings.org**

Large Majorities of Americans Want Nonprofits to Facilitate Civic Engagement

- **Register to vote.** 8 in 10 Americans (80%) agree that nonprofit organizations should have a role in helping people in their communities register to vote, with 48% expressing strong agreement.
- **Election dates and polling locations.** 81% of Americans agree that nonprofit organizations should have a role in helping people in their communities find information about elections dates and polling locations – including at least 82% of Democrats and Republicans.

Library of Resources

Use the resources below to stay updated and in-the-know on the goings-on of Hendricks County and beyond!

Hendricks County News

The Republican Newspaper

The Hendricks County Community Connect

Current in Brownsburg

Other Resources

Hendricks County Health Partnership Newsletters

Hendricks County Community Resource Guide

2025 Hendricks County Community Needs Assessment Report

Charitable Advisors (Not-For-Profit News)

Blue Avocado's Free, On-Demand Nonprofit Webinars

Candid Learning Home Page

- **Training** - browse recorded and **live training** opportunities with various nonprofit topics
- Help and Knowledge - find **articles on common questions**, **sample documents**, and other valuable resources
- **Ask Us** - talk with real librarians (NOT AI) 9 AM - 5 PM Monday - Friday

Some tips on using **Candid** at the **Library**:

- When searching the database, go into "Advanced Search" to get more options and specific in your search. Choose "Additional Filters" for even more!
- Don't fill in every box in your search, as this will narrow the search too small.
- The "Keyword" search box takes things very literally, so be mindful of your word choice if searching with this box.

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