2024 ECL Workshop & Learning Outcomes

Seminar #1 - Finding your "Why"

It is time for you to discover how you will use your unique skills and talents to advance the cause(s) you care about. Through guided exercises and small group discussion, you will leave this workshop with a personalized plan for your future community involvement.

Outcome: This workshop helped me start a plan for my future community involvement.

Measurement 1: I have identified how my unique skills or talents can be useful to the causes I care about

Measurement 2: I have started to think about or develop a plan for the role volunteerism will play in my life

Measurement 3: I have identified a local nonprofit or cause that I want to volunteer with in the future

Seminar #2 – What is the Nonprofit's Role in the Community?

Want to know more about the history and psychology of philanthropy and nonprofits? How do these concepts shape perception about the nonprofits' role? What are some details about the inner workings of local nonprofits in Champaign County? This will be your chance to explore a contemporary perspective on the role of nonprofits in our community. Resources provided will spark discussion to address topics such as the role of nonprofits in our community, how mission guides organizations, determining projects and priorities, unique aspects of nonprofit operations, and more.

Outcome: After attending this workshop, I have a better understanding of how local nonprofits impact my community

Measurement 1: I have a better understanding of the history and basics of the nonprofit business model to more clearly see how current a local organizations operate.

Measurement 2: I understand how mission statements guide a nonprofit's work

Measurement 3: I learned how nonprofit operations and capacity vary based on organization size.

Seminar #3 -Effective Board/Committee Members

Do you want to be on a local nonprofit board but don't know where to start? Or maybe you've been asked to serve on a board but don't know what, exactly, is the role of a nonprofit board member? We have invited community members who have years of experience serving in a leadership capacity on boards, committees and special event teams to share what they've learned. We'll answer the question: What does it mean to be on a Board?

Outcome: After attending this workshop, I am more confident in taking on a volunteer leadership role in my community.

Measurement 1: I understand the basic roles and responsibilities of a nonprofit board member

Measurement 2: I have a better understanding of how someone joins a nonprofit committee or board

Measurement 3: I understand the difference between a working board and a governance board

Seminar #4 - Fundraising for Impact

Fundraising is often the most intimidating task for a nonprofit volunteer. It's also one of the most critical volunteer tasks. Without fundraising, nonprofits would not be able to provide services to the community. A mix of experienced volunteers and professional fundraisers will share fundraising basics. We'll give you the tools you need to be confident and successful.

Outcome: I have a better understanding of the different roles volunteers can take on when fundraising on behalf of a nonprofit

Measurement 1: I learned about several types of fundraising methods

Measurement 2: I understand that making introductions to my connections can open doors for nonprofits

Measurement 3: I have a better understanding of what tasks I could be asked to do as a volunteer fundraiser

Seminar #5 (ECL Community) - Accountability and Your Leadership in the Community

Leadership may be in part a personality trait but also includes a skillset that can be refined. Leadership skills, including leadership accountability can be used in the professional sphere as well as in your nonprofit contributions. Leadership accountability is not restricted to prescribed frameworks – it is fitting to any circumstance where a group of individuals shares a common mission. Accountability includes reliability and holding yourself *and* others accountable to the mission even in challenging circumstances to achieve goals. Mistakes or missteps are opportunities for improvement, and success includes inspiring each person to hold each other accountable to be their best self.

Outcome: After attending this workshop, I am motivated to hold myself and others accountable in a way that is meaningful to achieve the mission at hand.

Measurement 1: I have identified circumstances in my life when I can demonstrate leadership accountability.

Measurement 2: I learned strategies to practice accountability.

Measurement 3: I better understand how I can contribute as a leader to the groups of which I'm part, especially as I consider volunteer opportunities.

Seminar #5 (ECL @ Illinois) - Volunteerism and Your Leadership in the Community

Our community faces challenges in healthcare, education, and employment that are complex and interwoven. The United Way, the University of Illinois, and other partners in Champaign County are dedicated to addressing these challenges and working towards positive and sustainable impact. These partnerships rely on leaders in the workplace and throughout personal networks to take initiative and make a difference.

Outcome: After attending this workshop, I understand how my role as a leader can help address the needs in the community to help make a meaningful impact.

Measurement 1: I have a better understanding of the complex challenges facing our community and that an array of organizations are working to resolve these interwoven issues.

Measurement 2: I am motivated to take initiative and learn ways that I can raise awareness and contribute on and off of campus.

Measurement 3: I better understand what items I can consider in volunteering opportunities and discover how to participate in ways that are meaningful to me.