About NCNP

WE’RE THE LARGEST NETWORK OF NONPROFITS IN THE COUNTRY. We’re the central link connecting the largest nationwide and sector-wide grassroots “network of nonprofit networks.” Through our core network of state associations of nonprofits, we have more than 25,000 organizational members from coast to coast. We extend our core network for added advocacy strength with our member State Policy Allies, national nonprofits with state policy operations, and other collaborative partners. Our unique structure—and the operating culture we’ve developed over the years—provides us with access to real-time information about what’s occurring “on the ground,” giving us real-world knowledge and insights that are unmatched in the sector. We continually gather, analyze, synthesize, and circulate information. This reciprocal process of information exchange up, across, and through our networks and beyond strengthens nonprofit advocacy, capacity building, and effectiveness.

SIMPLY PUT: WE GET STUFF DONE. We’re not a think tank or infrastructure group that talks about what needs to be done; we do it. We focus on impact and action, leading to outcomes that demonstrably improve the operating and policy environment on which all nonprofits rely.

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National Council of Nonprofits (NCNP)

Description:

The National Council of Nonprofits (Council of Nonprofits) is a trusted resource and proven advocate for America’s charitable nonprofits. Connecting the policy dots across all levels and branches of governments, the Council of Nonprofits keeps nonprofits informed and empowered to create a positive public policy environment that best supports nonprofits in advancing their missions. Working with and through the nation’s largest network of nonprofits—with 25,000-plus organizational members—we identify emerging trends, share proven practices, and promote solutions that benefit charitable nonprofits and the communities they serve.

Stakeholder(s):
Charitable Nonprofits: WE'RE THE ONLY NATIONAL INFRASTRUCTURE GROUP FOCUSED ON THE HEALTH AND WELL-BEING OF CHARITABLE NONPROFITS—ESPECIALLY SMALL AND MIDSIZED CHARITIES IN LOCAL COMMUNITIES. Of the 1.3 million charitable nonprofits registered with the IRS, the vast majority are small and midsized. Ninety-seven percent have annual budgets of less than $5 million; 92 percent spend less than $1 million; 88 percent less than $500,000. Many of these organizations—such as local food banks and neighborhood health clinics, senior centers and arts groups, and hundreds of thousands more—depend on the free access we provide to timely information, policy analysis, and applied advocacy they need to deliver their missions to people in local communities.

Local Communities

Governments: WE'RE THE ONLY NATIONAL, SECTOR-WIDE GROUP THAT INTEGRATES POLICY ADVOCACY VERTICALLY (ALL LEVELS OF GOVERNMENT) AND HORIZONTALLY (ALL BRANCHES OF GOVERNMENT). THIS HOLISTIC APPROACH RESULTS IN POLICIES THAT SUPPORT, STRENGTHEN, AND PROTECT NONPROFITS, ESPECIALLY SMALL AND MIDSIZED GROUPS. Our distinctive integrated approach to public policy enables us to recognize emerging patterns, identify opportunities and threats of greatest relevance to charitable nonprofits, build on policy successes throughout the country, and challenge flawed policy proposals with data, experiences, and real-world context. Through direct advocacy, behind-the-scenes action, and our work with mainstream media, we ensure a strong nonprofit presence before the federal government, in state capitals, and at city halls.

Nonprofit Community: ON POLICY MATTERS, WE'RE THE ONLY NATIONAL GROUP WATCHING OUT FOR THE WELFARE OF THE ENTIRE 501(c)(3) NONPROFIT COMMUNITY AT ALL LEVELS OF GOVERNMENTS. Other national groups properly focus on the specialized needs of their members’ subsector issues, such as the multitude of groups focused on aspects of health care and the 100+ philanthropy-serving organizations tending to foundations and other funders. We recognize and celebrate the specialized roles they play. But some policy matters transcend specific subsectors. Indeed, focusing exclusively on one tree can block sight of the forest fire raging nearby. As Aristotle observed, sometimes the whole is greater than the sum of its parts. That’s why we look out for the whole, the issues of mutual concern to all subsectors of the 501(c)(3) community. Those sector-wide issues include tax policy (e.g., income, property, and sales taxes), regulatory oversight, employment, nonpartisanship, and much more. While subsector specialists focus on the good of their causes, we focus on the common good of the sector.

National Council of Nonprofits Staff

Tiffany Gourley Carter: Policy Counsel — Tiffany Gourley Carter joined the Council of Nonprofits’ team in 2016. She moved to DC from Honolulu, where she served as a legislative attorney for the Hawaii Legislature, supporting legislators on a wide range of issues. Previously, she interned at the Hawaii Alliance of Nonprofit Organizations, tracking legislation of interest to nonprofit organizations, and at the Hawaii Attorney General’s Office, working in the Tax and Charities Division researching nonprofit compliance. A native of small-town Western Pennsylvania, Tiffany earned her B.A., magna cum laude, from the University of Colorado and her law degree at the University of Hawaii, receiving the CALI Award for Excellence in Nonprofit Organizations. Before law school, she started a 501(c)(3) nonprofit organization focused on raising and disbursing funds for educational scholarships and volunteer grants and has since helped create and consult on several 501(c)(3) nonprofit organizations. In her free time, Tiffany loves surfing, skiing, traveling the world, and chasing after adventure.

Rick Cohen: Chief Communications Officer/Chief Operating Officer — Rick brings wide-ranging expertise to the National Council of Nonprofits. In managing the communications and internal operations of the Council of Nonprofits, his areas of responsibility span media relations, finance, compliance, technology, and human resources. Rick has revitalized the Council’s operations, consistently finding ways to upgrade the resources available to staff while bringing costs down and strengthening compliance systems while making them easier to use. He also works to ensure the nonprofit field is informed of developments that can affect their ability to advance their missions. This includes a podcast explaining certain provisions of the new tax law and creating the Council of Nonprofits’ Nonprofit Economic Vitality Center, an online resource that helped draw attention to both challenges and solutions for nonprofits during the economic downturn. Rick joined the Council of Nonprofits in May 2005 after two years with the Forum of Regional Associations of Grantmakers (now United Philanthropy Forum). A graduate of American University, Rick also holds an Executive Certificate in Nonprofit Management from Georgetown University and a Masters of Science in Organizational Leadership from Quinlan University. He was one of five Rising Star honorees at the 2018 Nonprofit CFO of the Year Awards.

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Strategic Plan

Nonprofit Community

Governments
Stakeholders (continued)

Tim Delaney:
President & CEO — Tim Delaney is President & CEO of the National Council of Nonprofits, the leading resource and advocate for America’s charitable nonprofits that also connects the largest nationwide and sector-wide network of nonprofits. He’s a seasoned attorney and policy advocate who has successfully argued in the U.S. Supreme Court, testified before Congress, and negotiated in the White House. Tim now applies his diverse leadership experiences to help charitable nonprofits across the country identify emerging trends, engage in critical policy issues, exchange proven practices, and advance their missions through advocacy. Tim began his career in Arizona as a litigator at a large law firm, where he helped prosecute the impeachment of a Governor, protected and advanced civil rights, and led the firm’s government relations practice. He served as Arizona’s Solicitor General and later Chief Deputy Attorney General, leading the state to win four out of four cases in the U.S. Supreme Court and prosecuting the attorney general in elections for breaching the public trust. Tim also founded and led the Center for Leadership, Ethics & Public Service, championing ethical leadership and civic engagement across the country. Since graduating from Yale and earning joint degrees in law and public affairs from the University of Texas, Tim has helped nonprofits from a variety of vantage points. He’s served as an adjunct faculty member at ASU teaching graduate courses on “Leadership and Ethics in the Nonprofit Sector,” a guidebook on nonprofit advocacy, board chair of Valley Leadership, co-founder and Interim CEO of the Alliance of Arizona Nonprofits, national Training Fellow for the nonprofit Center for Lobbying in the Public Interest, member of the national Leadership Council of Nonprofit VOTE, and Steering Committee member for the international Affinity Group of National Associations. Since 2008, Tim has drawn on those diverse experiences as he leads the National Council of Nonprofits, which is the only national, sector-wide group that integrates policy analysis and advocacy both vertically (local, state, federal) and horizontally (legislative, executive, judicial) on issues of concern to all subsectors of the 501(c)(3) community, such as charitable giving, nonpartisanship, regulatory oversight, property-tax exemptions, and much more. The Council of Nonprofits looks out for the common good of the entire sector – and focuses especially on the health and well-being of small and mid-sized charitable nonprofits (97 percent of nonprofits have budgets less than $5 million; 92 percent less than $1 million). A sought-after speaker, Tim has delivered more than 250 keynote and other presentations for a diverse range of groups, domestic and international. He also writes extensively, publishing articles and reports about advocacy, current events, nonprofits, and public policy. Additionally, he’s been interviewed by ABC News, Chronicle of Philanthropy, CNBC, CNN, C-SPAN, NPR, The New York Times, Nonprofit Quarterly, Nonprofit Times, San Francisco Chronicle, USA Today, U.S. News and World Report, Wall Street Journal, and many other news outlets. Numerous organizations have formally recognized Tim and his contributions, including the National Association of Attorneys General (Marvin Award for leadership and service, and co-recipient of the Best Brief Award for legal writing in the U.S. Supreme Court), National Association of Community Leadership (Distinguished Leadership Award), LBJ School of Public Affairs (Distinguished Public Service Award – alumnus of the year), ASU School of Public Affairs (Faculty Associate Award for teaching excellence), ASU College of Extended Education (Outstanding Faculty Member Award for “excellence in teaching” at the Nonprofit Management Institute), the City of Phoenix (which dedicated the Delaney Family Playground in recognition of years of public service), and the NonProfit Times (named as Power & Influence Top 50 nonprofit leaders in the country seven times – most recently in 2020).

Allison Higgins:
Director of Network Engagement — Allison Higgins joined the National Council of Nonprofits in July 2016 as Network Engagement Specialist. She is no stranger to the state association network, previously serving as the Director for Membership and Marketing with the Hawai‘i Alliance of Nonprofit Organizations (HANO). Allison is an accomplished nonprofit professional with two decades of experience working in nonprofits across the country, directing nonprofit marketing initiatives, spearheading development of volunteer and membership programs, advocating for the nonprofit sector and military families, and planning events and conferences. Allison received a Masters in Public Administration, with a Masters Certificate in Nonprofit Management, from the University of Hawai‘i at Manoa, and a BA in Journalism from The Pennsylvania State University. Notable awards and honors include the Presidential Volunteer Award (Gold); two Department of the Army Outstanding Civilian Service Awards; and Our Lady of Loreto Volunteer Award. An Army spouse of 25+ years and counting, Allison has worked in diverse settings and job markets, successfully growing her career while passionately supporting her family and soldier through multiple moves, deployments, and Army career. For fun, she volunteers to support her community and loves to sail, run, hike, golf, and cook.

Amy Silver O’Leary:
Director of Resource Development — Amy was first introduced to the nonprofit world as a computer programmer in the 1980s, developing donor tracking software used at dozens of Nature Conservancy field offices. While training Conservancy field office staff to use the software, she accidentally learned about development, which eventually led her to writing grants, facilitating partnerships, consulting, and leading the development office for nonprofits of various sizes and missions. As both staff (Headwaters Foundation, Kid Pan Alley, Scrabble School Foundation, Frankford Friends School) and trustee (Friends of the Shenandoah River, Wellsprings UU, Friends Education Equity Collaborative), Amy learned about the challenges and joys of nonprofit leadership from many different points of view. From 2009-2012, Amy was a half-time development consultant for the National Council of Nonprofits, where she was privileged to work alongside its smart and dedicated team to advance the work of nonprofits across the country. Leaving for three years to lead the development office for a small Quaker school in Philadelphia, Amy was honored to be invited to return to the National Council of Nonprofits as a full-time employee in the fall of 2016. She has been blown away by what the team and the larger network have accomplished in the meantime and is inspired by the opportunity to tell the story of the network’s collective impact to foundation, corporate, and philanthropic partners.

David L. Thompson:
Vice President of Public Policy — David L. Thompson is Vice President of Public Policy for the National Council of Nonprofits.
profits, the nation’s largest network of nonprofit organizations. The organization is active at the local, state, and federal levels advancing nonprofit policy priorities in the legislative, executive, and judicial branches of government. Through its member state associations and nonprofit allies, the Council of Nonprofits amplifies the voices of America’s local community-based nonprofit organizations, helping them engage in critical policy issues affecting the sector, manage and lead more effectively, collaborate and exchange solutions, and achieve greater impact in their communities. Thompson has served in all three sectors over the course of his career. He practiced law for 17 years specializing in labor relations, employment law, government contracting, and subsequently directed federal and state advocacy for a government relations firm. He served in the public sector from 2001 to 2007 as a Senior Counsel and as Policy Director to the U.S. Senate Health, Education, Labor and Pensions Committee, notably as Counsel to the Pension Protection Act conference committee. Those experiences have served him well in guiding advocacy efforts for the network of the National Council of Nonprofits. He was honored as one of the NonProfit Times Power & Influence Top 50 for 2019 and 2020. David Thompson holds a bachelor’s degree from Emory University and a law degree from the University of Georgia Law School.

National Council of Nonprofits Board of Directors

Donna Murray-Brown:
Chair | Chair, Executive Committee | President and CEO, Michigan Nonprofit Association

Marnie Taylor:
Vice Chair | Chair, Resource Development Committee | President and CEO, Oklahoma Center for Nonprofits

Kate Rubalcava:
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Tim Delaney:
ex-officio | President & CEO, National Council of Nonprofits

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National Council of Nonprofits Impact Matters

Sponsors

AIG RETIREMENT SERVICES

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National Council of Nonprofits Affinity and Other Partners:
Affinity Partners of the National Council of Nonprofits are businesses with a national reach that have a strong track record of providing services to charitable nonprofits. Through Affinity Programs and other partnerships, these trusted allies serve nonprofits, support state associations in our network, and generously invest in our mission.

2020 Confab Engagement Fund Donors

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Other Contributors:
This list is current for approximately the last 12 months of giving. We apologize for any inadvertent errors or omissions.

Howard Barnett

Doug Bauer

Allison Bauer

Henry Berman

Carole Berman

Michael Buckley

Kyle Caldwell

Juliann Caldwell

— continued next page
Stakeholders (continued)

Tiffany Gourley Carter
Maureen Case
Jennifer Chandler Hauge
Steven N. Berk
Rick Cohen
Tim Delaney:
(in honor of Cynthia Gibson) (in honor of Trisha Lester) (in honor of Lisa Maruyama)
Florence Eckstein
Paul Eckstein
Kathleen Edwards:
(supporting learning programs to build the capacity of state associations of nonprofits across the country)
Renny Fagan
Dean Flugstad
Hope Ann Gillis
Allison Higgins
Anne Hindery
Jane Kendall
Trisha Lester
Hope Lyons
Brian Magee
Cynthia Weinrich Martin
Lisa Maruyama
Liz Moore

Donna Murray-Brown
Brian O’Leary
Amy Silver O’Leary
Maggie Gunther Osborn
Brooke Petit
Kate Rubalcava
Doug Sauer
Christine Sinnott
Nageeb Sumar
Marnie Taylor:
(in honor of Donna Murray-Brown)
Clayton Taylor:
(in honor of Donna Murray-Brown)
David L. Thompson
Caren Forsten
Craig Weinrich
Smith Williams
Laurie Wolf

Peg and Rick Young Foundation:
The Peg and Rick Young Foundation (supporting learning programs to build the capacity of state associations of nonprofits across the country)
Katerina Zavaras

Vision
Nonprofit missions are advanced

Mission
To help nonprofits
1. Information

*Provide access to timely, trustworthy information on operational, legal, and capacity-building matters*

To operate effectively, charitable nonprofits in local communities throughout the country need access to timely, trustworthy information on operational, legal, and capacity-building matters.

**1.1. Operations**

*Provide information on operational matters*

**1.2. Legalities**

*Provide information on legal matters*

**1.3. Capacities**

*Provide information on capacity-building matters*
## 2. Public Policy

*Evaluate public policy developments*

**Stakeholder(s)**

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<td>State Governments</td>
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Nonprofits also need an informed champion to evaluate public policy developments of common concern at the local, state, and federal levels. Then, they need a partner to advocate for them—and alongside them—regularly in legislative bodies and regulatory agencies, and occasionally in the courts.
3. Advocacy

*Respond quickly to public policy proposals affecting nonprofits*

Nimble advocacy is key, because policy proposals that hold enormous sway over the ability of nonprofits to succeed—such as imposing new taxes, limiting charitable giving incentives, setting burdensome regulations, or interfering with independent decision-making—often erupt without warning, requiring swift, surefooted, and coordinated responses.

3.1. Taxes

*Address new tax proposals*

3.2. Incentives

*Oppose limiting charitable giving incentives*

3.3. Regulations

*Oppose burdensome regulations*

3.4. Decision-Making

*Oppose interference with independent decision-making*
4. Understanding

_Facilitate understanding about nonprofits_

Finally, charitable nonprofits need the public, policymakers, and the philanthropic community to understand how they operate, the challenges they face, and the value they contribute.

4.1. Operations

_Foster understanding about how nonprofits operate_

4.2. Challenges

_Foster understanding about the challenges nonprofits face_

4.3. Value

_Foster understanding about the value nonprofits contribute_