

Online Resources for Nonprofits

Compiled by The Community Tax Law Project January 2010

Note: An asterisk (*) next to an entry indicates the organization has offices located in the Greater Richmond, Virginia area.

Alliance for Justice

<http://www.afj.org/for-nonprofits-foundations/>

Works to strengthen the voice of the nonprofit sector in important public policy debates by giving tax-exempt organizations a better understanding of the laws that govern their participation in the policy process.

Alliance for Nonprofit Management

<http://www.allianceonline.org>

Professional association of individuals and organizations devoted to improving the management and governance capacity of nonprofits. They improve nonprofits' management and governance capacity by increasing the effectiveness of individuals and organizations that help nonprofits build their power and impact.

Association for Research on Nonprofit Organizations and Voluntary Action

<http://www.arnova.org>

ARNOVA brings together both theoretical and applied interests, helping scholars gain insight into the day-to-day concerns of third-sector organizations, while providing nonprofit professionals with research they can use to improve the quality of life for citizens and communities. Principal activities include an annual conference, publications, electronic discussions and special interest groups.

BBB Wise Giving Alliance

<http://www.give.org>

Offers guidance to donors on making informed giving decisions and advances high standards of conduct for charitable organizations through charity evaluations. In March 2003, the Alliance issued new charity accountability standards, as well as guidelines for implementing those standards.

BoardSource

<http://www.boardsource.org>

Resource for practical information, tools and best practices, training, and leadership development for board members of nonprofit organizations. Helpful items include their consulting practice, publications, and membership program.

Business Registration Guide

<http://www.scc.virginia.gov/clk/brg.aspx>

Guide designed for new businesses seeking to register in Virginia developed by the State Corporation Commission, Virginia Employment Commission and the Department of Taxation.

***ConnectRichmond**

<http://www.connectrichmond.org/>

Provides the nonprofit community with centralized access to information to improve its capacity to fulfill its many missions. ConnectRichmond helps nonprofits, local funders, and local government to determine community needs and assets, and is a source of information that can guide public decisions.

***Community Tax Law Project, The (CTLP)**

<http://www.ctlp.org/>

CTLP provides start-up legal advice and representation to groups serving low income populations in the Greater Richmond and Central Virginia area. CTLP emphasizes education in the start-up process and assistance in attaining and maintaining tax-exempt status.

***Data Share Metro Richmond**

<http://www.datashare.org/>

A resource for local data at the neighborhood level for the Richmond, Virginia metropolitan region. The purpose of this resource is to provide data to community residents and organizations for use in planning, allocating resources, and grant writing.

***Greater Richmond Bar Foundation Pro Bono Clearinghouse**

<http://www.grbf.org/clearinghouse.htm>

The Greater Richmond Bar Foundation Pro Bono Clearinghouse (PBC) helps bring together local nonprofits with the Richmond metropolitan area legal community. Nonprofits tell the PBC what legal issue(s) they have, and the PBC connects them with a Richmond attorney that can help on a pro bono basis.

***Greater Richmond Small Business Development Center**

<http://www.grsbdc.com>

GRSBDC provides assistance and training to help small business owners and potential owners make sound decisions for the successful operation of their business. The mission of the GRSBDC is to improve the economic opportunities in the Greater Richmond Area by providing in-depth quality counseling, education, and information services to the small business community in partnership with local, regional and national resources.

Guidestar

<http://www.guidestar.org/index.jsp>

National database of charitable organizations. Used by donors and grantors to research nonprofit organizations before they give money. Subscription services include salary searches, compensation reports, and grant searches.

***Hands On Greater Richmond**

<http://www.handsongreaterrichmond.org/>

Hands On Greater Richmond provides a link for individuals, families, teams, and corporate groups to join together and engage in meaningful volunteer opportunities within the Greater Richmond region.

Independent Sector

<http://www.independentsector.org/>

Coalition of 575 leading nonprofits, foundations and corporations strengthening not-for-profit initiative, philanthropy, and citizen action. Provides various programs and activities to help nonprofits flourish.

***Institute on Philanthropy**

(University of Richmond School of Continuing Studies)

<http://scs.richmond.edu/professional/philanthropy/>

The Institute on Philanthropy strives to strengthen the community and inspire charitable giving by educating professionals, volunteers and donors about the practices and purposes of nonprofit fundraising and development. The Institute offers certificate programs in fundraising and development and nonprofit marketing.

Internal Revenue Service

<http://www.irs.gov/charities/index.html>

Features current issues facing the IRS and non-profits. The IRS also provides a searchable database of forms and publications on its website.

National Center for Charitable Statistics

<http://nccsdataweb.urban.org/FAQ/index.php?category=31%20>

The National Center for Charitable Statistics is the national clearinghouse of data on the nonprofit sector in the United States. NCCS is a program of the Center on Nonprofits and Philanthropy (CNP) at the Urban Institute.

National Center for Nonprofit Enterprise

<http://www.nationalcne.org/>

The National Center on Nonprofit Enterprise (NCNE) helps nonprofit organizations make wise economic decisions to efficiently and effectively pursue their social missions.

National Council of Nonprofit Organizations

<http://www.ncna.org/>

The National Council of Nonprofit Associations (NCNA) is the network of state and regional nonprofit associations serving over 20,000 members in 41 states and the District of Columbia. NCNA links local organizations to a national audience through state associations and helps small and midsize nonprofits. This is a great source for finding nonprofit networks in a given state.

***Nonprofit Learning Point (VCU)**

<http://www.community.vcu.edu/programs/nonprofit/index.html>

Especially for Nonprofit Organizations is a certificate program to support educational opportunities and capacity building for the vast network of nonprofit organizations in the greater Richmond area. The program offers a variety of classes of interest to nonprofit professionals and to organizations considering nonprofit status.

Southside Virginia Nonprofit Resource Center (SVNRC)

<http://svnrc-online.org/index2.html>

SVNRC is an information clearinghouse and support center, providing reference materials, professional education and technical assistance with the goal of strengthening the capacity of local organizations to deliver needed services in the community.

***Starting a Nonprofit**

<http://law.richmond.edu/nonprofit/>

A how-to manual for starting a nonprofit in Virginia, including sample articles of incorporation and by-laws. Authored by students from the Spring 2005 Law of Nonprofit Organizations class at the University of Richmond School of Law. This is not a substitute for legal advice, but is a great launching point for anyone that needs to know the legal requirements for starting a nonprofit in Virginia.

Tech Soup

www.techsoup.org

Offers nonprofits free technology information, resources, and support. Nonprofits can access donated and discounted technology products, generously provided by corporate and nonprofit technology partners. Start here for all nonprofit IT issues.

The Idealist.org Nonprofit FAQ

<http://www.idealists.org/en/faqcat/1-7>

Nonprofit FAQ, begun in 1994, based on actual questions posed by nonprofit managers. Includes sections on: organization, management, regulation, development, and available resources for nonprofits. Published by Idealist.org.

University of Virginia School of Continuing and Professional Studies

<http://www.scps.virginia.edu/certificates/nonprofit.php>

UVA offers a Certificate in Nonprofit Management designed to provide nonprofit leaders, staff, board members and volunteers the training needed to meet their organization's mission efficiently and effectively. The curriculum offers a selection of both overview and skill-based workshops so that generalists and specialists can benefit from achieving this certificate.

***Virginia Department of Agriculture and Consumer Services (Registration for Charitable Solicitation)**

<http://www.vdacs.virginia.gov/allforms.shtml#charitable>

Includes registration forms for charitable organizations that solicit donations and other required forms, as well as information on state law governing charitable organizations. Also includes a charitable organization registration package and a searchable database of charitable organizations authorized to solicit donations in Virginia.

***Virginia Department of Taxation**

<https://www.npo.tax.virginia.gov/>

Provides information on how Virginia treats nonprofits for tax purposes and required registration forms. Includes criteria and filing requirements for the Sales and Use Tax exemption and an online application for the exemption.

***Virginia Department of Business Assistance**

http://www.dba.state.va.us/non_profit.shtml

Provides information on forming a nonprofit in Virginia, including a helpful “Nonprofit Basics” guide.

***Virginia Network of Nonprofit Organizations (VANNO)**

<http://www.vanno.org>

VANNO is a statewide association open to any 501(c) organization in Virginia, regardless of size or mission. VANNO, founded in 2004, advocates for nonprofits at the state level, promotes ethical and accountable practices, leverages group buying power, and connects nonprofit staff and board members to high quality information and resources.

***Virginia Society of Certified Public Accountants (VSCPA) Nonprofit Resource Center**

http://www.vscpa.com/Visitors/Nonprofit_Resources/

VSCPA offers a series of free online resource guides to assist nonprofit organizations with financial management issues as well as other resources, including programs to connect volunteer CPAs with organizations or companies as a pro bono community service.

***Virginia State Bar Lawyer Referral Service**

<http://www.vsb.org/site/public/lawyer-referral-service/>

Provides for up to a one-half hour consultation with an attorney for a \$35 fee.

***Virginia State Corporation Commission, Office of the Clerk (SCC)**

<http://www.scc.virginia.gov/clk/begin.aspx>

Contains information on how to file articles of incorporation with the State Corporation Commission (SCC), a requirement for all Virginia nonprofit and for-profit entities that want to incorporate. The SCC [Business Registration Guide](#), linked from this site, is especially useful.

Washington Area Lawyers for the Arts

<http://www.thewala.org>

Supports artistic expression and creative innovation by serving the legal needs of Washington, Maryland and Virginia’s arts and cultural communities. WALA provides education, advocacy, and volunteer legal services through workshops and seminars, legal clinics for artists and arts organizations, and pro-bono referral services. There are over 350 D.C. area lawyers and firms participating in WALA projects.