Join us at the forefront of social change.

Forefront
Engaging for impact

2016-17 Sponsorship Opportunities
Do Good for the Community.
Support the Illinois social impact sector

Forefront builds a vibrant social impact sector for all the people of Illinois

Over 1,100 members strong, Forefront (formerly Donors Forum) is the nation’s only and largest statewide membership association that brings nonprofits and grantors together – as well as public agencies, advisors, and sector allies – to build a vibrant social impact sector for all the people of Illinois.

Given today’s challenging philanthropic landscape, Forefront is arming its Members with the best tools, knowledge, and resources so they may continue to provide critically needed services to our state’s citizens and communities. We provide the education, advocacy, thought leadership, and project management to attract investment to the sector, develop top talent, improve systems and policies, and build organizational capacity. In doing so, Forefront directly helps our Members educate children, shelter the homeless, enrich the arts, and address a host of other critical issues to create healthier and more vibrant communities throughout Illinois.

Why should you sponsor Forefront

The social impact sector makes up the third largest workforce in the United States – behind only retail trade and manufacturing. It is a sector that manages over $3 trillion in assets. And a sector that provides the critical safety net for each of our communities. Moreover, it is a highly-engaged sector that thrives on networking and as such enjoys a highly visible and expansive reach.

Sponsoring Forefront’s work increases your organization’s brand awareness and support for Illinois’ nonprofit and philanthropic community. There are a number of ways to maximize branding opportunities throughout our programming each year. From sponsoring our Leadership Institute to supporting educational programs for our nonprofit members, you’ll find these opportunities to be an impactful investment.

Sponsoring will also allow you to:

- Build long-term relationships with key nonprofit decision-makers
- Enhance your brand awareness
- Create a valuable investment for your organization through a presence at our Annual Event
- Increase the nonprofit community’s awareness of your organization through affiliation with Forefront
- Highlight and reinforce your organization’s position as a community leader at the forefront of social change
Developing High-Impact Leaders

Leadership Institute 2016

Dates: TBD, 4-part series, 50 people per session

Location: Chicago + Springfield, IL

Nonprofit organizations depend on two resources to fulfill their missions. One, of course, is money. The other is leadership. As baby boom executives retire over the next five years, 750,000 new leaders must be recruited – nearly two and a half times the number currently employed. To meet the growing demand for talent, Forefront is hosting an in-depth Leadership Training Institute to prepare the next generation of leaders. The Leadership Institute will include 4 sessions in Chicago and 4 sessions in Springfield. The Institute is based on five leadership principles including the belief that leadership is an activity, not a position. Sessions will enable participants to gain clarity of purpose, practice leadership behaviors, and create their own action plan.

Presenting Sponsor of the Leadership Institute:  

$20,000

- Opportunity to offer introductory remarks at each session
- Opportunity to appoint a speaker or panelist as part of Leadership Institute
- Reserved space for Sponsor’s grantees (up to 20 per series)
- Prominent logo in email promotions to 10k+ Forefront constituents
- Prominent recognition on Forefront’s program registration webpage
- Prominent logo on program signage for each of 8 sessions in Chicago and Springfield

Sponsor of the Leadership Institute:  

$10,000

- Opportunity to appoint a speaker or panelist as part of Leadership Institute
- Reserved space for Sponsor’s grantees (up to 20 per series)
- Logo in email promotions to 10k+ Forefront constituents
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- Logo on program signage for each of 8 sessions in Chicago and Springfield

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Creating Sustainable Organizations

Mission Sustainability Summit

October 20, 2016

Chicago

With the ongoing struggles over the state budget, looming cutbacks in public funding, and rising demand for services, nonprofits are contending with tremendous challenges to fulfill their missions. Nonprofits that merge or partner with other complementary organizations could align their services, strengthen their infrastructure, and scale their missions, even in the face of reduced funding and increased demand.

Forefront is organizing a first-ever gathering in Chicago of approximately 400 nonprofit CEOs and Board Chairs to learn about partnerships, collaborations, and mergers. La Piana Consulting, one of the leading national consultants on nonprofit collaborations, will be the primary presenter for this half-day Summit, along with several panel discussions. Nonprofits will be encouraged to complete a brief assessment to better understand whether a partnership or merger makes sense for them. The ultimate goal is to leverage this enthusiasm for this Summit and continue to educate nonprofits about partnerships and collaborations, coordinate pro-bono services and facilitate introductions, as appropriate, for nonprofits that seek complementary partners.

Presenting Sponsor of the Mission Sustainability Summit: $25,000

- Opportunity to offer closing remarks at the Summit
- Prominent logo in email promotions
- Prominent logo on program registration webpage
- Prominent logo on signage
- Recognition on social media
- Priority invitations

Sponsor of the Mission Sustainability Summit: $10,000

- Logo in email promotions to targeted Forefront constituents
- Logo on program registration webpage
- Logo on signage
- Recognition on social media
- Priority invitations

Sponsor of the Mission Sustainability Summit: $5,000

- Text recognition in email promotions to targeted Forefront constituents
- Text recognition on program registration webpage
- Text recognition on signage
- Invitations

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Training Exceptional Board Members

Board Development Training

(For Employees and/or Grantees)

Date: TBD
Location: TBD

The importance of the nonprofit sector has never been greater. In the United States, there are several hundred thousand nonprofits that provide much of our health care, education, performing arts, and social services. This is particularly true in Illinois – home to the second largest number of nonprofit organizations in the country (New York is first). As such these organizations need competent, civic-minded board leaders.

Forefront can customize a training for your employees to teach them the importance of civic engagement as a means to build their careers, represent their companies in the best light and most importantly serve their communities. They will learn how to leverage their skills and talents to be effective and productive board members.

Recognizing the need to train nonprofit staff on effective strategies to engage and leverage their boards, Forefront can also customize a training session specifically geared toward corporate grantees that wish to most effectively utilize volunteers and board leaders.

Board Development Training Sponsorship (2 sessions): $10,000

- Training sessions for 20-30 of Sponsor's employees to be trained on how to get on and be an exceptional member of a nonprofit board.

and/or

- Training sessions for 20-30 of your grantees on best practices to engage Boards to maximize impact.

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Increasing Individual Giving in Illinois

#ILGive 2016

Date: November 29, 2016
Location: across Illinois

Now more than ever, nonprofits need to diversify their funding portfolios – relying less on unreliable government contract dollars and more on contributions from a variety of sources. Given that 72% of all donations come from individuals, the #ILGive campaign is capitalizing on the generosity Illinois residents to secure more donations from new donors. The results speak for themselves. Last year, #ILGive campaign raised nearly $6 million from 25,000 donors benefitting 645 nonprofit organizations. The future growth of this initiative is only limited by the capacity of Forefront to increase the training sessions and provide the necessary resources for participating nonprofits. Forefront’s goal this year is to help 900 nonprofits across the state raise $9 million and reach 4 million through social media.

Sponsorship of #ILGive: $10,000

- Logo in email promotions to #ILGive nonprofit participants and potential donors
- Logo on the #ILGive website
- Logo on collateral
- Recognition on social media

Leading Sponsor of #ILGive:

The Coleman Foundation

Forefront offers customizable sponsorship opportunities upon request. If you would like more information, please contact Becca Stimson, Vice President, Development and Communications, at 312-327-8940 or at bstimson@myforefront.org.
New for 2016

Educational Programs
Forefront’s popular educational programs give nonprofits and grantmakers the tools to do the most good. Our programs are open to all nonprofits, grantmakers, advisors, board members, and social impact leaders. Forefront Members receive discounts on programs and many are free.
Sponsor a year-long series of one of Forefront’s Educational Programs. Example series include:

- Advocacy
- Design thinking
- Evaluation
- Fundraising
- Human Resources
- Organizational Development
- Social Media + Digital Marketing

Sponsor a Program Series: $10,000

- Exclusive sponsorship opportunity for one year
- We feature your linked logo on all registration pages and e-marketing
- Your logo will appear on the collateral for program attendees

Example Programs:

**Human-Centered Design Tools for Social Innovation**
Human-Centered Design, Design Thinking and Social Innovation are terms used more and more frequently by nonprofits and other social sector players. But how can they really change the impact nonprofits and grantmakers have in the world?

**The Narrative and Beyond: Writing a Successful Grant Proposal**
This introductory workshop prepares participants to successfully develop, write, and submit grant proposals to foundations and corporations.

**Fundraising in Communities of Color**
Learn how to engage with diverse communities and start conversations about how to develop inclusive and sustainable organizations through the cultivation of a more diverse donor base.
Forefront’s Annual Event

Date: Summer 2017
Location: Chicago, IL

For the past 42 years, Forefront has hosted the premier gathering for those involved in the social impact sector in Illinois.

Attendee Profile
Our Annual Event brings together 750+ nonprofit professionals, foundations, corporations, and civic leaders who hold key positions in top organizations. The annual event is considered the ‘networking event of the year’ for the social impact space.

Past keynote speakers include Paul Schmitz, David LaPiana, Dr. Cheryl Dorsey, Liz Lerman, and Yo-Yo Ma.


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<th>Annual Event 2017</th>
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<th>Platinum Sponsor $25,000</th>
<th>Gold Sponsor $15,000</th>
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Maximize Your Investment

Position your corporation as a leader in the social good space and maximize your exposure by packaging some of our premier opportunities.

The packages can be tailored to meet the needs of the corporation but can include benefits such as:
- Sponsorship of the Leadership Institute
- Customized board development trainings
- Annual Event sponsorship and invitations

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<tr>
<th>Packaged Sponsorships</th>
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<th>Innovation Sponsor $20,000</th>
<th>Sector Supporter $12,500</th>
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2016 Innovation Sponsors:

[Images of sponsor logos]
2016 Sponsorship Opportunities
Check all that apply.

Pledge Form

___ Presenting Sponsor of Leadership Institute $20,000
___ Leadership Institute Sponsorship $10,000

___ Presenting Mission Sustainability Summit Sponsorship $25,000
___ Mission Sustainability Summit Sponsorship $10,000
___ Mission Sustainability Summit Sponsorship $5,000

___ Board Development Training Sponsorship $10,000

___ #ILGive Sponsorship $10,000

___ Educational Program Sponsorship $10,000
(Please choose your program from our online calendar of events.)

___ Annual Event Sponsorship
   ___ Presenting Sponsor $30,000
   ___ Platinum Sponsor $25,000
   ___ Gold Sponsor $15,000
   ___ Silver Sponsor $10,000
   ___ Bronze Sponsor $5,000
   ___ Copper Sponsor $1,500

___ Package Opportunities
   ___ Impact Sponsor $40,000
   ___ Innovation Sponsor $20,000
   ___ Sector Supporter $12,500

Total $ ________
Contact Information

Name

Organization

Address

City, State, Zip

Phone

Email

Website

Credit Card Info

Deadlines:

Deadlines vary depending upon which opportunity you are sponsoring.

Please contact Luke Wilcox, Development Coordinator, at 312-327-8919 or via email at lwilcox@myforefront.org with any questions.

Please make checks payable to “Forefront” and mail your completed Sponsorship form to:

Forefront

c/o Luke Wilcox

208 S. LaSalle St. Suite 1540

Chicago, IL 60604