dcnp presents

NONPROFIT DAY

September 23

Wi-Fi: Faranda's Public
Password: 302grove

TIME & LOCATION

9:30 – 10:00 **Registration & Networking**
Lobby

10:00 – 10:15 **Welcome** – *Michelle Donahoe, Chair, DCNP Steering Committee*
Anthony **DeKalb County Nonprofit Partnership Update** – *Ben Bingle, DCNP Director*

10:15 – 11:15 **KEYNOTE SESSION**
Anthony **The Art of Effective Communication: Building Teams That Really Talk**
Paula Jenkins, Founder & Chief Executive Officer, LFS Consulting LLC
Strong organizations are built on strong communication. In this engaging keynote, you will learn practical strategies to build trust, strengthen collaboration, and create a culture where conversations lead to action. Leave with useful tools you can immediately use to strengthen communication across your organization.

11:15 – 12:00 **Lunch, Networking & Give DeKalb County Group Photo**

12:00 – 12:30 **MID-DAY SESSION**
Anthony **Recruiting & Retaining Volunteers in Today's Nonprofit Environment**
Keri Asevedo, Executive Director, Rockford Area Habitat for Humanity
Discover practical strategies for attracting, engaging, and retaining volunteers in today's evolving nonprofit landscape.

12:30 – 12:45 **Break & Networking**

12:45 – 1:45 **BREAKOUT SESSION BLOCK A**
Anthony **Emotional Intelligence in Action: Leading Yourself and Others More Effectively**
Paula Jenkins, Founder & Chief Executive Officer, LFS Consulting LLC
Emotional intelligence is one of today's most essential leadership skills. This interactive session explores ways to increase self-awareness, strengthen relationships, and navigate difficult conversations with greater confidence.

Antoinette **Planning with Purpose: Connecting Strategy to Annual Action**
Keri Asevedo, Executive Director, Rockford Area Habitat for Humanity
Learn how to align strategic priorities with annual goals, timelines, and accountability measures so your organization can turn big-picture plans into meaningful progress.

1:45 – 2:00 **Break & Networking**

2:00 – 3:00 **BREAKOUT SESSION BLOCK B**

Anthony **The Accidental Manager: When Managing People Isn't Your Full-Time Job**
Amy Boston, Co-Founder & Chief Executive Officer, Threology LLC
Whether you are a volunteer coordinator wearing five hats or a department head leading a full team, managing people comes with the job—even when it is not the job you signed up for. This session offers strategies for giving feedback, documenting decisions, and navigating uncomfortable conversations with confidence. Takeaways are designed for organizations of every size and budget, from all-volunteer teams to fully staffed nonprofits.

Antoinette **501(c)(3) Essentials**
Jill Olson, Principal, Olson Consulting
Understand the legal basics, governance responsibilities, and key requirements every nonprofit leader should know to help your organization remain compliant, accountable, and mission-focused.

3:00 – 3:15 **Break & Networking**

3:15 – 4:15 **BREAKOUT SESSION BLOCK C**

Anthony **Crafting Catchy Grant Proposals**
Marc Hooks, Grants Specialist, Boone-Winnebago Regional Office of Education
Great grant proposals tell stories that resonate long after reading. Learn to transform your grant writing process from initial idea to the final grant report. In this interactive session, discover how the structure and rhythm of pop songs can help you craft compelling narratives that hook funders and secure lasting support for your mission.

Antoinette **From Big Ideas to Focused Action**
Danita Sims, Founder & Executive Director, Passion Pursuit
Explore practical tools to help leaders at all levels prioritize what matters most, manage competing priorities, and use time blocking to turn big goals into focused action.

4:15 – 5:00 **Networking Reception**
Lobby *Continue the conversation while networking over refreshments and a cash bar.*