

Chester County
COMMUNITY FOUNDATION
A nonprofit capacity building service of the
Chester County Community Foundation...

PEER LEARNING CIRCLES

real world answers for real world problems

Now Accepting Members for 3 Peer Learning Circles in West Chester

1-Nonprofit **Executive Directors**

2-Nonprofit **Development Managers**

3-Planned **Giving Professionals**



- **Network with colleagues who face similar complex challenges and opportunities**
- **Get support and coaching from peers**
- **Take actions and learn from them**
- **Experiment with new ideas before “taking them public”**
- **Achieve personal and professional goals**

Learning Circles are based on **action-learning**.

Adults learn best when they apply new information to real-world, current challenges.

Learning Circles provide peers the opportunity to learn from their own and others' experiences, and to immediately test and apply their learning at their nonprofits.

Learning Circles lead to **higher achievement ... greater productivity ... improved communication ...and increased well-being.**

Learning Circles are composed of 4-7 peers in the same type of position, in non-competing nonprofits, who commit to self-directed problem solving. Members meet to discuss current nonprofit concerns, share insights and experiences, support and question each other, and jointly problem solve.

In Learning Circle meetings, members work on individual goals and issues related to their nonprofit. Each member commits to taking action between meetings to address their goals.

Each 1.5 hour session is led by a skilled facilitator with extensive knowledge of the nonprofit sector who manages the process and discussion. Groups are confidential, supportive and focused on learning and action.

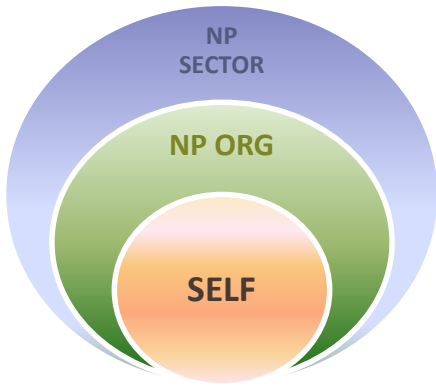
Here's what peers say ...

“A nonprofit learning circle is a great way to share ideas, information, and support. It is wonderful to bring an issue to the table and have people who really understand the reality of nonprofit management listen and brainstorm. ... The facilitator keeps us on task and focused so we don't turn it into a gripe session. Absolutely worth my time.”

“I have found learning circle discussions invaluable. They help me interact with Board, staff and donors. Our discussions have definitely given me more confidence in my new role.”

“The process of learning and sharing the issues that face us as nonprofit leaders has helped me keep my own issues in perspective and has helped me develop strategies for our nonprofit to be as effective and proactive as possible.”

Peer Learning Circles address nonprofit issues.



At the core is the person as an **individual**; expanding to their role within their **nonprofit organization**; and within the **nonprofit sector**.

A wide range of issues are addressed in Peer Learning Circles:

- ...balancing personal, professional and community responsibilities
- ...managing staff / board relationships and responsibilities
- ...dealing with people whose personal issues affect their nonprofit performance
- ...identifying competencies to leverage growth

Sessions focus on group members helping each other achieve their nonprofit goals through highly focused questioning and feedback. By the end of each session, peers reflect on the quality of the process to ensure that it remains highly relevant and productive.

Peer Learning Circles are now accepting members for meetings at the Chester County Community Foundation in West Chester

		Oct – Dec – Feb – April – June						
Group	Day	Dates					Time	Facilitator
Executive Directors	Fri	10/19/18	12/7/18	2/1/19	4/5/19	6/7/19	9-10:30	Carter
Development Managers	Fri	10/19/18	12/7/18	2/1/19	4/5/19	6/7/19	11:30-1:00	Carter
Planned Giving Study Group	tbd	Dates to be determined. Contact beth@chescofc.org if interested.					tbd	Briglia & Simmons

5 sessions @\$30/session = \$150/year



Connie Carter, CFRE



Beth Harper Briglia, CPA, CAP & Karen Simmons

Peer Learning Circle Facilitators

Peer Learning Circles are a nonprofit capacity building service of the Chester County Community Foundation.



PEER LEARNING CIRCLE APPLICATION

Yes, I would like to apply to join a Nonprofit Peer Learning Circle at the Community Foundation.

I have my attached professional resume to this application &/or

I have connected with The Chester County Community Foundation, so you can learn about me on LinkedIn.

I agree to sign a confidentiality agreement and hold peer conversations strictly private. I understand that if I divulge confidential information, I will be removed from the Peer Learning Circle.

If accepted into the Peer Learning Circle, I agree to pre-pay \$150 to cover a year's worth of 5 meetings. *(The Community Foundation will e-mail invoice once accepted to the Peer Learning Circle.)*

I commit to attending meetings for the coming year on these dates:

		Oct – Dec – Feb – April – June		
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Name:

Position:

Nonprofit Organization:

Address, City, State, Zip:

Phone:

E-mail:

of years affiliated with current nonprofit: _____ # of years active in the nonprofit sector: _____

Nonprofit's Mission:

Geographic Area Served:

Please e-mail application to:

Stephanie Stevens, Community Engagement
Chester County Community Foundation
28 W. Market Street, West Chester PA 19382
(610) 696-0501 steph@chescocf.org

Applications are due by Sept. 1



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