

November 28, 2011 Volume 6, Issue 11

In the Loop

Connecting to communities online since 2003

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Welcome!

Welcome to *In the Loop*, an assortment of e-mails that I have received during the past week, or articles that I may stumble upon. From time to time, you will find announcements of events, grant opportunities, job postings, links to websites and articles of interest or notes of encouragement. I hope that you, or someone you know, would find the information to be of use. If you would like to unsubscribe, submit material, or make general comments, you may contact me at valeriefleonard@msn.com. I look forward to hearing from you soon.

Valerie F. Leonard, Editor

Funding Sources

Philanthropic News Digest

- [Youth Service America Offers Sodexo Youth Grants for Community Hunger Projects](#)
- [Kessler Foundation Invites Nominations for Award for Excellence in Physical Medicine and Rehabilitation](#)
- [Komen?Mid-Michigan Affiliate Invites Applications for Community Health Grants](#)
- [Laura Bush Foundation for America's Libraries Accepting Book Grant Applications from School Libraries](#)

Illinois Department of Human Services

- [Substance Abuse Prevention Program RFP](#)

Illinois General Assembly Legislative Research Unit

I thank Melisa Fraase of the Illinois General Assembly Legislative Research Unit for providing the following list of grant opportunities.

<http://valeriefleonard.com/StayingintheLoop/nfblog/?p=936>

Grant for Good- Irwin W. Steans Center for Community-based Service Learning and Community Service Studies

I thank Jean Vipond for providing the following information.

<http://valeriefleonard.com/StayingintheLoop/nfblog/?p=997>

HAC News

The following is an excerpt from the November 16, 2011 edition of HAC News. The full issue of HAC News is available in PDF and HTML format at

<http://tinyurl.com/hacnews>

CDFI FUND ACCEPTING

APPLICATIONS. Flexible Financial Assistance awards and capacity building Technical Assistance awards are available to certified and certifiable CDFIs (apply by January 11) and to Native American certified and certifiable CDFIs (apply by January 18). Visit <http://www.cdfifund.gov> or <http://www.grants.gov>. Contact CDFI Fund staff, 202-622-6355 cdfihelp@cdfi.treas.gov.

CHANGES TO FEDERAL HOME LOAN BANKS' RESPONSIBILITIES

SUGGESTED The Federal Housing Finance Agency proposes to require FHLBs to monitor their members' compliance with CRA and first-time homebuyer requirements. Comments are due February 8. See *Federal Register*, 11/10/11 or <http://www.regulations.gov>. Contact Charles E. McLean, FHFA, 202-408-2537 202-408-2537

COMMENTS ON NEW MARKETS TAX

CREDIT SOUGHT. The CDFI Fund invites comments and suggestions by February 6 about the mission, purpose and implementation of the NMTC program, including how low-income census tracts are identified and whether points should be awarded for serving rural markets. Visit <http://www.cdfifund.gov>. Contact CDFI Fund staff, cdfihelp@cdfi.treas.gov.

Chicago Community trust

I thank Sandy Phelps, Grants Manager with the Chicago Community Trust, for providing the following information.

Dear Colleague,

Thank you for signing up to receive notifications of RFPs released by The Chicago Community Trust. The Sustainability funding opportunity is designed to support community-based practices to promote sustainable development .

If your work advances the goals detailed in this RFP, please complete your application through the Trust's online system. The application deadline is **midnight on January 5, 2012**, with grant decisions made in May 2012.

You can find this RFP and all current funding opportunities on our website:

<http://www.cct.org/apply/funding-priorities/sustainability>

Thank you for your interest and for your work on behalf of a stronger Chicago region.

Sandy Phelps
Grants Manager

Public Policy and Civic Engagement

IRS Seeks Applications for Advisory Committee for the Tax Exempt and Government Entities Division

The following is an excerpt from an e-mail I received from the IRS.

WASHINGTON — The Internal Revenue Service is seeking applications for vacancies on the Advisory Committee on Tax Exempt and Government Entities (ACT). The committee provides a venue for public input on relevant areas of tax administration. Vacancies exist in the following customer segments:

- Employee Plans – two vacancies
- Exempt Organizations – two vacancies
- Tax Exempt Bonds – two vacancies
- Indian Tribal Governments – one vacancy

Click [here](#) to finish reading the announcement.

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Recommended Reading

Block by Block North Lawndale Diabetes Community Action Program Progress Report

Reimagining-the-School-Day-More-Time-for-Learning.pdf

I thank Kelly Talbot from ACT Now for providing this report from the Wallace Foundation.

The report summarizes the outcome of a Wallace Foundation gathering where leaders in education, after-school and other areas grappled with the challenges and merits of carving out more high-quality learning time for disadvantaged youth. Click [here](#) to access the report.

IRS News for Tax Exempt Organizations

1. [Reinstatement of Exempt Status after Automatic Revocation](#)
2. [Certain Small Organizations Not Required to File Application for Exemption Have Annual Filing Requirement](#)
3. [Filing Form 990-N for a Prior Year](#)
4. [IRS Survey of Exempt Organizations](#)

Small Business Development

From Inc. Magazine

- [Forget Fear: How to Turn Rejection Into Success](#)
- [Why Big Business Strategies Won't Work for You](#)

Congressman Jesse Jackson, Jr., Senator Mark Kirk Present Entrepreneurial Idol at CSU

I thank Melinda Kelly, Executive Director of the Chatham Business Association, for providing the following information.

Congressman Jesse Jackson, Jr., and Senator Mark Kirk Sponsor Entrepreneurial Idol at Chicago State University....Where small business owners can get ahead of the competition. Apply today at, www.csu.edu/business/eicompetition/apply and be eligible to win over \$5,000 in prizes.

Key Dates:

Entrepreneurial Idol Workshop Dec. 2, 2011
Application Deadline Dec. 21, 2011
Entrepreneurial Idol Competition Feb. 3, 2012
at Chicago State University

To participate as an audience member visit,
<http://www.csu.edu/business/eicompetition/registration>

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Employment

Chronicle of Philanthropy

The Chronicle of Philanthropy has excellent resources for nonprofit executives. [here](#)

The Job Exchange

From time to time, I get resumes from job seekers, and job postings from employers seeking to fill positions, and colleagues making referrals. I have also added a section for independent contractors looking for projects. Please check out the Job Exchange for postings from Congressman Davis and State Representative LaShawn Ford. You will also see a posting for a Vice President at the Cradle, submitted by Darchelle Garner. You will find a resume from Terri Luiz, a development professional; Lori Chapman, a free lance writer and communications professional; and Annie Stubenfield, a consultant in organizational development. You may also download a copy of my statement of qualifications.

Illinois Department of Human Services

To find job announcements at the Illinois Department of Human Services, click [here](#)

LEED Council Green Carpentry Training for Targeted Communities

Click [here](#) for details on this and other job training programs.

Workshops/ Webinars/Conferences

Capacity Building Blocks

Capacity Building Blocks[™] is a 10-week workshop series for leaders of emerging nonprofits who are serious about maximizing community impact. The interactive workshops provide an in-depth organizational assessment, and balance of instruction, case studies and group activities designed to help you strengthen your organization's infrastructure, and position it for long term sustainability. You may participate in the entire series, or selected modules. For further information, download the brochure at <http://www.scribd.com/doc/73089878/Brochure-3>

Contact me at 773-521-3137 or consulting@valeriefleopard.com to set up a Capacity Building Blocks[™] training for your organization. Follow me on Face Book and Twitter

Network for Good

Free Webinar

Creating a Great Donor and Client Experience: Delivering Psychic Pizza To Enhance Loyalty and Reduce Service Cost

Register [here](#)




Westside Ministers Coalition, Monroe Foundation Host Small Business Boot Camp

I have been invited to facilitate a small business boot camp for small businesses and emerging nonprofit organizations. The workshop will be held Saturday, December 3rd, 2011, from 10:00 a.m.-12:00 noon at the 15th District Police District headquarters' community room. The District 10 Police District headquarters is located at 5701 West Madison Street. The FREE workshop will focus on the similarities and differences between strategic planning and business planning for small businesses and nonprofits, with overall objectives of helping small businesses position themselves for bank financing, and helping nonprofit organizations position themselves to raise funds.

Attendees will receive free copies of business plans and strategic plans for small businesses and nonprofits. They will also have an opportunity to order Business Plan Pro at special discounts of 20%-40%. If you have seen this announcement before, please note the change in venue. RSVP to Otis Monroe, CEO, Monroe Foundation at 773-315-9720 or omonroe@themonroefoundation.org. Click [here](#) to download a flyer. **REGISTRATION ENDS MONDAY NOVEMBER 28, 2011.**

Seminar on State Funding and Contracts for Small Businesses

I thank State Representative LaShawn K. Ford for providing the following information.

	<p>Hosted by State Rep. La Shawn K. Ford, Chair, Small Business Empowerment/Workforce Development Committee; Nader Kameli, Chicagoland Foreign Investment Group; Malcom Weems, Acting Director, Central Management Services, State of Illinois; Matt Brown, Chief Procurement Officer, State of Illinois; Dan Johnson, Progressive Public Affairs; Rey Nonato, RN Business Consultant; Ty Cratic, Cratic and Associates</p> <p>Saturday, December 17, 2011 8 a.m. - Noon 111 E. Wacker Drive, 26th floor Chicago, IL 60601</p>	<p><i>"Public and Private coming together to support and grow small businesses and create jobs!"</i></p>
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Click [here](#) to download the entire flyer and the State's Small Business Program Fact Sheet.