

Bookkeeping frustration? Attend QuickBooks class!

Among the many requirements of nonprofit organizations is proper financial accounting of revenues and expenses. One of the most popular accounting softwares is QuickBooks. Many QuickBooks users are self-taught and seek more knowledge to use the program more effectively.

Nonprofits use QuickBooks for most financially related business processes, from entering donations, tracking expenses and preparing and sending invoices to check writing, preparation of basic financial statements and reports, and inventory management.

Financial Management Solutions for Nonprofit Success* will offer two levels of QuickBooks training in the



coming year. Training is held at a computer lab, so hands-on skills can be developed during training.

Beginners Level will be offered in early summer of 2009. Participants will learn to set up procedures, navigation, creating agency books, security, multi-user and key-stroke shortcuts.

Advanced Level classes will be held Jan. 9 and Jan. 16 from 9 a.m. to 3 p.m. This two-day training utilizes practice exercises in a computer lab setting. Topics include foundation

material like chart of accounts, the use of classes/lists and items, transaction processing, report generation, budgets and customization to fit your agency's needs. Participants must have basic knowledge and simple navigation skills for QuickBooks prior to attending this level.

Sign up early, as only 15 seats are available. To learn more and to register, visit www.esc-detroit.org and go to January 9 on the event registration calendar.

Sign up for our mailing list to be notified of the date for the Beginners Level class.

**A service initiative of the Detroit Executive Service Corps and Michigan Nonprofit Association*



Innovative learning aids are an integral part of the New Visions program.

Coming soon: Enhanced program for school leaders

The final phase of The Skillman Foundation-funded New Visions for School Leaders (NVSL) program concluded in May of this year, with a review of lessons learned and an eye to the future.

A total of 206 school leaders in the City of Detroit participated in the three-year program. Participants came from the Detroit Public Schools, the Archdiocese and Charter Schools. Their evaluations of the New Visions experience connected their improved leadership skills to better school performance.

That input was critical to the decisions that followed. In September, the DESC Board of Directors decided to make a further commitment to local students, positioning the Corps to make a difference in metro Detroit's scholastic future by redesigning and

continued on back

In a challenging economy, nonprofits get SMART



Participants in the Oct. 6 SMART workshop embody one of the program's basic tenets: Limited resources can be stretched by uniting and sharing.

Created to provide nonprofits with a comprehensive resource to explore such possibilities, the Strategic Mergers and Alliances Resource Training (SMART) program was introduced earlier this year.

The program is funded by the Hudson-Webber Foundation and United Way for South-eastern Michigan.

More workshops are planned. Watch the DESC website (www.esc-detroit.org) for information on future workshop dates.

VOLUNTEER SPOTLIGHT ON ...



When Jim Bayson hears about a good thing, he remembers. For example, he was working full-time when DESC volunteer Suzanne Dibble told him about her involvement with the Corps. Nevertheless, he got in touch with DESC President Deanna McGraw to learn more.

What he heard clearly made a lasting impression. "I said I would contact her when I retired, and I did," he recalls.

That was 16 months ago. Since then, Jim has been active in a number of DESC initiatives: putting together strategic and business plans, executive coaching, board development and financial management. He has also been a speaker on budgeting and controls.

Corps clients are the beneficiaries of the wealth of experience he brings to each challenge. A University of Michigan graduate with a degree in

business administration, Jim retired as an audit partner with Plante & Moran, where he worked as a CPA for 40 years.

Other volunteer experience includes serving as treasurer for the American Red Cross, on the board of directors for the Judson Center and as co-chair for a capital campaign fund to expand a program to help autistic children. He is also on the audit committee of the Michigan Association of Certified Public Accountants.

Jim and wife of 40 years Barbara are parents to a son and daughter, and proud grandparents to their three children.

When he's not volunteering, Jim pursues hobbies that include fishing, boating and travel. That last hobby yields a surprising fact about the "die-hard Michigan fan": He's been to seven of the world's continents!



Jim Bayson

"As a DESC volunteer I get a great amount of personal satisfaction and positive feedback from the many not-for-profits that are doing a great job serving our community."

Donors: DESC's success is your success!

It's hard to believe, but DESC is about to begin its 27th year of service to metropolitan Detroit nonprofit and educational communities. Over those years, we have achieved many milestones, and 2008 was no different. Firsts for the organization so far this year include:

- ❖ Being recognized as one of five finalists for the State of Michigan's 2008 Outstanding Volunteer Program.
- ❖ Being recognized as one of five finalists in the Leadership Category for DTE Energy Foundation's Excellence Awards.
- ❖ Launching our new, totally redesigned website – www.esc-detroit.org. (If you haven't had a chance to check it out, do so; we think you'll be impressed.)

❖ Developing two new programs with other nonprofit partners: Financial Management Solutions for Nonprofit Success – Solutions (in partnership with Michigan Nonprofit Association), and Strategic Mergers and Alliance Resource Training, also known as SMART (in partnership with Community Legal Resources, Michigan Nonprofit Association, Nonprofit Finance Fund and the United Way for Southeastern Michigan).

All of these exciting milestones would not have been possible without support from our corporate, foundation and individual partners. Through good times and bad, plush years and lean, they have played an integral role in our successes for nearly three decades.

Thank You, Donors, for Your Investment ...

KEYSTONE (\$25,000 or more)

The Chrysler Foundation
Hudson-Webber Foundation
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Niccole Metzger
Jack Rady
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Henry Whiting, Jr.

FRIENDS (\$250 - \$499)

Kay Fitzpatrick
William F. Grier
Mary Kramer
Lynne K. Nagy
Lloyd Reuss

ASSOCIATES (to \$249)

James Bayson
Richard E. Blouse, Jr.

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Michael Long
Marion A. McCarthy
Nina McEachin
Peter T. Milne
Terry Murphy
Mr. & Mrs. Patrick O'Connell
Hunter Pickens
Rudolf Russart
Thomas W. Sklut
Ronald Swofford
Lisa Zafarana

HONORIALS & MEMORIALS

In Honor of James Suhay

Paul K. Geiger

In Memory of William J. Adams

John T. Dorsey

HONORIALS & MEMORIALS

In Memory of Robert Magill

William F. Grier

In Memory of Beryl Milne

Peter T. Milne

In Memory of Will Scott

William F. Grier

In Memory of Mary Louise Tacker

James Bayson
Michael R. Daily
Sue Ann Easton
ESC Affiliate Network, Inc.
William F. Grier
Neil Hitz
Mary Kramer
Charles Lechner
Michael Long
Charles G. MacGregor
Marion A. McCarthy
Nina McEachin
Deanna McGraw
Terry Murphy
Lynne K. Nagy
Mr. & Mrs. Patrick O'Connell
Jack Rady
Thomas W. Sklut
Ronald Swofford
Hank Whiting, Jr.
Lisa Zafarana

In Memory of Boyce Tope

William F. Grier

What can DESC do for you? Read on!

Nonprofit management assistance service *is* DESC. That focus has never been more important than it is today. With the formidable challenges facing our non-profit community, advancing the business side of your service delivery should neither be overlooked nor left to chance.

That's where the Corps comes in. Over the course of our 25-year history, we've helped hundreds of non-profit clients improve their business practices. The experiences of just two of them illustrates what we can do for you.

THINK AHEAD!

Your Planned Gift will help DESC continue to make a difference in our community - now and for years to come.

Starfish Family Services, a western Wayne County non-profit that works to strengthen families, recently came to DESC looking for help with their volunteer programs. As Starfish realized, they simply did not have the time to define volunteer policies and values; many nonprofits find themselves in this same position.

DESC consultants were assigned to move the existing Starfish program forward.

They worked with agency executives and the board in volunteer policy development and implementation. The new program, which includes a volunteer recognition component, will be launched soon.

To learn more about Starfish, call 734-728-3400 or visit www.starfishonline.org

Federation of Youth Services, located in Detroit, works to empower children

and families to become independent and productive. Stakeholders approached DESC this year to facilitate a strategic plan. Consultants took key participants through a SWOT (Strengths, Weaknesses, Opportunities and Threats) assessment, and are developing programming goals for the agency.

For more information, call 313-571-4707 or visit www.federation548.org.

New volunteers join Corps ranks

Ahmed, Omer S.
Assistant Director of
Global Net Development
Lear Corporation

Hessler, Robert
Former Vice President
Sales & Marketing
WOMA Corp.

Lesniak, Brandon P.
Market Development
Manager, HCR-Manorcare
(Carlyle Group)

Breuer, Jerry
Former President/Owner
Breuer and Associates

Hobart, John P.
Office Manager
Wolverine American, Inc.

Mclvor, Brian
Sr. Application Consultant
CSS International

Collins, Michael
Producer - Public Affairs
Ford Motor Company

Kowaleski, Tom
President, ACTK
Communication Consulting

Treutlein, Wolfgang
President & CEO
DT Consulting Inc.

Hardcastle, Meagan
Dir. Corporate Finance
O'Keefe & Associates

Kuhr, Bryan
Senior Financial Analyst
Ford Motor Company

Welcome!

Coming soon: Enhanced program for school leaders

continued from front

expanding the New Visions for School Leaders program.

That process is already underway. According to DESC Board Chair Myron Frasier, "Our next-generation leadership development program is being specifically designed for this area's K-12 educational leaders. We anticipate it will become our signature program."

The effort is the latest manifestation of a continuing commitment to

Detroit's students.

"For more than eight years, DESC has provided leadership and management services to strengthen school leaders," DESC President Deanna McGraw noted. "We have a long history of service to the schools and students in our community. We are now ready to take the lessons learned from our work to design an enhanced program to strengthen the management and leadership skills of school leaders throughout the Detroit metropolitan area."

A planning grant for the redesign of NVSL program was provided by State Farm Insurance Companies. Partnerships with local school districts and funders are underway. The new program is slated to start in September of 2009.

Contact us! Here's how ...

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Web Site: www.esc-detroit.org