



Project Blueprint



Project Blueprint is a leadership development program designed to increase the number of individuals from underrepresented groups and communities providing leadership on local nonprofit boards and committees. The program provides a series of intensive training sessions that allows participants to develop the skills to help them become successful board members. United Way Worldwide launched Project Blueprint in 1987 as a pilot program funded by the W.K. Kellogg Foundation. The first Project Blueprint class from United Way of Forsyth County graduated in 1992 and since then over 200 individuals, many of whom work closely with nonprofits throughout our community, have graduated from the program. Project Blueprint is now a partnership between United Way of Forsyth County and HandsOn Northwest North Carolina.

Goals. Project Blueprint seeks to:

- Recruit volunteers from underrepresented populations for involvement in nonprofit organizations
- Develop and improve leadership skills
- Improve service delivery through volunteer involvement in the workplace and community at large
- Ensure that local volunteer leadership is more reflective of our diverse community
- Create a network of ethnically and culturally diverse professionals
- Place program graduates on local nonprofit boards or committees where they can use their knowledge and skills to serve their community

Eligibility. Project Blueprint seeks applicants who:

- Are from diverse cultural and ethnic backgrounds
- Exhibit or have the potential for leadership
- Show an interest in community involvement and a desire to serve and strengthen our community
- Will to commit to serve on a nonprofit board of directors or committee upon graduation from the program

Program. Recruitment for the next Project Blueprint class begins in October and continues through the [application](#) deadline of **November 28, 2014**. Although every attempt will be made to accommodate you in the upcoming Project Blueprint session, class size is limited to ensure a high quality experience and more meaningful networking. You will be notified by December 19, 2014 about your acceptance in the program. Once the class is selected, participants will attend a one-half day orientation/kickoff event on **January 27, 2015**. This event is followed by **8 consecutive classes that will meet each Tuesday, February 3 through March 24, from 12-2 pm**. Each class will address various aspects of board service including: an overview of nonprofit boards, diversity, effective meetings, strategic planning, board development, fiscal responsibility, and a session highlighting practical issues of boards. The final session is a **community service project at a local nonprofit**. Participants are also required to attend one **Board Bank Speed Dating** event to talk with various nonprofits about board and board committee opportunities. Dates for these events will be given at the January orientation session. All classes include a networking lunch. The community service project will be determined during the program, based on the interests and preferences of the class.

Location. Training sessions will be held at **The Winston-Salem Foundation** building, located at **751 West Fourth Street, Winston-Salem, 27101**.

Requirements. Participants are expected to attend all classes, so check your calendar to make sure the dates and times do not conflict with other commitments. You may miss only one class in order to graduate from the program. If more than one class is missed, you will be required to repeat the entire program.

Cost. The cost to participate in the program is **\$250 per person** and is due by **January 27, 2015**. Many companies sponsor their employees' tuition, but a limited number of partial scholarships are available. For information on scholarships, please email KathyDavis@HandsOnNWNC.org.