

## **2015 Public Policy Priorities**

#### Best Practices and Accountability Nonprofit-Government Relations

 Work to ensure that any legislation to amend the Kentucky Revised Statutes regarding nonprofit incorporation and reporting to protect the best interests of the sector and ensure no unnecessary hardships are placed on nonprofit organizations.

#### Nonprofit – Government Relations

• Seek support from the Governor and legislative leaders to appoint a task force to begin work in 2015 to engage Kentucky in the nationwide effort to improve the relationship between government and nonprofits at all levels. The task force should explore concerns regarding government contracts and grants with nonprofits, including the complexity of contracts and reporting, payment for the full costs of services rendered and delays in payments.

#### Charitable Giving

• Encourage the federal and state legislators and the Governor to protect the charitable giving tax incentive in any tax reform legislation.

#### **Best Practices and Accountability**

#### Nonprofit Sector Public Awareness

• Monitor any legislation that would provide for alternative incorporation options (such as benefit corporations) in Kentucky that might limit the effectiveness and integrity of the nonprofit community in the short and long-term. KNN seeks to promote public understanding and prevent any confusion among incorporation designations.

### Economic and Workforce Development Nonprofit Sector Public Awareness

• Continue working with key government leaders to identify a streamlined process for collecting key employment and other data for better understanding and communicating about the economic impact of Kentucky's nonprofit sector.



# **Public Policy Agenda**

Kentucky Nonprofit Network, Inc.'s public policy agenda provides clear principles common to all nonprofits regarding policy priorities at the federal, state and local levels. The following agenda represents our annual framework for addressing public policy that impacts and strengthens nonprofits in Kentucky.

**Nonprofit Sector Public Awareness** – Educate policy makers and the general public on the breadth, scope and economic importance of the nonprofit sector in Kentucky and in the United States.

**Nonprofit Exempt Status Protection** – Support actions to preserve and protect the tax-exempt status of nonprofits and promote policies that strengthen the nonprofit economy.

**Charitable Giving** – Preserve and enact policies that effectively incentivize citizens to donate to the work of Kentucky's charitable organizations.

**Nonprofit – Government Relations** – Improve and strengthen the nonprofit – government relationship through reforms to the contracting and grant making processes.

Advocacy and Lobbying Rights, Civic Participation – Protect the rights of all 501 (c)(3) organizations to advocate for their respective causes and strengthen the ability of Kentucky nonprofits to engage in the public policy arena. On a non-partisan basis, promote democracy and civic participation, including voting.

**Best Practices and Accountability** – Support actions which provide fair and reasonable expectations of accountability within the nonprofit sector. Enhance the ability of Kentucky nonprofits to function at the highest levels of governance, integrity, efficiency and transparency and be accountable to the public they serve.

**Economic and Workforce Development** – Support actions to expand and strengthen incentives that encourage growth in the nonprofit community and educational and professional development opportunities for nonprofit staff and volunteers.