

PROJECT blueprint

A Blueprint for Diversity in Volunteer Leadership

Mission and History

The mission of Project Blueprint is to expand the diversity of Erie's nonprofit Boards by developing the ability, drive, and leadership capacity of ethnically diverse individuals who commit to serve on the Board of local nonprofit organizations. Started in 1993 by the United Way of Erie County, the program is now a partnership between the United Way and The Nonprofit Partnership. Over the years, over 300 new leaders in Erie have developed their leadership skills and civic awareness through Project Blueprint.

How Project Blueprint Works

Recruitment for Project Blueprint launches in January and continues through February, as the program receives applications from and interviews ethnically diverse candidates who are interested in contributing to the community through service on nonprofit Boards. After a class of twenty participants is selected, meetings are scheduled twice per month beginning in March during which the class learns about the responsibilities of Board service and the larger civic, political, and funding environment in which nonprofit organizations exist. Participants learn specific leadership skills and plan service projects that are conducted with local organizations during the summer months. Leadership training concludes in November as participants turn their attention to securing places on local Boards and using their new knowledge and skills to serve the community through their work with nonprofit organizations.

How to Apply

Applications for Project Blueprint are available at The Nonprofit Partnership office at 459 West 6th Street or can be downloaded from the Project Blueprint section of the homepage Partnership's website at www.thenonprofitpartnership.org. To request that an application be sent to you, please call the office at 454-8800. The application requests basic demographic information and has several short essay questions about your experience, your goals, your interests in service, and your perspectives on diversity. Applications are to be returned by March 6, 2009, and interviews will take place prior to a class being selected and the program starting during the week of March 30, 2009.

For More Information

Please contact us at (814) 454-8800 or blueprint@thenonprofitpartnership.org for more information.

