

THINKING OUTSIDE THE CHARTER FUNDING BOX:

Leveraging partnerships, programming, and creativity to secure grants.

Introduction

□ Moderator:

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National Alliance for Public Charter Schools

□ Panelists:

▣ John Bray

National Charter School Resource Center

▣ Irasema Salcido

Founder and CEO, Cesar Chavez Public Charter Schools for Public Policy

Chairperson of the DC Promise Neighborhood Initiative

Session Outline

- Brief overview of federal grants
- What grants are charters taking advantage of now
- What have they been missing out on?
- Cesar Chavez, a case study
- Q&A

Federal Grants: What is available?

John Bray

National Charter Resource Center

Leveraging Partnerships, programming, and creativity: Chavez Schools, A Case Study

Irasema Salcido

Founder and CEO, Cesar Chavez Public Charter
Schools for Public Policy

Chairperson, DC Promise Neighborhood Initiative

Federal Grants

- Grants vs. Cooperative Agreements:
 - ▣ Grants – a way to transfer funds from an agency to a recipient without significant involvement of the agency.
 - ▣ Cooperative Agreement/Partnership: a way to transfer funds to a recipient with significant involvement of the agency.
- Get registered! www.grants.gov if you aren't already signed up, get signed up. It is the only show in town!

Federal Grants

- Know your mission and vision
 - ▣ Know it in advance – THIS should drive your applications. Not the other way around!
- Always Be LOOKING
 - ▣ Grants.gov – RSS feed, Weekly update
 - ▣ Federal Register – get the table of contents emailed regularly
 - ▣ Stay informed – ESEA reauthorization, agency announcements, etc.
 - ▣ Read the fine print – always look at the applicant eligibility of grants that seem interesting. It might not have been intended for implementation in a school – but, your unique take on the subject may be the winning application.

Federal Grants

- Grant Writers and Managers
 - ▣ You NEED both.
 - ▣ You may find them in house, or hire them as needed.
 - Caution: If you use in house people – make sure they have the necessary skills and time. If you hire them as needed – make sure they understand your organization as well as someone who already works with you.
 - ▣ An excellently written grant will fail without an excellent manager to take over the helm.
 - ▣ An excellent grant manager will have nothing to do without an excellent writer bringing in the awards.

Federal Grants

□ Looking Ahead

▣ Capacity

- Make sure that you have the ability to actually implement the programs you are applying for in the manner in which you are proposing to implement them.

▣ Evaluation

- You will never know how well you are implementing your program if you aren't measuring it. Understanding how to measure the program, and which measurements will be most informative is vital to a successful program.

Q&A

Slides will be posted on the conference website.

Please contact Kristin Yochum @

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