

PRO BONO PROFESSIONALS

PUT YOUR EXPERIENCE TO WORK



**SOCIAL
PURPOSE
WORKS**

You've spent years building your skills—you can apply them to a social purpose project now. Combine elements of work, service and social impact for the greater good. All that experience and work ethic you're known for is appreciated by nonprofits.

Create Lasting Impact

Short term, high impact capacity projects that match your experience, interests, availability, and location.

Contribute your expertise in custom-designed projects of varying lengths.

Capacity projects come in all disciplines—marketing, finance, technology, human resources, strategic planning and more.

Learn and Grow

Not ready to retire? Explore and create change along the way while learning about nonprofits.

Join peers and network into a future of possibilities beyond classic work.

Nonprofits provide the “heart” of a possible second career—test drive the idea.

It's easy to get started.

Simply go to www.socialpurpose.works

1. **Browse** — projects ranging from a few hours to 500 hours.
2. **Join the Community** — create a profile by identifying your interests/experience and availability.
3. **Orientation** — complete a short one-time online video orientation that prepares you for the transition to a nonprofit assignment.
4. **Interview** — all placements require a one-time interview with SPW via phone, skype or in-person, to determine a fit for this type of “skill-based volunteerism”. If selected as a placement candidate, then interviews with the hosting nonprofit will be scheduled.
5. **Match** — based on the outcome of the interviews, a match can be made, if you and the host are in agreement. With the green light to start, you and the nonprofit will build a relationship to achieve project goals and deliverables.

FAQ

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What is capacity building?

We like this definition from the National Council of Nonprofits.

“Capacity building is whatever is needed to bring a nonprofit to the next level of operational, programmatic, financial, or organizational maturity, so it may more effectively and efficiently advance its mission into the future. Capacity building is not a one-time effort to improve short-term effectiveness, but a continuous improvement strategy toward the creation of a sustainable and effective organization”.

What is a pro bono professional?

Volunteers come in many stripes. Some want to provide direct service to programs or constituents. The professionally skilled volunteer wants to work on short term, high impact projects that leverage the career skills they’ve developed over a lifetime. They can tackle creating marketing materials; improving a financial report; revising HR policies; updating strategic plans...and more! They provide their expertise with no expectation of being financially compensated.

How are pro bono professionals vetted for project assignments?

We require applications, resumes, interviews, background checks (if required) and reference checks to qualify them for placement in projects. They also complete a required orientation that familiarizes them with nonprofits and what to expect when making the transition from corporate/business life to this new sector.

What capacity building projects are possible?

These broad categories of project topics are the starting point:

1. Accounting, Finance, & Operations
2. Strategic Planning
3. Marketing & PR
4. Technology (Software, Database, IT)
5. Fundraising & Development
6. Volunteer Engagement
7. Human Resources
8. Impact & Outcome

What paperwork is needed to join the community?

You’ll be completing and/or submitting these items online:

1. Registration form with your basic information—name, address, contact info, areas of expertise, desired project location, availability and references.
2. A Recruitment Applicant Terms and Conditions.
3. Background Check (if required).
4. Your resume.

What compensation is offered for a project?

A possible stipend could be offered by a nonprofit and we encourage them to do this but it is OPTIONAL. We understand that money can matter and provides a “skin-in-the-game” aspect that creates a value exchange, but we can’t guarantee they will provide a stipend for your project. Most nonprofits run very close to the edge of financial health so literally every dollar counts. Pro bono means for free but it doesn’t mean unimportant.

Who is the contact for questions about this service?

Please send an email to spw@socialpurpose.works. We’ll contact you promptly.

About Us

What is Metropolitan Family Service (MFS)?

A local nonprofit delivering social services to greater Portland and SW Washington citizens. MFS has been a part of the community since 1950. MFS programs support children, families, and older adults from all walks of life with most helping those who are facing cultural or economic barriers.

What is Social Purpose Works (SPW)?

Realizing that the biggest generation is moving toward retirement or pivoting to new careers, MFS started SPW to harness this incredible human resource; a generation (baby boomers) that wants to use their professional skills on small, short term projects and make a difference for nonprofits across the Portland Metro area.