

ENGAGING THE SECTOR IN THE STATE FISCAL CONVERSATION: *Talking Points for Nonprofit Leaders*

Solving Alaska's significant fiscal challenges call for:

- The state to adopt a **LONG-TERM FISCAL PLAN** that is comprehensive, promotes **STRONG RURAL AND URBAN COMMUNITIES**, and protects Alaska's most vulnerable populations, education, and cultural life
- Local governments to recognize the **VALUE OF THE NONPROFIT SECTOR IN COMMUNITIES** and the role it plays in streamlining services, saving resources and impacting change
- Nonprofits to effectively communicate the **POSITIVE IMPACT THEY HAVE** on the state's economy and the **COST SAVINGS THE SECTOR PROVIDES** to the state budget

Alaska's nonprofit sector is a critical part of the solution.

- **The nonprofit sector is a strong VOICE and PARTNER for FISCAL STABILITY.**
- **Alaska nonprofits are essential ingredients in growing a DIVERSIFIED, SUSTAINABLE, HEALTHY ECONOMY.**
 - Every state and local government dollar is **leveraged and multiplied** into philanthropic and earned income investments in the economy.
 - Alaska nonprofits contribute **\$6.5 billion** direct expenditures annually to the economy.
- **State and local government investment in the sector CREATES JOBS in every community in our state.**
 - Nonprofits create **63,000** direct, indirect, and induced jobs totaling **\$2.5 billion in wages/salaries.**
 - Nonprofit jobs represent **12% of the Alaska workforce** statewide and **more than 50%** in rural and remote rural communities throughout Alaska.

Alaska nonprofits deliver essential services effectively and efficiently.

- Our nonprofit sector is **effective** and **efficient**. Imposing new taxes and fees stifles philanthropy, creates administrative burdens and decreases service.
- We **save** the government valuable resources of time and money. Our values-based budgets maximize resources.
- We **partner** with government, business and other nonprofits to provide **essential services** and **leverage** every dollar – every day we model **effective collaboration**.
- Our collective purpose to serve the greater good has a **powerful economic impact**.
- The nonprofit sector is a **partner to government** in every Alaska community – that makes us a **critical part of the solution**.
- **Short-term cuts hinder long-term gains for our communities** – the long-term impact of each cut must be understood by the legislature before taking action.



A CALL TO ACTION

Ask nonprofit board and staff to do five things:

- 1 SHOW UP, STAND UP and verbally acknowledge** the financial and social benefit of the nonprofit sector in the economy. **Advocate against unfair taxation** that weakens nonprofit effectiveness. Highlight the benefits of the **nonprofit-public partnership**.
- 2 Understand and articulate, through sound fiscal data,** the multiplier effect of each dollar invested by the state and federal government into your organization
- 3 Carefully plan scenarios** your organization will utilize to maximize **systems change** given the economic cuts
- 4 Identify regulatory and policy changes** that will positively **leverage resources and increase effectiveness and efficiency**
- 5 Effectively tell your story** of creating cost savings for government while improving communities throughout Alaska

ENGAGING GOVERNMENT LEADERS IN THE STATE FISCAL CONVERSATION: *Talking Points for Nonprofit Leaders*

Alaska's significant fiscal challenges call for:

- The Governor and the Legislature to immediately develop a **LONG-TERM FISCAL PLAN** that is comprehensive, promotes **STRONG RURAL AND URBAN COMMUNITIES**, and protects Alaska's most vulnerable populations, education, and cultural life
- Legislators to recognize the **POSITIVE IMPACT OF THE NONPROFIT SECTOR** on the state's economy and the **COST SAVINGS THE SECTOR PROVIDES** to the state budget
- A fiscal plan that does not depend on a **SINGLE SECTOR TO SUSTAIN IT**, and that all options should be determined based on **FAIRNESS, EQUITY, AND ABILITY TO PAY**

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- The nonprofit sector is a strong **VOICE** and **PARTNER** for **FISCAL STABILITY**.
- Alaska nonprofits are **ESSENTIAL INGREDIENTS** in growing a **DIVERSIFIED, SUSTAINABLE, HEALTHY** economy.
 - Every state and local government dollar is **leveraged and multiplied** into philanthropic and earned income investments in the economy.
 - Alaska nonprofits contribute **\$6.5 billion** direct expenditures annually to the economy.
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- **Short-term cuts hinder long-term gains for our communities** – the long-term impact of each cut must be understood by the legislature before taking action.



A CALL TO ACTION

Ask local and state government leaders to do three things:

- 1 Verbally acknowledge the financial and social benefit of the **public – nonprofit partnership**
- 2 Understand, through **sound fiscal data**, the impact of cuts before they are suggested or implemented
- 3 Work with nonprofits as a **trusted** partner on solutions that **leverage resources** and **increase effectiveness and efficiency**