



who we are

theforakergroup



how we show up

We are committed to exemplifying the values we hold to be important in this work. These are the ways we are dedicated to showing up. These ideas are about our conscience, our convictions, and our fundamental commitments.

humble & gracious

In all things, we are committed to servant leadership, honoring the culture and character of each person while creating an environment where every voice is heard. We are committed to staying present to each person we meet.

mindful of the journey

In all things, we understand that people, organizations, and systems can change and evolve including us. We treat mistakes as opportunities to learn and grow.

truthful

In all things, we are committed to confronting the facts with a compassionate approach.

joyful

In all things, we make room for fun in our approach to our work.

what we believe

Our core values of Sustainability - Strategic - Collaborative - Urban/Rural/Native/Non-Native are the underpinning of every belief and the context to each decision. To that end, we find these core values in each idea that we are dedicated to living in our work.

The nonprofit sector is essential to our democracy.

Nonprofits bring people together to create change and are a voice for civil society.

Nonprofits are a part of everyday lives.

Alaskans rely on nonprofits every day to support our health and well-being, stand-up for causes that matter, bring people together, teach our young, care for our elderly, and so much more. Donors, volunteers, and staff of nonprofits improve our people, our pets, and our planet in both visible and invisible ways every day.

Successful leaders are supported leaders.

We need support from one another to achieve our greatest goals.

No organization can achieve their mission on their own.

It is only when we connect, convene, and collaborate to strengthen relationships that we achieve something greater than ourselves and any one institution.

Leaders make better decisions when they represent the communities they serve.

Decisions made with and within a community have the most impact.

Local leaders make things happen.

Community change is driven by local leaders; collectively they know best the needs and solutions for their community.

Strong nonprofits build strong communities.

When nonprofits work together within and across sectors they solve complex problems, create opportunities for quality of life and offer valuable networks and connections that strengthen our sense of place.

Vibrant economies need nonprofits.

Nonprofits contribute to the wealth and resources of each region in our state by creating jobs, leveraging resources, promoting philanthropic investments and engaging people in using their voice for the greater good.

the impact we want to achieve

Our Theory of Change articulates the way we work with organizations, their leaders, and the sector as a whole, as well as the outcomes we expect at various points of engagement. At the same time we are listening and soliciting feedback from our partners, funders and the sector to help us stay on track and achieve greater impact. Together, the sustainability model and the theory provide the basis for our accountability and assure that our programs and services remain dynamic and vital resources for the sector. To this effort, our work is in service to...

Leader Impact

Ensuring individuals are supported to learn, grow, and adapt to the current and evolving goals of their mission, cause, and sector (**Leader capability**)

Leaders share their knowledge and skills to enhance the effectiveness of their missions (**Leader connectedness**)

Organization Impact

Ensuring nonprofits apply the principles of Foraker's nonprofit sustainability model throughout the organization to maximize efficiency and effectiveness (**Organizational efficiency**) (**Organizational effectiveness**)

Sector Impact

Ensuring networks of nonprofits work together to address community issues and inform decisions at every level of society (**Collaboration impact**) (**Sector effectiveness**)

Community Impact

Ensuring multisector voices collaborate and advocate for priorities and opportunities that meet diverse community goals and advance equitable communities. (**philanthropic impact**) (**public policy effectiveness**)

the approach we take

We believe that every endeavor is guided by a set of commitments not just about the “why” and the “what,” but also the “how.” These are the ways we are committed to engaging in our work. This is our approach. These principles are inherent to everything we do.

Our work is characterized by...

Emphasizing relationships

Relationships come first. They are greater than a service, payment, or transaction. Relationships build trust, and trust is essential for this work.

Connecting people to people, mission to mission

Establishing a network and support is central to our practice. We all need support to achieve our goals and to support new behaviors to stick. We are here for the long haul to provide support in the way that works best for each person.

Applying research to practice

Data without knowledge and action is simply numbers. We are committed to discerning between facts and fads and applying trusted research to our work as we seek to learn, adapt and share what strengthens our sector

Learning hands-on (hold it to own it)

We create space to try out new ideas and concepts. In order to learn it, we believe YOU must “hold” it.

Acknowledging the uniqueness of every person, organization, and situation

Every mission, organization, and community has its own culture. Understanding the cultural context of our work is the essential framework that holds our purpose and goals together and moves us ahead.

Committing to both the journey and the destination

Our job is not to “do it for you” or “at you” or “to you” but to be with and alongside you as you work to achieve your mission.

Taking a strengths-based position

We have no judgment on where you should be; we are more interested in where you are now and where you want to go and using your strengths to overcome your challenges.

Engaging statewide and cross-sector

We are committed to growing the ecosystem that will find solutions, bridge the divides in Alaska, and strengthen the social fabric of Alaska.



what we do

As a leader, guide, champion, and supporter Foraker is a convener, catalyst, and connector. Each aspect of our work strengthens leaders, organizations, collaborations, and the sector through the following areas:

Education

We provide in-person and online opportunities for board, staff and volunteers to learn, share and connect as individuals, organizations and collaborative cohorts.

Consulting

We provide customized facilitation, planning, catalyzing conversations, and trainings to advance leaders, organizations, and collaborations.

Shared Services

We provide consolidated back-of-house services for nonprofits to maximize resources, ensure accountability, and clear the way to focus on mission results.

Public Policy

We provide opportunities for civic engagement by advancing the voice of the sector to positively impact nonprofits at the local, state, and federal level.

Fiscal Sponsorship

We provide fiscal sponsorships and capacity building services to incubate new ideas or projects or to grow collaboratives. Each step offers the opportunity to move from the preliminary stages of development, to the employment of staff, and to the stability that funders need to make initial investments.

Foraker Signature Programs include:

- Alaska Census Working Group
- Catalyst for Nonprofit Excellence
- Certificate in Nonprofit Management
- Executive Leadership Intensive
- Financial Shared Services
- Transitions: Prepare, Search, Thrive
- Sultana New Ventures

Our services meet you where you are. Check out more options on our website including:

- Board and staff development
- Fund development
- Marketing and communication
- Organizational culture
- Organizational planning
- Human resources
- Financial management
- Coaching and mentoring
- Local, state, federal policy and civic engagement
- Cohorts, networks and collaborations



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