

Training and learning opportunities

Social Media

- Facebook
- Twitter & Canva
- Cyber security

Fundraising

- Unrestricted funding
- Grants & Trusts
- Getting the most from Grantracker
- Successful funding applications
- Generating revenue – becoming a social enterprise

Governance

- Good governance for new Trustees
- Being an effective Chair
- Keeping the organisation on track
- Managing conflict

Engaging with government

- The Assembly explained
- Responding to a government consultation
- Learning to lobby

Reflecting on Practice

- Grounded | conversations
- Faith & Community Development



NICVA | Faith-based Engagement Programme

SOCIAL MEDIA TRAINING

#1: Faith & Social Media – Facebook

'The Covid-19 pandemic has meant that 'going digital' is no longer solely for the technically savvy. Many organisations have already taken the plunge, but where do you even begin if you've never engaged online before? With the huge range of digital platforms available, many charities with no digital specialists are feeling a bit adrift and fear falling behind. This webinar aims to prove that going digital isn't just for the big 'fish' smaller faith-based charities can find ways to innovate. As the biggest & most popular Social Media platform, can your group afford not to be on it?

This webinar will enable you to learn how to...

1. keep up with your supporters,
2. celebrate achievements,
3. post events, or other things that you are doing
4. deal with negative comments

Tuesday 23rd November 2021 and 17th February 2022

10.00 – 11.30am

#2: Faith & Social Media - Twitter, Instagram & Canva

Using other Social Media Platforms combining Twitter, Canva & Instagram,

Being on Social Media is essential for generating visibility and helping people find out what you do. But, how do you know which is better for what you need as a small faith-based charity? This webinar will help you navigate your way through each platform and signpost you to tools that can help make things easier.

This webinar will help you to achieve...

1. *Using Twitter and Instagram more effectively*
2. *Importance of Video on Social Media*
3. *Useful tools to help you*

Tuesday 30th November 2021 and 24th February 2022

10.00 – 11.30am

Cybersecurity

It is not only large companies and government agencies that fall victim to cyberattacks. Charities – even faith-based ones – can be targeted too. Common risks include: unauthorised access to a device, network or system, viruses or other malicious software that can collect, change or delete information and spread throughout a network and fake emails or websites set up to trick someone into revealing personal or sensitive information.

We're currently gauging interest in running a session on this topic, please email me lynda.gould@nicva.org if you are interested in this area.

FUNDRAISING

Faith in Fundraising (two sessions)

Many people need to fundraise for their church or faith group but don't know where to start. Faith in Fundraising is an introductory two part course for those new to fundraising which makes it a great introduction for people new to fundraising. We will examine where funding can come from, fundraising methods, how to build a case for support and funders who can support your group.

#1 Unrestricted Funding and Fundraising

Making sense of funding is crucial if charities and organisations are to be transparent about how donations will be used. So, the first workshop will look at how to raise donations that can be used for general funds and are not restricted to specific projects or outcomes.

Thursday 11th November 2021 with a rerun on Thursday 1st February 2022

#2 Restricted funding - Grants & Trusts

The second session will look at how to find appropriate grant making bodies and Trusts that might support specific projects or programmes that you might want to run. These kinds of funds are restricted and must be used for a specified purpose or to meet particular outcomes rather than go towards general costs.

Thursday 18th November 2021 with a rerun on Thursday 8th February 2022

Getting the most out of Grantracker

GrantTracker is NICVA's fundraising platform that can help you find funding schemes relevant to your projects. It can also keep you on top of deadline dates and co-ordinate your funding applications. GrantTracker was developed by NICVA 15 years ago and is continually improved to suit your needs, and this webinar will help you get the most from what it has to offer.

Tuesday 23rd November 2021 4.00 – 5.00pm

Successful funding applications

Finding the right funder, filling out the application properly and providing all the information required are the three key ingredients to a successful funding bid, but it is often not as easy as it seems. Many funding applications are unsuccessful - not because the funding body does not like the idea, but because the application is completed correctly, there are missing documents, or the idea simply does not clearly show how it meets the stated criteria. Writing a successful funding application is like a good recipe - it usually depends on a few key ingredients that are brought together well and this training will outline the proper preparation needed to get the ingredients in place and to ensure that your time is not wasted and hopefully increase your chances of grant success.

Thursday 13th January 2022

10.00 – 11.30am

Also in the pipeline...

Generating revenue: Becoming a Social enterprise & Developing a business plan

Many faith-based organisations are considering new sources of funding, particularly income generation as their means of sustaining their vision and mission. If you would be interested in a webinar on these topics above, would you email me lynda.gould@nicva.org

GOVERNANCE

Good Governance for new (or nearly new) Trustees

Good Governance is essential for an organisation to have direction, plan ahead, be effective and meet legal requirements. This training will develop and improve your governance knowledge to ensure that your organisation is governed and led effectively. This session is specifically designed for those who are newly elected/appointed onto the committee/board of a charitable organisation (charity trustees). It will also be of interest to those charity trustees (committee members/directors) who wish to understand more about their role on the committee/board and what is expected of them. The training will include: The role of the committee/board, legal duties of Trustees and best practice considerations, the principles of good governance and charity regulation.

Tuesday 5th October 2021

4.00-6.00pm

Being an Effective Chair

The role of the Chair can be a somewhat daunting role especially if you find yourself carrying it out unexpectedly. This session will examine the role of the chair, what makes a good chair, and achieving better meetings through effective chairing. In this session, we'll cover tips to help you think about how your trustee meetings could be more effective including setting an effective agenda, understanding roles, decision making and following up on key actions.

Tuesday 16th November 2021

4.00–5.30pm

Keeping the organisation on track

Good governance is central to ensuring that boards and committees of community groups are effective at leading the organisation they serve while also meeting their legal and compliance responsibilities. Using the principles of good governance as a checklist, can help your board or committee understand and discuss its performance.

Tuesday 18th January 2022

4.00-5.00pm

Managing conflict in meetings

Many of us have experienced tension and conflict in meetings. This can be exciting and energising, but it can also hurt the team's progress and morale. If you're in charge of a meeting and conflict occurs, what is your role? How do you restore peace? How can you assure that these conflicts don't harm your work? While you can't always prevent conflict in meetings, there are many things you can do to stop disagreements from damaging your team's wider goals. This webinar will show you how to set up a meeting to reduce the risk of conflict, reduce the negative impact of conflict and work out what to do when consensus isn't possible.

Thursday 28th October 2021

6.00 – 7.00pm

ENGAGING WITH GOVERNMENT

The Assembly Explained - understanding how the Assembly works & how to get involved (TBC)

Now more than ever our lives are being shaped by an institution many Northern Ireland citizens don't really understand. In the midst of the Coronavirus pandemic as laws change and government guidelines impact on everyday life, many faith communities are considering the relationship between faith and government. In light of this, an insight into how the Assembly works, is timely. The 'Assembly Explained' webinar is an informative online session about the ins-and-outs of the Northern Ireland Assembly which is aimed at those who want to gain greater understanding of the political process and how they can get involved. The topics covered during the session are:

- *Where to find out what your MLA is doing for your constituency*
- *Where to find out what has been happening about your issue at the Assembly*
- *Which laws can be made at the Northern Ireland Assembly*
- *What is the role of an Assembly Committee?*
- *How can I engage with a Committee?*
- *What happens during Plenary?*

There is also an opportunity to ask any questions you have in our live Q&A.

Learning to lobby

Faith based advocacy encompasses a wide range of efforts to shape public policy on faith-related issues, but it's not simply about advancing a cause, it's also about building long-term relationships with our elected officials, and each other. "We need to hear more from people of faith," - this is a message we are beginning to hear from elected officials who want to know that their constituents deeply care about moral concerns, such as peace, justice, the environment, health care and helping the poor and vulnerable. This training will consider what lobbying is and how to be effective at it!

25th January 2022

10.00 – 12.00pm

REFLECTING ON PRACTICE

Grounded| conversations

- An informal conversation over a cuppa
- An opportunity to ground a 'big idea' in practice
- A time to connect with others

're-imagining'...

7th October 2021

10.30 – 11.30am

COVID-19 has swept through the world like a tsunami wave infecting people regardless of religion, class, or wealth. Faith communities in Northern Ireland have been counting the cost – and what is certain is that the old ways of doing things have broken down under the pressure of lockdowns, the closure of places of worship, the practice of social distancing and the wearing of face coverings in worship and prayer. As restrictions ease new ways of doing things are beginning to break through, but many people in the faith sector aren't optimistic that this watershed moment in global history, has truly created a context for re-imagining faith, and in particular, faith-based community work. This Grounded conversation will hopefully let more light in as we imagine faith and a future living with covid.

For this conversation Mark Houston, will talk about '**re-imagining**' and what it might mean for faith-based community engagement. Mark has recently taken up a new role in the Link Family and Community Centre in Newtownards, but he has a long history leading faith group and managing community projects.

Faith and Community Development

Recently, there has been greater recognition and value given to the contributions of faith-based organisations in providing social services. Historically, these initiatives have been particularly prominent in providing food, clothing, and shelter to people in need. They are important to the cohesion of neighbourhoods and the development of local communities however many faith-based initiatives are inexperienced in the theory and practice of community development and often don't appreciate their unique role beyond simply sponsoring community projects. This training seeks to help faith-based community groups learn from community development theories, models and practice to better address needs in their community.

For more information contact Lynda

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Faith Engagement

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