



Michigan Nonprofit Association

Grantmakers-Grantseekers 2003

Meeting
June 10, 2003

No Board Action Required

Grantmakers-Grantseekers 2003 was held May 19 and 20 at Lansing Center. Long-time co-hosts, the Council of Michigan Foundations and Michigan Nonprofit Association, were pleased to welcome the Michigan Association for Evaluation as co-host of the 2003 conference. The theme of the conference, attended by over 640 individuals, was *Evaluating Impact – Delivering Results*.

The conference featured:

- 39 workshops related to non-profit management, fund development, public affairs or program evaluation;
- Two professional development sessions for evaluators;
- Talks by Governor Jennifer Granholm, actor and activist Mike Farrell and utilization-focused evaluation consultant Michael Quinn Patton;
- Panels on accountability and the future of grant making;
- Exhibits of products and services; and
- Opportunities to network with colleagues.

The generous support of sponsors made Grantmakers-Grantseekers 2003 possible. The ConnectMichigan Alliance was a Super Sponsor. V.I.P. Sponsors were Blue Cross Blue Shield of Michigan, DTE Energy Foundation, and Mutual of America. Associate Sponsors were Michigan Health and Hospital Association, Michigan State Housing Development Authority, National City Bank of MI/IL, Rehmann Group, and The Skillman Foundation.

Over please

Evaluations from participants have been compiled. Items receiving "good" or "excellent" from 75 percent or more of respondents included: opportunities to dialogue with peers; information you can use on the job; a variety of suitable topics for all participants; information not available at other trainings; proper length of sessions/timing of events; location of conference; registration process; Monday lunch with Mike Farrell; Tuesday lunch with Gov. Granholm, First Gentleman Dan Mulhern, Michael Quinn Patton and awards; Jennifer Greene evaluation seminar; Michael Quinn Patton evaluation seminar; and workshops overall. The item receiving less than 50 percent "excellent" or "good" was the Monday afternoon networking reception.

The conference planning committee has developed a list of "lessons learned" and ideas for future conferences, as has staff involved in the conference. These ideas will be applied to improving further on what is acknowledged to be Michigan's premier nonprofit conference.

Please mark your calendar now for Volunteerism SuperConference 2004 scheduled for May 24 and 25, 2004. The conference will take place in Grand Rapids at the Amway Grand Plaza Hotel and The Grand Center convention facility.