

STARTING A NONPROFIT

**TOP TIPS
FROM RON MILAM
CONSULTING**

1. Build your board of directors.

- Assemble a group of people who are passionate about your issue.
- Each person in the group should work well in teams and bring varied skills/experiences/networks that will assist the organization.
- This leadership group should decide the following items.

2. Decide the “big picture” of your organization. Whatever overall structure you decide on, it would be good to think about the following questions:

- What’s the overall mission for the organization?
- What’s the organization’s vision?
- What values will guide the organization?
- What are the organization’s key goals?

3. Clarify what you’re going to do. For the specific project or campaign, you may want to consider these questions:

- What’s the need or problem you are addressing?
- What’s your goal to address the problem?
- How will you go about making your goal reality? How long will it take? Who will do it? What will it look like?
- How will you measure whether or not this program makes a difference?
- How much will it cost?

4. Decide how will you fund it. Once you figure out all of these things, it will be a lot easier to raise money for the project. Once you’re ready to start fundraising, you should consider the following:

- Who might want to support this effort?
- How will you cultivate these funders?
- How/when will you solicit these funders?

5. Decide your legal structure.

- Become your own legal nonprofit.
- Go under the umbrella of an existing nonprofit.
- Go under the umbrella of a nonprofit incubator.

Ways in which Ron Milam can help:

- ✓ Ron is a skilled, certified Professional Facilitator and can work with your organization’s leadership to make important decisions.
- ✓ Ron is an experienced trainer and can build the capacity of your organization’s leadership.
- ✓ Ron is a supportive coach who successfully started his own nonprofit organization and can support your organization’s founder.

Ron Milam has over 14 years of experience facilitating meetings and developing leadership for over 50 organizations.

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