



Alliance

*for Strong Families
and Communities*

Engaging in Membership

The Alliance Value

- We, like you, are a mission-driven, human-serving nonprofit
- We will support specific commitments vital to your mission impact
- We will network you with others
- We will lead you to new knowledge
- We will deliver innovative solutions
- We will help transform the environment in which you pursue your mission

Mission and Vision...

To strengthen the capacities and influence of our national network of high-impact nonprofit human-serving organizations so that **together** we may pursue our vision of a healthy society and strong communities for all children, adults and families.

We Will...

- **Partner for Impact** - so that together we will increase the number of children, adults and families who are able to live healthy and productive lives, and realize their full potential as contributing members of their communities.
- **Achieve Influence** - by effectively amplifying the knowledge, expertise and unique value of our network and mobilizing them and the communities they serve so that they positively influence society.
- **Drive Innovation** - by being a go-to source for research and development in human services.

The Alliance's nearly 475 member organizations represent a significant force in the nonprofit human service sector. Collectively, they:

- Serve more than 4.6 million clients annually
- Operate with combined \$6.3 billion budget
- Employ approximately 138,300 full-time employees
- Operation in 2,200 locations
- Are governed by more than 8,600 board members
- Benefit from the good will of roughly 200,000 volunteers
- Receive generous support from approximately 296,000 individual donors

Alliance members provide an array of programs and services, including but not limited to:

- Child welfare
- Behavioral Health
- Older adult services
- Crisis management services
- Sexual abuse counseling
- In-home health care services
- Youth residential treatment
- Preschool through high school graduation education
- Domestic abuse counseling and shelters
- International and domestic adoption
- Credit counseling and financial literacy services
- Foster care and aging-out-of-foster care services
- Head Start and after-school programs
- Employee wellness programs and service
- Teen pregnancy counseling and prevention
- Civic engagement programs and training

Times of Disruptive Change

Our Environment...

- Increasing demand for best practices and policies
- Understanding and managing the complexities of rapidly changing sciences and technologies
- Child Welfare and Health Care Reform and its implications and opportunities
- Growing diversity and increasing older adult population
- Greater demand for transparency, engagement, and accountability
- Challenges to the social contract
- Contracting of government funding streams
- Nonprofit value proposition questioned
- Organizational capacities and our human capital are critical to high-performing organizations

The Commitments of High-Impact Nonprofits

A blueprint for achieving meaningful, lasting results in human-serving organizations.



LEADING WITH VISION



GOVERNING FOR THE FUTURE



MEASURING THAT MATTERS



PARTNERING WITH PURPOSE



EXECUTING ON MISSION



INVESTING IN CAPACITY



CO-CREATING WITH COMMUNITY



INNOVATING WITH ENTERPRISE



ENGAGING ALL VOICES



ADVANCING EQUITY

Visit alliance1.org/alliance/commitments-high-impact-organizations for more details.



Unique & Powerful Toolset

The toolset includes the following components:

- Partnering with Purpose** (Icon: Two hands shaking)
- Co-Creating with Community** (Icon: Buildings and people)
- Executing on Mission** (Icon: Document with checkmark)
- Investing in Capacity** (Icon: Bar chart with upward arrow)
- Governing for the Future** (Icon: Columns of a classical building)
- Measuring that Matters** (Icon: Ruler)
- Leading with Vision** (Icon: Mountains)
- Innovating with Enterprise** (Icon: Lightbulb)
- Engaging All Voices** (Icon: Three people silhouettes)
- Advancing Equity** (Icon: Scales of justice)

The central document, titled "Leading with Vision", contains the following text:

Leading with Vision
Please rate your organization on each of the following characteristics related to this Commitment. Refer to these definitions for key terms when completing this portion of the assessment.

Senior Leaders: Staff in an organization whose primary responsibility is in developing organizational strategy and culture.

Stakeholders: Individuals or families engaged with an organization and/or receiving services provided by an organization. Participants are referred to by some organizations as "clients" or "consumers."

Large-Scale Social Change Initiatives: Collaborative efforts that combine public agencies, nonprofits, and/or for-profit companies to find solutions for complex social problems such as poverty, health, or education reform.

Assets: Strengths, skills, resources, and characteristics of individuals or communities that can be accessed to achieve a goal.

1) Senior leaders have skills that enable them to work the different types of communities.
Power sharing is a practice promoted by the organization's senior leaders.
Senior leaders forecast future trends to identify strengths and opportunities.
4) Senior leaders will change initiatives if necessary and course even if the change is disruptive to the organization.
5) Participants are viewed as assets by the organization's senior leaders.

	Never	2	3	4	5	Always	Don't know
1) Senior leaders have skills that enable them to work the different types of communities.	<input type="radio"/>						
Power sharing is a practice promoted by the organization's senior leaders.	<input type="radio"/>						
Senior leaders forecast future trends to identify strengths and opportunities.	<input type="radio"/>						
4) Senior leaders will change initiatives if necessary and course even if the change is disruptive to the organization.	<input type="radio"/>						
5) Participants are viewed as assets by the organization's senior leaders.	<input type="radio"/>						

The Alliance Value

To propel our vision and generate the “resource” engine of high-performing, high-impact, nonprofit community-based organizations, we are:

- a highly effective network intermediary
- drivers and creators of knowledge
- a center for innovation, research and best practice replication
- a strong and effective voice for America’s nonprofit community-based sector and those they serve
- collaborating widely and partnering deeply



A Highly Effective Intermediary

Alliance Peer Exchange (APEX)

- Facilitated peer-to-peer networking among staff at member organizations
- Organized around various professional disciplines, program orientations or other areas of common interest
- Groups interact regularly via listserv conversations, teleconferences and in-person gatherings

Conferences and Member Gatherings

- Hosting a variety of annual conferences and one- or two-day, intensive workshops
- Providing valuable and current information focused around specialized hot-topics
- Meeting with network peers during Alliance staff travel



Drivers and Creators of Knowledge



Evaluation and Research

- Original research impacting the sector
- Capacity building through our PQI APEX
- Knowledge generation via surveys and informed reports

Families in Society: The Journal of Contemporary Social Services

- Oldest social work, peer-reviewed journals in North America
- Advancing a knowledge-into-practice continuum in social work scholarship

Center on Leadership

- Comprehensive, sector-specific offerings
- Real-world, interactive content delivered by top thought leaders
- Visionary Leadership Blog

Severson National Information Center

- Customized information services & accreditation support
- Digital collections containing sample policies, procedures, manuals, book summaries, full-text articles, and more available 24/7
 - EBSCOhost providing access to high-quality, reliable materials licensed from reputable publishers
 - DocuShare includes policies, procedures, self-studies, articles, reports, and more

Center for Engagement and Neighborhood Building

- Amplifying the values and approaches of authentic engagement
- Regional roundtable meetings
- Aramark Building Community
- Repository of engagement resources

Resource Development Solutions

- Fund Development APEX and Advisory Committee
- Fund Development Curriculum
- Public & private funding alerts and grant opportunities



Public Policy and Mobilization

- Policy issue education, advocacy and engagement
 - Tracking policy trends and sharing information
 - Member to policymaker liaison
 - Member and staff engagement on policy issues
- Raising the collective voice of the Network – Through mobilization, offer regular opportunities to raise awareness and influence issues impacting the sector.



Raising Awareness and Influencing the Sector

- **National Commission to Eliminate Child Abuse and Neglect Fatalities**
Susan N. Dreyfus, President and CEO, Alliance for Strong Families and Communities is appointed to the committee.
- **Child Welfare Finance Reform**
Working directly in partnership with The American Public Human Services Association (APHSA) and Communities, and the National Organization of State Associations for Children (NOSAC)
- **Consultation Services**
New York State and CTAC (Children's Technical Assistance Center) at NYU have contracted with the Alliance to help enhance provider readiness for managed care by hosting two, one-day summits (*Embracing Change Together: Partnering for Successful Child and Family Outcomes*) in June 2015.



Grant Funded Initiatives

- **Accelerating Brain Science Research** – The Alliance and the Norlien Foundation, with support from the Robert Wood Johnson Foundation, will be embarking in a two-country cohort of nonprofit/nongovernmental human-serving organizations.
- **Second Acts for Strong Communities** – Leveraging the time and experience of older adults.
- **Aramark Building Communities Academy** – Enhancing operational and program excellence in community health, wellness and employment.

Original Research

- The Center for Engagement and Neighborhood Building and three Alliance member organizations are part of a research team led by the University of Wisconsin-Madison that received a \$2.1 million contract from Patient-Centered Outcomes Research Institute (PCORI) for a three-year study.

FEI Behavioral Health - Workforce Resilience Provider

- Partners with local agencies to serve corporate needs
- Income helps Alliance deliver value keeping dues low
- Members receive discounts on EAP services and can get involved as a provider of technical expertise or marketing partner

What can we do
together to get
started?

What we ask of you:

- **Think of us and reach out**
- Give us timely feedback and suggestions for improvement
- Embed the Alliance overview orientation as an expectation of your senior leadership and support staff
- Come to events and form relationships with us and your colleagues
- Make sure we have your up-to-date organization and staff contact information
- Get your board engaged
- Use the Alliance logo on your site
- Be an Alliance Ambassador

Look for this button on the Alliance homepage!





Get Connected

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