

Catalyst Report Summary: 2016 - 2017

Overview

Catalyst is an action-learning program that helps nonprofits reach their fullest potential by providing them with tools that strengthen the organization's business model and case for funding.

Catalyst ran from July 2016 to January 2017, with eight organizations graduating from the program.

- Birthday Dreams
- Community and Parents for Public Schools
- Delridge Neighborhoods Development Association
- Low Income Housing Institute
- Music Center of the Northwest
- Nexus Youth and Families
- Puget Soundkeepers
- Southwest Youth and Family Services

Satisfaction

- **100%** of organizations agreed that Catalyst made a positive difference in their ability to accomplish their mission. (94% strongly agree, 6% somewhat agree)
- **100%** of organizations agreed that Catalyst will help them in reaching their fundraising goals. (88% strongly agree, 12% somewhat agree)
- **100%** of organizations agreed that they have a better understanding of fundraising now that they have worked with 501 Commons.
- **100%** of organizations would work with 501 Commons again if their organization have need in the future, and **100%** would recommend 501 Commons to other nonprofit organizations.

Impact

Community and Parents for Public Schools: "Our organization was able to take a new look at where we are in our development, based on the inputs of our consultants, the tasks in the program, and the examples and challenges of the others in our cohort. We are more ready to move forward!"

Low Income Housing Institute: "As a result of the 501 Commons consultant recommendations, LIHI is planning to expand the size and composition of our staff and board, and boost the organization and quality of our operations, to mold these into a more responsive fundraising machine."

Birthday Dreams: "The benefits go way beyond just the development aspect. We are using the steps that we learned in Catalyst and applying the same process to other areas of organization to create our strategic plan, which we have struggled with."

Nexus Youth and Families: “501 Commons gave us a game plan designed specifically for us, one that directs us to our desired goal. Now all we have do is work the plan. Success is waiting for us to catch it!”

Delridge Neighborhoods Development Association: “Participating in Catalyst brought our ED, Development Staff and involved Board onto the same page. Now, we all share a common vision and vocabulary around our organizational vision.”

Music Center of the Northwest: “Getting a chance to participate in Catalyst not only increased our 'toolbox' for fundraising success, it also showed the high value in planning both short and long term to achieve it.”

SW Youth and Family Services: “The Catalyst program and specifically our wonderful consultants worked with us as partners to create actionable and achievable steps toward our overall development needs as an organization. “

Puget Soundkeepers: “Through going through the Catalyst program, our nonprofit was able to map out our fundraising and budget plan for three years. This is a valuable first step in meeting our goals as outlined in our Strategic Plan.”

Testimonials

Watch a board member from Nexus Youth & Families talk about how the Catalyst program taught his organization how to better fundraise and brand themselves.

(<https://youtu.be/bt1bFnT6cZw>)