

December 2024



**Mark your Calendars
and Watch our
Website!**

**REMAX Grant
Applications**

Applications for Grants

Open: January 1, 2025
Deadline: January 31st, 2025

**Nominations for
Philanthropist of
the Year Awards**

Nominations for Philanthropist
of the Year Awards

Open: January 1, 2025
Deadline: January 31st, 2025



News and Updates

**A Nonprofit Directory
is now on our website!**

Use this comprehensive list of
local orgs as a reference,
link it to your website and
share it with others.

[www.s-caf.org/nonprofit-
directory](http://www.s-caf.org/nonprofit-directory)

Email Natalie with any edits



Nonprofit Newsletter

***Celebrating Leadership: Building a Resilient Foundation for
Nonprofit Leaders by Julie Vess***

As nonprofit leaders, it's easy to put the needs of your organization ahead of your well-being. The end of the year is the perfect time to pause, reflect, and refocus on priorities that enhance both personal and organizational sustainability.

1. Value Yourself as a Leader

You are the cornerstone of your organization's success. Recognize the significance of your work and the unique skills you bring to the table. When doubt creeps in—often in the form of imposter syndrome—remember that your passion and perseverance are as important as expertise. Seek mentorship, celebrate your growth, and don't shy away from acknowledging your achievements.

2. Prioritize Life-Work Balance

The mission can't thrive if you're burnt out. Set boundaries that protect your personal time. A healthy balance isn't a luxury; it's a necessity for long-term impact. Encourage your team to do the same, modelling resilience as part of the organizational culture.

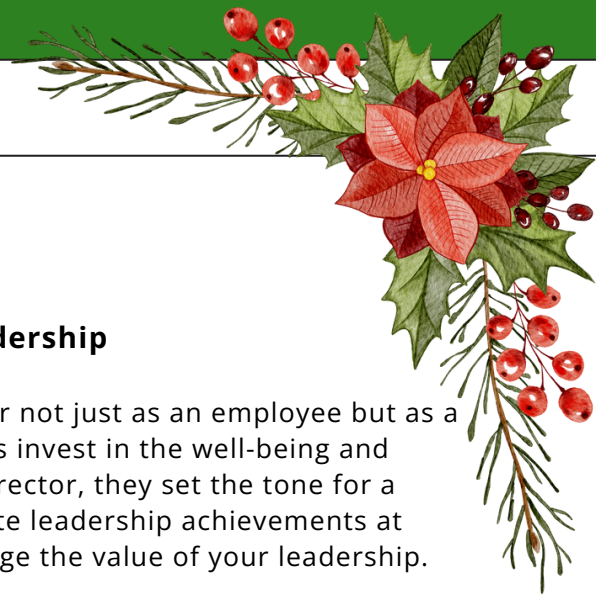
3. Strengthen Board-Executive Relationships

Your board's role includes supporting you as an Executive Director. Foster open communication to ensure they understand the challenges you face and the wins you achieve. Advocate for policies that prioritize your professional development, fair compensation, and regular performance evaluations to align expectations.

Article Continued on next page...

www.s-caf.org
360-629-6878

Stanwood-Camano Area Foundation
26911 98th Dr NW, Ste A
PO Box 1209
Stanwood, WA 98292



Save the Date and Upcoming Events

Volunteer Fair

Saturday,
February 15, 2025
10 am - Noon
in the Utsalady Elementary
School gym

Deadline for Booth Reservations is January 15th.

Applications can be found at: www.s-caf.org

Workshop

Volunteer Engagement
Panel Discussion
Friday, January 24, 9am-11am
Register Now

Coffee Chat for Nonprofit Leaders

This monthly networking meeting has been CHANGED to the 3rd Friday of the month, 2:00-3:30 pm, starting January 17, 2025

Article Continued...

4. Encourage Boards to Value Leadership

Boards must view the Executive Director not just as an employee but as a strategic partner. When board members invest in the well-being and professional growth of the Executive Director, they set the tone for a thriving organization. Regularly celebrate leadership achievements at board meetings and publicly acknowledge the value of your leadership.

5. Celebrate Wins—Big and Small

As the year wraps up, take time to celebrate. Host an all-staff meeting to reflect on milestones. Create space for individual and team recognition, and don't forget to include your accomplishments. These celebrations energize teams and set the stage for the year ahead.

The nonprofit sector relies on leaders like you. By valuing yourself, fostering supportive relationships, and celebrating progress, you can end the year with gratitude and begin the next with renewed purpose.

Your leadership matters—take time to honor it.

*"It's supposed to be hard.
If it wasn't hard, everyone would do it.
The hard is what makes it great."
Tom Hanks, A League of Their Own*

