

## Additional Resources/Links

### Before Starting a Nonprofit

- *Get Ready Get Set: What you need to know before starting a nonprofit:*  
<http://www.austincc.edu/npo/resources/docs/GetReadyGetSet.pdf>
- Starting a Nonprofit Organization:  
[http://www.managementhelp.org/strt\\_org/strt\\_np/strt\\_np.htm#anchor1198278](http://www.managementhelp.org/strt_org/strt_np/strt_np.htm#anchor1198278)
- Before Your Start a Non-Profit: Clear Thinking about Starting a Nonprofit  
[http://nonprofitmanagement.suite101.com/article.cfm/before\\_you\\_start\\_a\\_nonprofit](http://nonprofitmanagement.suite101.com/article.cfm/before_you_start_a_nonprofit)
- Before Your Start a Nonprofit: The Essential Steps:  
<http://nonprofit.about.com/od/nonprofitbasics/bb/beforenonprofit.htm>
- Questions to ask Before Starting a Nonprofit:  
<http://nonprofit.about.com/od/nonprofitbasics/a/questionsbefore.htm>
- Issues to Consider Before Starting a Nonprofit:  
<http://www.delawarenonprofit.org/infocentral/startup1.php>

### Ideas to explore before starting a nonprofit:

1. Study the list of nonprofits already active in the same area and explore ways to join their efforts as a volunteer, a board member or staff.
2. Analyze the list of nonprofits already active in the same area, identify the three most compatible with your ideas, and meet with them to explore creating a special project or initiative -- and negotiate your involvement.
3. Explore the list of national organizations in the area of your interest, and see if a local chapter is needed in your geographic area.
4. If you are considering creation of a group to finance activities or needs of others (scholarships, family emergency funds for a specific population, etc.), explore sponsorship of the fund by a community foundation or other organization.

Source: Jon Pratt, Executive Director, [Minnesota Council of Nonprofits](#).

### Is a starting new nonprofit really the best way to proceed?

There are nearly 3 million non-profit organizations out there. Chances are, someone somewhere is already doing your idea. Instead of going through the time and expense to start up a new organization, and instead of competing for limited funds, you might be better off partnering with an existing non-profit. You can volunteer, become a board member, or even work for the organization. You can start a local chapter of a national effort. Or if an organization is doing something related to what you envision, you can see if there is room to grow under its umbrella. If you truly care about your mission, you will not start a non-profit as a vanity project, but because it is truly needed.

Source: Suite101.com

[http://nonprofitmanagement.suite101.com/article.cfm/before\\_you\\_start\\_a\\_nonprofit](http://nonprofitmanagement.suite101.com/article.cfm/before_you_start_a_nonprofit)

## **Starting a Nonprofit**

- Texas Sec. of State – Apply for Nonprofit Incorporation in the state of Texas  
<http://www.sos.state.tx.us/corp/nonprofitfaq.shtml>
- IRS – Apply for exemption from federal taxes  
<http://www.irs.gov/charities/content/0,,id=96986,00.html>
- Texas Comptroller – Apply for exemption from state taxes:  
<http://www.window.state.tx.us/taxinfo/exempt/exemptfaq.html>
- CNM Starting a Nonprofit class:  
<http://my.cnmdallas.org/source/Meetings/cSeminarList.cfm>
- Dallas Library – Starting a Nonprofit in Dallas:  
<http://dallaslibrary.org/cgi/nonprofit.htm>