



Lake County Causes Get NICE Boost

The National Institute for Civic Enterprise(NICE) is sponsoring a fundraiser, “Cash in Abundance”, to help Lake County human service nonprofits. The event will be held Thursday, November 11, from 6:30-9:30 p.m. at the Eustis Community Center’s Lakeview Room. Donations will go to pay for fundraising experts to train Lake County's overburdened nonprofit staffs in a tight donor economy.

Eustis, FL ([PRWEB](#)) October 29, 2010 -- The National Institute for Civic Enterprise(NICE) is sponsoring a fundraising event, “Cash in Abundance”, to help Lake County human service nonprofits. The event will be held on Thursday, November 11, from 6:30-9:30 p.m. at the Eustis Community Center’s Lakeview Room. Donors are asked to bring scrap gold, silver items, platinum and gem jewelry for appraisal. Those who donate their items will receive 50% of the appraised value in cash. The remaining 50% will be donated to NICE and to cover the appraisal fees.

NICE, also known as NICE Network, is designating the event's proceeds to pay for a much-needed Lake County nonprofit fundraising conference. “Most nonprofits in Lake County can’t afford to pay for outside fundraising expertise,” stated Debra Berg, the director and founder. Berg maintains that strained nonprofit budgets and staffs, impacted by falling donations and higher client demand, also cuts into the time necessary for them to update their fundraising strategies and cover financial deficits. “It’s a catch-22 situation that we don’t often appreciate,” she added. NICE will host the free, one-day training event in 2011 as part of its overall mission to support innovative human service nonprofits across America.

Berg became aware of the training need in Lake County after moving there in 2007. “I learned that there was once a coordinated effort to bring nonprofit trainers to this area, but over time that effort died out,” Berg stated. “We want to recruit experts to train time-pressed staffs and do it all in one day,” she added. The date of the one-day symposium next year is still pending but will feature trainers from Florida universities and other experts on topics such as social media fundraising, foundation grants, and sustainability strategies. Berg, also an author and nonprofit marketing expert, will give a copy of her bestselling book, *Living in Abundance*, to each person who donates at the November event.

Republic Refinery and 3rd Generation Antiques, the appraisers for the fundraiser, will offer the highest possible gold appraisal and will assume a small 10% fee based on the appraised value of donated items. The NICE Network founder has been encouraged by the business community’s support for the event. “Business owners realize that when they support causes which bring self-reliance to the jobless and needy, it ultimately helps the local economy, too,” Berg added.

The National Institute for Civic Enterprise (NICE), established in 2007, is a nonprofit project of Circle of Nations/dba Homes That Change Lives, a registered 501c3 nonprofit. The mission of the NICE Network project is to connect, empower, and foster the replication of innovative human service nonprofit initiatives that bring self-reliance to the disadvantaged and transitional in America. NICE is headquartered in Eustis, Florida and offers training services in the areas of nonprofit marketing and visibility for human service causes throughout Central Florida. www.NICENetwork.org

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