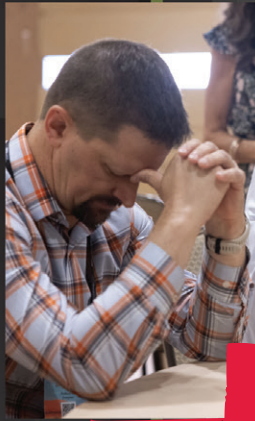


# LOVE for

# LOVE

1 John 4:21



**The command we have from Christ is blunt:  
Loving God includes loving people. You've got to love both.**  
1 JOHN 4:21 (MSG)



**CITYGATE™**  
NETWORK

**JUNE 9 — 12, 2026**  
**Citygate Network**  
**Annual Conference & Exposition**



# **RKD Group: Serving the Mission DAILY**



Through our partnership, you get a dedicated team of nonprofit experts who create and execute innovative programs that successfully connect your organization with donors and make the world more **humane, just and compassionate.**



For more information, contact Dawn Beall:  
[dbeall@rkdgroup.com](mailto:dbeall@rkdgroup.com)






# ABBREVIATED SCHEDULE

*at-a-glance*

This schedule-at-a-glance offers a snapshot of key moments throughout the week. For the full conference experience—including detailed descriptions and locations—refer to the Complete Schedule beginning on page 20.








## JUNE 8 Monday

- 2:00 p.m. — 4:30 p.m. District Leadership Event 
- 3:00 p.m. — 5:00 p.m. MissionTracker—Tracking Transformation
- 5:30 p.m. — 7:30 p.m. Leadership Dinner  




Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Cell Number: \_\_\_\_\_



## JUNE 9 Tuesday

- 7:45 a.m. — 8:45 a.m. New CEO & Regional Coordinator Breakfast  
- 9:00 a.m. — 11:00 a.m. Pre-conference Intensives 
  - HUD/HHS Policy Engagement
  - Thrift Stores: A Rising Opportunity
  - Caring Well in High-Stress Ministry: De-escalation and Staff Resilience
- 9:30 a.m. — 1:15 p.m. Mel Trotter Ministries Tour  
- 10:45 a.m. — 11:30 a.m. All Things New Welcome Party
- 2:00 p.m. — 3:00 p.m. **Conference Kick-Off:** Community Block Party & Exhibit Hall Grand Opening
- 3:15 p.m. — 4:30 p.m. Track Seminars Group I
- 5:30 p.m. — 7:30 p.m. General Session and Dinner, Jo Saxton 
- 7:45 p.m. — 9:00 p.m. Exhibit Hall Open with Dessert 



## JUNE 10 Wednesday

- 7:45 a.m. — 9:00 a.m. Exhibit Hall Open with Breakfast 
- 8:30 a.m. — 9:00 a.m. Morning Devotions with Our Daily Bread Ministries
- 9:15 a.m. — 10:30 a.m. Track Seminars Group 2
- 11:00 a.m. — 1:00 p.m. General Session with Lunch, Tom De Vries 
- 1:00 p.m. — 2:45 p.m. Exhibit Hall Open with Dessert 
- 2:00 p.m. — 2:45 p.m. Network Group Connection
- 3:00 p.m. — 4:30 p.m. Afternoon General Session, Jeff Manion

## JUNE 11 Thursday

- 7:45 a.m. — 9:00 a.m. Exhibit Hall Open with Coffee
- 8:30 a.m. — 9:00 a.m. Morning Devotions with Our Daily Bread Ministries
- 9:15 a.m. — 10:30 a.m. Track Seminars Group 3
- 11:00 a.m. — 12:30 p.m. Plenary Session
- 12:30 p.m. — 2:00 p.m. Exhibit Hall Open with Lunch 
- 2:15 p.m. — 3:30 p.m. Track Seminars Group 4
- 5:30 p.m. — 7:30 p.m. General Session and Dinner, Kat Armstrong 

## JUNE 12 Friday

- 7:30 a.m. — 8:00 a.m. Morning Devotions with Our Daily Bread Ministries
- 8:30 a.m. — 9:45 a.m. Super Seminars
- 10:15 a.m. — 11:45 a.m. Morning General Session, Eugene Cho
- 12:30 p.m. — 4:00 p.m. Mel Trotter Ministries Tour  

ALL for LOVE  
1 John 4:7-11



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 Food and/or beverage included    Additional cost    By invitation only



MASTERWORKS

# *Reimagine Fundraising*

*The gospel hasn't changed.  
Donor behavior has.*

We help ministries grow generosity with:

- Digital & direct mail built for today.
- Brand & data strategies that actually connect.
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- Custom work. Absolutely zero templates.



Learn more at  
[masterworks.agency/citygate](https://masterworks.agency/citygate)

# Welcome to GRAND RAPIDS!



As we gather along the banks of the Grand River, we have an incredible opportunity to connect with old friends and ministry colleagues, learn about new and effective ways to help and serve those we minister to, and experience encouragement and inspiration as we worship and support each other.

*All for Love*, our 2026 conference theme, draws its focus from **1 JOHN 4:21** (MSG):

***The command we have from Christ is blunt:  
Loving God includes loving people. You've got to love both.***

We're reminded that as followers of Christ, love is not optional—but foundational. When I talk with leaders throughout our movement, I'm impressed and encouraged by the deep love that drives and inspires us to do what we do in ministry. Again and again, I hear about a call to serve, rooted in love for God and love for others, especially those who are hurting and helpless, vulnerable and marginalized.

The apostle Paul goes even further, stating: *"the love of Christ compels us,"* (2 Corinthians 5:14). Love is our why. We cannot separate our love for God from our love for people. If we say we love God, we must also love others—and not just with words, but with action. We do not merely communicate love—we demonstrate it.

My prayer for you this week is that you will once again discover the deep love that God has for you. I pray that out of that intimate understanding, your love for God will deepen and motivate you to love those God has called you to serve in fresh ways.

Our Citygate Network team stands ready to help and support you in making this experience especially meaningful and purposeful. Please do not hesitate to reach out for assistance in any way—see page 51 for contact information. Citygate Network exists to equip and empower you as you reach out to touch more lives with God's love!



All for Love,



Tom De Vries  
President/CEO



# You Have the Heart. Do You Have the Plan?



**“72 new donor meetings and \$1.2M raised in 6 months. Fit helped us put systems in place to better monitor our fundraising.”**

**Bruce Butler, CEO | UGM Dallas**

Fit Fundraising helps nonprofit leaders build systems that drive sustainable revenue growth.

We work directly with CEOs, boards, and development teams to:

- Build a clear, repeatable major gifts system
- Identify and prioritize donors with real capacity
- Focus your team on the activity that drives revenue

**Not more activity. The right activity.**

**Stop relying on grants, events, or unpredictable channels to hit your goals.**



## **Fundraising Strategy & Counsel**

Align leadership and build a clear plan focused on long-term growth.



## **Major Donor Growth Systems**

Create disciplined systems that increase productivity and results.



## **Campaign & Revenue Initiatives**

Design and execute campaigns that engage donors and drive measurable outcomes.



## **Coaching & Team Development**

Equip your team with the structure and accountability needed to succeed.

**Scan the QR code for a Free 2-Hour Strategy Session**

Walk away with clear next steps, identified gaps, and a focused path to growth

# Greetings

## TO MY CITYGATE NETWORK FAMILY

Thanks to our membership, we can stand here, shoulder to shoulder with fellow servants from ministries all across North America who share the same calling—to offer life transformation in the name of Jesus Christ.

As board chair, I regularly hear stories of the incredible work happening in our communities every day. How remarkable to consider that while many of our organizations have existed for over a century, the frontier still stretches out ahead. Innovation thrives all around us. We reach more people than ever. We develop impactful programs. We disciple to deepen life transformation. We build facilities that meet needs. And we do it all to glorify God.

This year, we look at the legacy created by our Grand Rapids host mission, Mel Trotter Ministries. What an inspiration to see how their ministry expansion and workforce development programs demonstrate what is possible when mission and innovation intersect.

Our annual conference provides another asset I truly value: our business partners! While these organizations gather with us to provide resources and services we need, they also share our passion for life transformation. They co-labor alongside us.

No matter what brought you to this year's conference, I pray that you will experience the presence of God in a profound and personal way. I have no doubt that He will dwell in our midst this week.

I am grateful for what you contribute to this Kingdom movement and thankful for the opportunity to make a difference together.



Matt Dildine  
Board Chair

### Citygate Network Board

**Carlos Baldovinos**  
At-Large Representative

**Bruce Butler**  
Rawhide District Representative

**Donovan Coley**  
History & Continuity Committee

**Eric Burger**  
At-Large Representative

**Eric Lane**  
Great Lakes District Representative

**Jack Crowley**  
History & Continuity Committee

**Jerrel Gilliam**  
Liberty District Representative

**Keith Overholt**  
Deep South District Representative

**Lisa Chastain**  
At-Large Representative

**Matt Dildine**  
Sierra District Representative

**Nicole Frazier**  
Board-Elected Representative

**Pam Stegora-Axberg**  
Heartland District Representative

**Dean Kurpejeweit**  
Northern Lights District Representative

**Ryan Duerk**  
Bluegrass District Representative

**Sheryl Balthrop**  
Evergreen District Representative

**Steve Haas**  
Board-Elected Representative

**Bob Nykamp**  
Board-Elected Representative



# Ready to raise more? DonorPerfect can do that.

Rescue missions like yours raise **32% more funds** in their first year with DonorPerfect. Our software is designed to fit your needs, from rescue to recovery and outreach.

**No matter the goal, we're here to support your growth:**

- Sync donor information to multichannel fundraising campaigns
- Boost participation with 31% higher email open rates
- Create branded, impact-driven donation forms that build trust
- Deliver results with custom reporting and real-time dashboards

## Emergency Housing Fund



# \$54,875

108%

\$50,000

58 gifts from 110 donors

38 new donors to the organization

**"DonorPerfect allows us to use our information in a smarter way. There's so much it can do—it's exactly what we needed to take the next step to grow."**

**– Caitlin M., Bringing Hope Home**

## See the DonorPerfect difference

Join 75,000 fundraisers worldwide—schedule your free demonstration today.



**SCHEDULE NOW**

[www.donorperfect.com/demos](http://www.donorperfect.com/demos)





Whether this is your first conference or you're a seasoned attendee, these insider tips will help you make the most of every moment—and feel right at home from the start.

### Your Name Badge

Your name badge isn't just an accessory—it's your all-access pass. Wear it at all times for entry to general sessions, seminars, meals, the Exhibit Hall, and tours. And keep an eye out for apple stickers—those mark first-time attendees. Be sure to offer a warm welcome and help them feel part of the community!

### Plan Your Experience

We've designed a full, rich schedule—but you don't have to do it all. Choose sessions and moments that best align with your role, your goals, and what God is stirring in you. While you won't want to miss the general sessions, we've also built in intentional breaks for rest, connection, and reflection.

### Meaningful Connections in the Exhibit Hall

The Exhibit Hall is more than a space—it's where connection comes to life. Engage with business partners, swap ideas with peers, and discover solutions to strengthen your ministry. With meals hosted here, you'll have multiple opportunities to connect throughout the week. Kick things off Tuesday from 2:00 — 3:00 p.m. with a fun, interactive experience—complete with games, prizes, and plenty of energy to get the week started.

### Stay Connected with the Conference App

With over 90% of attendees using it, Whova is your go-to tool for the conference. Customize your schedule, receive real-time updates, connect with others, share photos, and rate sessions—all in one place. See page 11 for setup instructions.

### Don't Miss the Welcome Party

If this is your first time, the All Things New Welcome Party is the perfect place to start. Join us Tuesday morning at 10:45 a.m. for a high-energy kickoff designed to help you navigate the conference, meet others, and step in with confidence. See the Complete Schedule on page 20 for details.

### Space for Prayer

Because we believe everything we do is rooted in prayer, dedicated times and spaces are available throughout the conference for you to receive prayer. Our prayer team is honored to stand with you—check page 15 for times and location.

### Just in Case...

We know you'll keep track of your program—but just in case, jot your name and phone number inside the front cover. If it takes a detour, we'll help it find its way back to you.

### Enjoy the Experience

This week is designed to equip, encourage, and renew you. Step away from the daily demands, lean into what God is doing, and allow yourself to be refreshed. Our prayer is that you return home with renewed hope, fresh vision, meaningful connections—and the strength to continue this vital work.



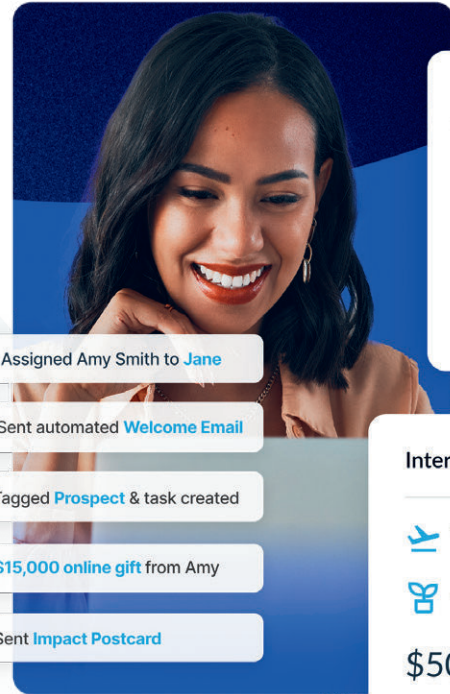


# The future of fundraising is here, and it's *personal.*

Today's donors expect **personal connections and experiences** with the causes they support. But most nonprofits are handcuffed by outdated, disconnected tools that weren't built for modern fundraising.

**Responsive Fundraising** is the playbook for nonprofits ready to break free from one-size-fits-all strategies. By **listening** to donors, **connecting** with them, **suggesting** next steps, and **learning** from data, you can drive donor loyalty, increase retention, and grow giving.

As the only **AI-powered Responsive Fundraising Platform**, Virtuous offers an integrated suite of enterprise-grade software built to connect personally with every donor, automate time-consuming workflows, and turn data into action.



**Top Prospect Discovered!**

**Amy Smith**  
Prospect

[Draft Email with AI](#)

---

**Interests & Capacity**

- Travel
- Gardening

**\$50,000** **91**

SUGGESTED ASK      CAPACITY SCORE



**Powered by AI**

## Unlimited Fundraising Possibilities. One integrated suite.

**Fundraising doesn't need to feel hard.** Remove data silos, connect personally with donors, and automate menial work with the platform designed to accelerate modern fundraising teams.

### Trusted by Thousands of Nonprofits



*"Virtuous truly understands nonprofits and the importance of our mission. And their open access to data and built-in custom reports gave us access to the data we need."*

**Todd Shinabarger**  
Chief Information Officer

# CONFERENCE APP

*go digital*

## WITH WHOVA

Prefer to go paperless? Download the Whova app on your Apple or Android device to access everything you need—right at your fingertips. Instructions were sent via email prior to the conference, but if you're just getting started now, simply scan the QR code to begin.



## SHARE THE EXPERIENCE

Capture and share what you're experiencing throughout the week! Upload photos directly in the app—some may even be featured on the big screen during sessions.

Be sure to use hashtags:

#CitygateNetwork

#AllForLove

#2026AnnualConferenceCN

And tag us on social media:

@CitygateNetwork.official

See the top of page 14 for a fun, interactive challenge you won't want to miss! There may even be a few surprises for those who participate...

Once you're logged in, take a few minutes to explore. You'll be able to:

- View the full agenda and build your personalized schedule
- Connect with other attendees through chat and direct messages
- Engage in conversations on the community board
- Join virtual meetups
- Explore exhibitor pages, including offers and resources
- Rate seminars (we truly value your feedback!)
- Take notes to capture key insights
- Exchange contact information using your personal QR code
- Share photos and highlights from your conference experience

*pro tip:*

Your personal QR code, used for sharing your contact information with other attendees or exhibitors, can be accessed by tapping your profile photo in the upper left corner of the app—or by using the QR code printed on your badge.

### Need Help?

Stop by Registration for assistance at any time. Our resident Whova expert, Sarah, is onsite and happy to help. You can email her at [srieger@citygatenetwork.org](mailto:srieger@citygatenetwork.org) or send her a text at (719) 359-6122, if needed!

**Media Notice** By attending Citygate Network's Annual Conference & Exposition and related events, you consent to being photographed, filmed, and/or recorded. These materials may be used by Citygate Network for promotional and communication purposes, now and in the future. We seek to use these materials with care and respect; however, due to the nature of a large event, we are unable to guarantee exclusion from general photography or video capture.

# Do Good Louder.



**Imagine the power of your story reaching and inspiring more donors.**

At Louder, we create strategic websites and compelling campaigns that amplify your impact, turning every appeal into a movement for change.

**Louder**

[louderagency.com/citygate](http://louderagency.com/citygate)





## Welcome to Grand Rapids!

Ranked among America's top towns to visit, Grand Rapids offers a vibrant mix of arts, family-friendly recreation, and nationally recognized dining—all set along a scenic river and just a short drive from the shores of Lake Michigan, making it a destination for many.

No matter the activity, you can probably find it in Grand Rapids. Traditional museums include the **Gerald R. Ford Presidential Museum** right across the river from our venue, or you can venture farther afield to find others devoted to aerospace, automobiles, and naval history, just to name a few. Nearby historic sites, nature centers, and zoos offer museum experiences without walls, or perhaps you would enjoy touring the nearby farms, fruit orchards, or beautiful parks located throughout the area.

With hundreds of miles of hiking and biking trails, you could explore the area under the summer sun. Or you might opt to paddle the Grand River or lounge on the beach at one of the 50+ lakes just outside the city center. Culture buffs will enjoy the city's creative spirit, including outdoor murals, statues, and art pieces displayed throughout the city. Or you might choose to visit the must-see, 158-acre **Frederik Meijer Gardens & Sculpture Park**, or the **Heritage Hill Historic District** with more than 1,000 buildings dating back to 1844.

### Local Eats

Foodies will appreciate the Grand Rapids dining scene, including the Italian coastal, seafood-forward menu at **Allora**, or **The Heritage Restaurant**, staffed by culinary students. **The Butcher's Union** features a meat-heavy menu of globally inspired fare, while **Jdek** touts its year-round patio serving seasonal dishes riverside, and **Portico** offers made-from-scratch cuisine using locally sourced ingredients. You can easily walk to all these restaurants within a half mile of the DeVos Place.

The **Grand Rapids Downtown Market** offers another fun food activity with 20 artisan food vendors and restaurants under one roof. Open seven days a week, the facility features indoor and outdoor seating and brings together the best in small business and food entrepreneurship in an award-winning venue space.

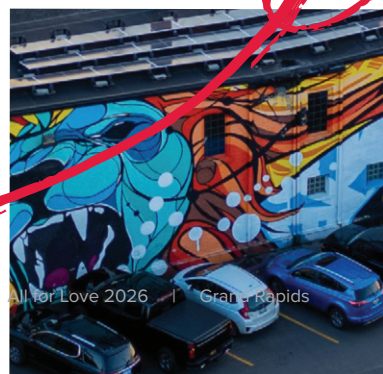
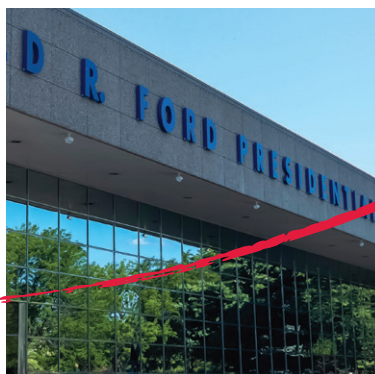
Summer means peak food truck season, and in Grand Rapids you'll find plenty of options to choose from. Check out **El Caribe** serving delectable Caribbean food, **Saladino Smoke** making authentic pit-style BBQ smoked over locally grown oak, cherry, apple and mesquite woods, or **Arcane Pizza** made with a hand-crafted sourdough crust.

### Getting Around

Grand Rapids offers a variety of transportation options for getting around, and its walkable downtown makes it easy to navigate and explore on foot.

- The **Downtown Area Shuttle (DASH)** runs a continuous route and passes every stop every 15 minutes between 7:00 a.m. — 12:00 a.m. Monday — Friday, 11:00 a.m. — 1:00 a.m. Saturday, and 11:00 a.m. — 5:00 p.m. Sunday. No ticket or pass is required, just board the bright pink bus at any of the 23 stops marked with street signs and sidewalk markers.
- The award-winning **Rapid bus transit** system boasts 249 vehicles and covers 185 square miles. The adult fare is \$1.75 per ride, with a daily cap of \$5.25. You can pay with exact cash, contactless payment, or purchase a Wave card at the downtown Rapid Central Station.

Scan the QR code for more Grand Rapids information!



## Venue

We'll call the DeVos Place Convention Center in the heart of downtown Grand Rapids our headquarters for the 2026 Annual Conference & Exposition. City energy meets scenic beauty at this riverfront venue along the Grand River where we'll enjoy expansive meeting space and inviting common areas to mingle with colleagues.

Internet information for the DeVos Place Convention Center:  
Network: **CitygateNetwork** | Password: **CitygateAll4Love!**

## Staff & Volunteers

You'll see Citygate Network staff throughout the conference—at Registration, Connection Point, in seminars, the Exhibit Hall, bookstore, and general sessions. We'd love to meet you, so feel free to say hello. Staff names and photos are on page 51, and you can spot them by the bright green on their nametags. We're also grateful for the volunteers, regional coordinators, district leaders, and board members serving this week.

## Registration & Information



Make this your first stop—and return anytime during the week. Registration & Information is your hub for navigating the conference with confidence. Pick up your name badge and program, get help with the Whova app, find seminar rooms, or ask about the schedule, bookstore, or Exhibit Hall. Whether you need directions, troubleshooting, or a quick answer, our team is here to keep your experience smooth. For hours, see the Complete Schedule starting on page 20. Please note that Registration closes during general sessions.

### Lost & Found

Misplace an item? Check with Registration, where all found items will be collected and held during conference hours.

## Ready for a challenge? Join “Spot the Staff!”

Snap a selfie with any Citygate Network team member you find and post it using the event hashtags. Tag us so we can cheer you on!

Be the first to collect and post selfies with every staff member to win a special prize—let the hunt begin!

Hashtags: **#spotthestaff** **#CitygateNetwork**

## Connection Point



Connection Point is your place to meet others and engage with Citygate Network resources and staff. Drop off your special ticket for a chance to win a complimentary registration to next year's conference. Throughout the week, you'll also find partners and tools designed to strengthen your ministry.

**Is your website working as hard as you are?** Sign up for a free website audit from the team behind Citygate Network's website refresh. Visit their table near Connection Point to reserve your spot.

**Louder<sup>7</sup>**  
strategy · websites · marketing

## Your Feedback Matters

Your input helps shape future Citygate Network gatherings. As you attend sessions, we invite you to share your thoughts so we can continue strengthening content, speakers, and your overall experience.

**Seminar Feedback:** After each session, complete a quick evaluation in the Whova app by selecting the session and tapping “Rate.” It only takes a minute and helps us understand what best serves you and your ministry.

**Conference Evaluation:** After the conference, you'll receive a brief email survey to reflect on your full experience. Completed surveys will be entered into a drawing for complimentary registration to next year's Annual Conference in Spokane!

## Conference Bookstore

Just outside the DeVos Ballroom, the conference bookstore is your spot to discover resources that will inspire and equip you long after the event. Browse a curated mix of titles from speakers and presenters, plus recommended reads for ministry leadership and life transformation work. Several platform speakers will host signings—check the schedule and swing by early, as popular books go fast. While you're there, explore Citygate Network merchandise to remember your time here and proudly represent this movement wherever you go.



All-New



## Opportunities for Spiritual Renewal

### Morning Devotionals with Our Daily Bread Ministries



Begin your day grounded in a time of reflection designed to center your heart for what's ahead. Join Our Daily Bread Ministries' CEO **Matt Lucas** for morning devotionals at the River View Outdoor Space between the Amway Grand Hotel and DeVos Place. Be sure to visit their booth (611) in the Exhibit Hall for materials and resources.

**Wednesday** | 8:30 a.m. — 9:00 a.m.

**Thursday** | 8:30 a.m. — 9:00 a.m.

**Friday** | 7:30 a.m. — 8:00 a.m.

### Public Reading of Scripture



Public Reading of Scripture

Experience the power of God's Word through the Public Reading of Scripture—a time to listen and reflect as Scripture is read aloud in community. This session will be led by Ed Morgan, president emeritus of the Bowery Mission.

**Thursday** | 3:45 p.m. — 4:45 p.m.

### Prayer Room



Amid a full conference schedule, the Prayer Room (Chase Boardroom, 2nd floor of DeVos Place Convention Center) offers a quiet space to step away, slow down, and meet with the Lord.

Whether you bring a specific need or simply want stillness, this room is available throughout the week. At select times, members of our prayer team, led by prayer coordinator **Marcie Damiani**, will be present if you'd like someone to pray with you. You may also submit requests using the cards outside the room or at Registration. Each one will be received and prayed over with care. To connect with someone outside of scheduled times, Marcie would be glad to hear from you at (847) 650-0854.

**Wednesday** | 8:00 a.m. — 9:00 a.m. | 1:00 p.m. — 2:00 p.m.

**Thursday** | 8:00 a.m. — 9:00 a.m. | 1:00 p.m. — 2:00 p.m.  
4:30 p.m. — 5:30 p.m.

### Social Media

We'd love to see the conference through your eyes! Share your photos and moments throughout the week and be sure to tag Citygate Network.

**Facebook & Instagram:** @CitygateNetwork.official

**LinkedIn:** Citygate Network

**Hashtags:** #CitygateNetwork #AllForLove #2026AnnualConferenceCN

Don't let the momentum stop when the conference ends—take it back with you.

Powerful messages, practical takeaways, and key moments—ready for your team to revisit and apply.

New this year, all seminar sessions are recorded with presentation visuals in MP4 format—so you can fully watch and engage, not just listen.

All five general session speakers are also included in MP4—revisit some of the most impactful moments anytime!

Get everything—**70+ SESSIONS**—for the special in-conference rate of just **\$229** (or general sessions for **\$79** or seminars only for **\$169**). It's one of the easiest ways to multiply the impact of your time here.

Special In-Conference Offer!

Stop by Connection Point to order your Team Edition—

and keep the momentum going.





*connect & explore*

## EXHIBIT HALL

Don't miss the excitement waiting for you in this year's Exhibit Hall!

Located in the Grand Gallery on the ground floor of the DeVos Place Convention Center—just around the corner and down the ramp from Registration—this is a central hub of activity throughout the week.

With over 100 exhibitors, a kickoff concert, interactive games, meals and refreshments, mini golf, member ministry's vehicles, and a wide range of resources, there's something around every corner. **This is the place to connect, explore, and experience it all!**

Our business partners are deeply committed to the work of Citygate Network and are here to serve you. Take time to engage in conversation, ask questions, and explore the solutions they offer. Be sure to grab a brochure or business card so you can follow up—you're likely to leave with fresh ideas, helpful resources, and meaningful connections.

You'll also see many of our business partners participating throughout the conference—joining you in general sessions, seminars, and shared experiences. To create space for these interactions, we designate specific hours for the Exhibit Hall. Be sure to check the exhibitor information and map on page 52 to make the most of your visit.

### Tuesday

2:00 p.m. — 3:00 p.m. | Conference Kick-off: Community Block Party & Exhibit Hall Grand Opening

7:45 p.m. — 9:00 p.m. | Exhibit Hall Open with Dessert

### Wednesday

7:45 a.m. — 9:00 a.m. | Exhibit Hall Open with Breakfast

1:00 p.m. — 2:45 p.m. | Exhibit Hall Open with Dessert

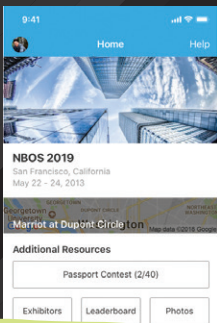
### Thursday

7:45 a.m. — 9:00 a.m. | Exhibit Hall Open with Coffee

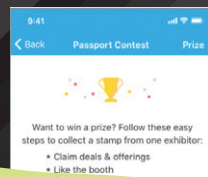
12:30 p.m. — 2:00 p.m. | Exhibit Hall Open with Lunch

## Whova Passport Contest

Make your time in the Exhibit Hall even more fun with the Whova Passport Contest!

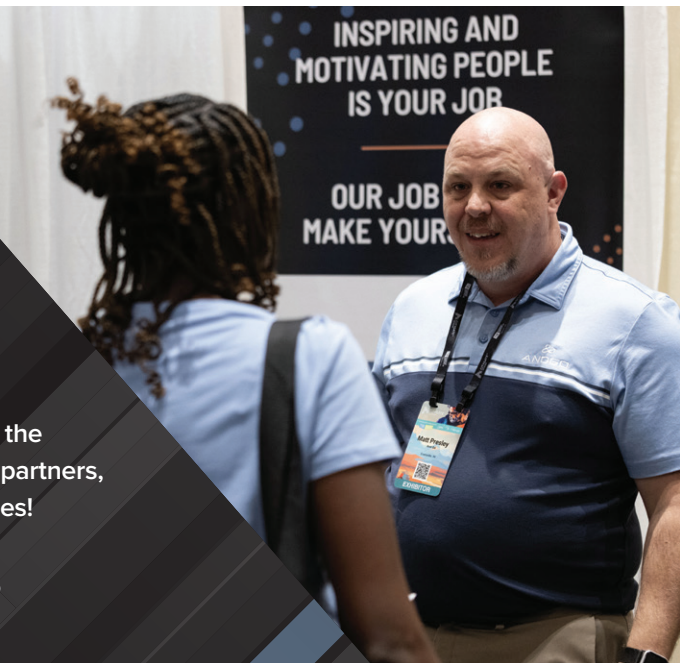


Visit participating exhibitor booths, check in through the Whova app, and collect stamps along the way. The more booths you visit, the better your chances to win exciting prizes!



It's a great way to explore the Exhibit Hall, connect with partners, and discover new resources!

**Don't miss out!**





# DOUGLAS SHAW & Associates

FUNDRAISING COUNSEL

## CONFERENCE SPONSORS

*With Gratitude to Our Sponsors*

This gathering is made possible through the generous partnership of organizations who share in this work and believe in its impact. Their support helps equip leaders, strengthen ministries, and extend hope to those we serve.

We encourage you to engage with these partners throughout the conference and thank them for investing in this movement.

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GROUP





## Jo Saxton

Speaker, podcaster, and author **Jo Saxton** currently serves as the executive director of a leadership development initiative at Bethel University. She regularly invests in and equips leaders around the world to step boldly into their calling and knows firsthand how the world can cause us to doubt our dreams, question who we are, and exchange our true child-of-God selves for an identity built on lies, guilt, and brokenness.



## Tom De Vries

**Tom De Vries** became President/CEO of Citygate Network in August 2023. Previously, he served as President/CEO of the Global Leadership Network, and earlier as General Secretary of the Reformed Church in America. Tom holds a Doctorate in Ministry from Western Seminary, a Master of Divinity from Fuller Seminary, and a B.A. from Wheaton College. He is known for innovation, strategic planning, and building high-performing teams to expand ministry impact.



## Jeff Manion

**Jeff Manion** has served Ada Bible Church for over 40 years. He enjoys digging deeply into Scripture and passionately teaching the story of the Bible in a clear and relevant way. Jeff also treasures the opportunity to train and encourage leaders and believes strongly in the power of slow and steady faithfulness. Jeff has authored *Satisfied*, *Dream Big Think Small*, and *The Land Between*.



## Kat Armstrong

A powerful voice in our generation, **Kat Armstrong** works as the director of strategy for Come Near, the parent organization for the *He Gets Us* campaign. She also hosts the Holy Curiosity podcast, has co-authored several books, co-founded the Polished Network, and serves as an ambassador for Seminary Now, and on the board for Pillar Seminary.



## Eugene Cho

As president and CEO of Bread for the World and Bread Institute, **Eugene Cho** advocates nationally and globally to help end hunger. He also founded and leads One Day's Wages as a grassroots movement of people, stories, and actions that help alleviate global poverty. His 2020 publication, *Thou Shalt Not Be a Jerk: A Christian's Guide to Engaging Politics*, received a nomination for Christian book of the year.



## Adam Christing

An award-winning emcee and speaker, **Adam Christing's** warm-hearted humor has delighted millions. His entertainment platforms include podcasts, TV, and radio programs, as well as his new book, *The Laughter Factor: The 5 Humor Tactics to Lift, Link, and Lead*. Adam serves as President of CleanComedians.com and is a member of Hollywood's world-famous Magic Castle.



## Matt Lundgren & Delwin Eiland

Once again, we'll enjoy the musical talents of **Matt Lundgren, Delwin Eiland**, and friends. This group of highly gifted artists will help us bring glory to God with their instruments and voices, ushering us to the foot of the throne during our corporate worship segments.



## Byron Johnson | PLENARY SESSION SPEAKER

**Byron Johnson** is a Distinguished Professor at Baylor University and works with the Human Flourishing Program and the Global Flourishing Study in partnership with Harvard University. Author of more than 200 articles and books, many recognize Byron as a leading authority on the scientific study of religion, the efficacy of faith-based organizations, and criminal justice.



## Sara Carter | PLENARY SESSION SPEAKER

**Sara Carter**, former Fox News contributor and investigative journalist, now oversees the federal government's drug policy agenda. With experience covering drug trafficking, cartel activity, and national security along the U.S.—Mexico border, she brings a frontline perspective. She is focused on strengthening prevention, treatment, and recovery—calling for collaboration to build a “culture of resilience.”

**Pre-conference Events**

1:00 p.m. — 5:00 p.m. **Registration & Connection Point Open**

*Ballroom Foyer — DeVos Place Convention Center*

Welcome—we're so glad you've arrived! Stop by check-in and pick up your name badge and program, and let our team help you get oriented for the days ahead. If you received a special ticket, drop it off at Connection Point for a chance to win a complimentary registration to the 2027 Annual Conference! *Winner must be present at the Friday General Session to claim the prize.*

2:00 p.m. — 4:30 p.m. **District Leadership Event** ⓘ

*Governor's Room — Amway Grand Hotel, Concourse Level, 2nd floor*

Our regional coordinators, board members, and district leaders from across our nine districts are gathering to collaborate on governance and explore how we can best serve and strengthen our network together.

3:00 p.m. — 5:00 p.m. **MissionTracker — Tracking Transformation**

SPONSOR

*Senator Vandenberg Room — Amway Grand Hotel, Concourse Level, 2nd floor*



MissionTracker clients and newcomers will explore platform advancements, best practices in case management, and how to align organizational goals and outcomes to data flows. The MissionTracker team will provide information about real time visualization, KPIs, innovative product advancements, and strategic partnerships.

5:30 p.m. — 7:30 p.m. **Leadership Dinner** ⓘ ⓘ

SPONSOR



*Imperial Ballroom — Amway Grand Hotel, Lobby Level, 1st floor*

Board members, district leaders, regional coordinators, donors, and other invited guests will enjoy a special dinner and State of the Network presentation led by **Tom De Vries**. The evening will also feature entertainment and encouragement from our multi-talented, award-winning conference emcee **Adam Christing**.



FULL SCHEDULE



🍷 Food and/or beverage included    💰 Additional cost    ⓘ By invitation only

Not registered for a pre-conference event but early and interested?

**SIGN UP NOW**  
at Registration—space permitting!

**JUNE 9** Tuesday

7:30 a.m. — 6:00 p.m.

**Registration & Connection Point Open**

*Ballroom Foyer — DeVos Place Convention Center*

Stop by, say hello, and check in with our Registration & Connection Point team—we'd love to meet you, help with anything you need, or simply have you hang out with us for a bit. As you settle in or if questions come up, this is the place to stop!

*Please note that registration will be closed during General Sessions.*

7:45 a.m. — 8:45 a.m.

**New CEO & Regional Coordinator Breakfast**

*Pearl Room — Amway Grand Hotel, Concourse Level, 2nd floor*

Are you a CEO or executive director who's new to Citygate Network—or stepping into that role for the first time? We're so glad you're here. You're not meant to lead alone. Come meet others walking a similar path, share stories, and get to know the regional coordinators available to support and encourage you along the way.

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8:00 a.m. — 8:45 a.m.

**Exhibitor Morning Kick-off with Citygate Network President**

*Exhibit Hall C — DeVos Place Convention Center*

For all exhibitors, this is your opportunity to get set up for a strong start to the week. Join **Sam Edwards** for key event details, hear from **Sarah Rieger** as she walks through the Whova app, and receive the latest Citygate Network updates from **Tom De Vries**—all while enjoying coffee, tea, and a baked good.



8:00 a.m. — 8:45 a.m.

**“Just Show Up” Book Club**

*Ruby Room — Amway Grand Hotel, Concourse Level, 2nd Floor*

Interested in discovering how Just Show Up helps you engage deeply with meaningful books? Join us for a live Just Show Up Book Club experience featuring *Generous Justice* by Tim Keller. This session will be facilitated by Ed Morgan, president emeritus of the Bowery Mission.

FULL SCHEDULE



**More Pre-conference Events**

9:00 a.m. — 11:00 a.m. **Pre-conference Intensives** 

**HUD/HHS Policy Engagement**

*Imperial Ballroom — Amway Grand Hotel, Lobby Level, 1st floor*

Engage directly with officials from U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development (HUD) and U.S. Department of Health and Human Services (HHS) to gain insight into current and emerging policies impacting homelessness, housing, recovery, and social services. This interactive session offers clarity around funding priorities and the broader federal landscape—helping ministry leaders make informed, mission-aligned decisions.

**Caring Well in High-Stress Ministry: De-escalation and Staff Resilience**

*Senator Vandenberg Room — Amway Grand Hotel, Concourse Level, 2nd floor*

During this in-depth intensive session, co-led by seasoned clinicians from nationally acclaimed Pine Rest Christian Mental Health Services, participants will gain practical tools for navigating high-stress interactions with confidence and care. Through real-life examples and guided discussion, attendees will learn effective verbal de-escalation techniques for managing complex client situations, while also exploring essential self-care practices that help staff remain resilient, grounded, and effective in demanding environments.

**Thrift Stores: A Rising Opportunity**

*Governor’s Room — Amway Grand Hotel, Concourse Level, 2nd floor*

Thrift stores have become one of the most powerful—and often underutilized—tools for life transformation ministries, serving as both a front-door ministry and a vital revenue stream that fuels mission impact. Designed for ministries considering launching a thrift store, as well as those ready to elevate an existing operation with greater clarity, excellence, and effectiveness, this session—presented by the Association of Christian Thrift Stores and Downtown Rescue Mission (Huntsville, Alabama)—explores how to move from chaos to consistency through best practices in operations, staffing, donor engagement, merchandising, branding, marketing, and customer experience. Drawing from a ministry where thrift stores generate up to 60 percent of organizational income, attendees will gain practical insight into building thrift operations that increase both sustainability and life transformation impact.

FULL SCHEDULE



9:30 a.m. — 1:15 p.m.



**Mel Trotter Ministries Tour**  

SPONSOR

Tour participants will experience the full scope of Mel Trotter Ministries—from immediate care to long-term pathways forward. Highlights include key areas of the main campus such as shelters, intake, chapel, clinic, and kitchen, illustrating how guests begin their journey and receive support. The tour also features the mission’s tiny homes, and social enterprise and workforce development programs that provide hands-on experience and pathways to employment.

*Tour check-in location: Meet outside the Rendezvous lobby bar, main level of the Amway Grand Hotel.*



11:15 a.m. — 11:45 a.m.

**Moderator Meeting** 

*Chase Boardroom — DeVos Place Convention Center, 2nd Floor*

10:45 a.m. — 11:30 a.m.

**All Things New Welcome Party**

SPONSOR



*Ballroom C — DeVos Place Convention Center*

New to Citygate Network or attending the Annual Conference for the first time? You belong here. Hosted by our welcoming friends, **La Manda Cunningham** and **Jordan Smith**, this gathering is designed to help you get oriented, meet others who are new, and discover helpful resources Citygate Network has to offer as you make the most of your time in Grand Rapids.



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11:45 a.m. — 1:15 p.m.

**CEO Leading Ladies Lunch, RSVP required**  

SPONSOR

*Gerald R. & Betty Ford Presidential Ballroom — Amway Grand Hotel, Lobby Level, 1st floor*

Leading Ladies is a special space for female CEOs and executive directors from Citygate Network member ministries to gather around the table, share stories, and encourage one another over lunch. Come connect with peers who understand your journey and enjoy meaningful conversation together.



12:00 p.m. — 8:30 p.m.

**Bookstore Open**

*Ballroom Foyer — DeVos Place Convention Center*

Discover the conference bookstore—a space to browse, learn, and take something meaningful home with you. You’ll find a curated selection of books from our speakers and presenters, along with resources designed to equip and inspire your leadership and ministry.

FULL SCHEDULE



## Official Start of the Annual Conference & Exposition

2:00 p.m. — 3:00 p.m. **Conference Kick-off: Community Block Party & Exhibit Hall Grand Opening**

*Exhibit Hall C — DeVos Place Convention Center*

Let's kick things off with energy and excitement in the Exhibit Hall! We'll set the tone for the week with upbeat music, a warm welcome, and a little friendly competition to get things going. Jump into the fun with mini golf, corn hole, and various other interactive experiences designed to create connection and camaraderie. This dynamic opening event reinforces why we gather every summer—hungry for engagement, primed to learn, and open for an outpouring from the Holy Spirit!

3:15 p.m. — 4:30 p.m. **Track Seminars Group I**

See pages 32–39 for seminar descriptions and locations.

5:30 p.m. — 7:30 p.m. **Opening General Session and Dinner** 🍴

SPONSORS

*Doors open 5:10 p.m.*

*DeVos Ballroom — DeVos Place Convention Center*



Begin the conference by taking your place at the table—sharing lunch with others from your district as we step into this experience together. Look for your district flag (see page 44 if you're unsure of your district; it's listed on your name badge) and connect with others from your region as we launch the week side by side.

This opening session will set the tone for all that's to come—featuring moments of worship, encouragement, and a powerful keynote from international speaker **Jo Saxton** to stir your heart and vision. We come with great expectation, believing the Lord will meet us here—drawing us together in His love, strengthening our shared calling, and preparing us for the work ahead.



🍴 Food and/or beverage included    💰 Additional cost    📧 By invitation only

7:45 p.m. — 9:00 p.m.

**Exhibit Hall Open with Dessert 🍷**

*Exhibit Hall C*

Make your way to the Exhibit Hall and experience all our business members have to offer. With over 100 exhibitor booths featuring the latest products and services—and plenty of sponsored activities like cornhole and mini golf—it's a lively space to reconnect with friends, discover new resources, and enjoy a few sweet treats along the way.

8:30 p.m. — 10:00 p.m.

**Emerging Leaders Gathering**

*Suite 2690 — Amway Grand Hotel, Tower*

If you consider yourself an emerging leader—whether you're in your 20s, 30s, 40s, or simply young at heart—stop by to connect and unwind. Spend time with **La Manda Cunningham** and **Jordan Smith**, meet others in a similar season, grab some dessert from the Exhibit Hall, and learn about additional opportunities for emerging leaders happening throughout the week.



FULL SCHEDULE

7:30 a.m. — 3:00 p.m. **Registration & Connection Point Open**  
*Ballroom Foyer*

7:45 a.m. — 9:00 a.m. **Exhibit Hall Open with Breakfast** 🍷 SPONSORS  
*Exhibit Hall C*

Start your morning with a delicious breakfast and complimentary tea or coffee as you connect with exhibitors and enjoy time with friends.



8:00 a.m. — 9:00 a.m. **Level Up Breakfast, RSVP required** 📧 🍷  
*Emerald Room B – Amway Grand Hotel, Concourse Level, 2nd Floor*

8:00 a.m. — 9:00 a.m. **N & Up Breakfast, RSVP required** 📧 🍷  
*Emerald Room A – Amway Grand Hotel, Concourse Level, 2nd Floor*

8:00 a.m. — 9:00 a.m. **Prayer Room Open with Prayer Team**  
*Chase Boardroom – DeVos Place Convention Center*



We desire this conference to offer not only encouragement and refreshment, but deep spiritual nourishment. If you're carrying a need or simply longing for time in prayer, we invite you to visit the Prayer Room. Prayer Coordinator **Marcie Damiani** and our prayer team are ready to pray with you and for you. And if you feel led to stand in the gap for others, we welcome you to join this community of prayer throughout the week.

8:30 a.m. — 9:00 a.m. **Morning Devotions with Our Daily Bread Ministries** SPONSOR  
*River View Outdoor Space – Between the Amway Grand Hotel and the DeVos Place Convention Center*

Begin your day with reflection and renewal through these devotional sessions led by **Dr. Matt Lucas**. With a steady focus on faith and ministry, these moments are designed to ground and encourage you.



**Our Daily Bread Ministries**®

8:30 a.m. — 4:30 p.m. **Bookstore Open**  
*Ballroom Foyer*

9:15 a.m. — 10:30 a.m. **Track Seminars Group 2**  
See pages 32–39 for seminar descriptions and locations.

11:00 a.m. — 1:00 p.m. **General Session with Lunch** 🍷 SPONSORS  
*Doors open at 10:40 a.m.*  
*DeVos Ballroom*



We'll come together for lunch and a time of connection and celebration, recognizing accreditation milestones and presenting the Innovation Award to a ministry demonstrating creativity and meaningful impact. An inspiring message from **Tom De Vries** will reflect on what God has done in and through Citygate Network—and across your ministries—cultivating growth, multiplying impact, and strengthening our movement through deeper relationships, intentional leadership and learning, and ongoing innovation, all advancing life transformation across the continent.



**RKD GROUP**®



Through worship and stories of impact, you'll be reminded that your work is part of something far bigger—one marked by faith, perseverance, and life transformation across North America. Take a look around and be encouraged by those walking in the trenches alongside you!

1:00 p.m. — 2:30 p.m. **Prayer Room Open with Prayer Team**  
*Chase Boardroom – DeVos Place Convention Center*

1:00 p.m. — 2:45 p.m. **Exhibit Hall Open with Dessert**

*Exhibit Hall C*

What's better than connection? Connecting while enjoying something delicious! Step back into the Exhibit Hall for an afternoon of energy, conversation, and discovery. It's a great time to revisit exhibitors, continue conversations you started earlier, and explore resources you may have missed—all while enjoying a little something sweet along the way.

2:00 p.m. — 2:45 p.m. **Network Group Connection**

Spend time with others who understand the unique rhythms and challenges of your role. Share insights, learn from one another, and engage in conversations that are both practical and encouraging. Head to the designated locations to find your group, and if you're in the Exhibit Hall, look for table signs to guide you to your network group.

If you don't see your specific group listed, feel free to join the session that most closely aligns with your role or responsibilities.

- **Addiction Recovery** — Grand Gallery B
- **Administrative Assistance** — Grand Gallery D
- **Board Member** — River Overlook F
- **Case Management** — Grand Gallery C
- **Chaplain/Pastoral Care** — Exhibit Hall (Stage Area)
- **CEO/ED/President (Under \$4 million budget)** — Grand Gallery Overlook A & B
- **CEO/ED/President (Over \$4 million budget)** — Grand Gallery Overlook C & D
- **Executive Leadership: Development** — Grand Gallery A
- **Executive Leadership: Operations** — Grand Gallery E
- **Executive Leadership: Finance** — River Overlook E
- **Executive Leadership: Program** — River Overlook A & B
- **Communications/Marketing** — Grand Gallery F
- **Counseling** — Exhibit Hall (Stage Area)
- **Development** — Grand Gallery Overlook E & F
- **Facility Management** — Exhibit Hall (Stage Area)
- **Financial Management** — Exhibit Hall (Stage Area)
- **Food Service** — Exhibit Hall (Stage Area)
- **Human Resources** — Grand Gallery Overlook G
- **Street Outreach** — Exhibit Hall (Stage Area)
- **Program Management** — River Overlook C & D
- **Social Enterprise** — Exhibit Hall (Stage Area)
- **Volunteer Coordination** — Grand Gallery Overlook H

3:00 p.m. — 4:30 p.m. **Afternoon General Session**

Doors open at 2:40 p.m.

*DeVos Ballroom*

SPONSORS



You won't want to miss this General Session! We'll enter into another powerful time of worship, creating space to be refreshed and refocused together. We'll celebrate the winners of the Media Innovation Competition—highlighting the creativity and excellence happening across our network. We'll hear a compelling and thought-provoking message from **Jeff Manion**, offering insight and encouragement for the work you've been called to lead. *And don't forget your swag!* We'll host a fun and interactive swag swap—bring items from your ministry and exchange it with others at your table. It's a simple, creative way to share your story, spark conversation and ideas, and leave with something meaningful from a fellow ministry.



4:30 p.m. **Open Evening in Grand Rapids**

This evening is yours to enjoy! Take advantage of the walkability of this riverside city, explore nearby restaurants, or simply relax and recharge. Looking for ideas? Check out page 13 in the program for local favorites, fun outings, and great places to eat.





## JUNE 11 Thursday

7:30 a.m. — 6:00 p.m. **Registration & Connection Point Open**

### *Ballroom Foyer*

Don't forget to turn in your special ticket at the Connection Point to be entered to win a complimentary registration to the 2027 Annual Conference. The winner will be announced during the Friday General Session and must be present to receive the prize!

7:45 a.m. — 9:00 a.m. **Exhibit Hall Open with Coffee**

### *Exhibit Hall C*

Start your day in the Exhibit Hall—grab a cup of coffee or tea, connect with others, and ease into the energy of the day ahead.

SPONSORS



8:00 a.m. — 9:00 a.m. **Prayer Room Open with Prayer Team**

### *Chase Boardroom — DeVos Place Convention Center*

8:30 a.m. — 9:00 a.m. **Morning Devotions with Our Daily Bread Ministries**

### *River View Outdoor Space — Between the Amway Grand Hotel and the DeVos Place Convention Center*

8:30 a.m. — 8:30 p.m. **Bookstore Open**

### *Ballroom Foyer*

The bookstore tends to sell out quickly, so be sure to pick up what you need before it's gone!

9:15 a.m. — 10:30 a.m. **Track Seminars Group 3**

See pages 32–39 for seminar descriptions and locations.

11:00 a.m. — 12:30 p.m. **Plenary Session: The Journey from Suffering to Flourishing**

SPONSOR

*Doors open at 10:40 a.m.*

### *DeVos Ballroom*



What does helping people move from suffering to flourishing look like at your ministry? **Dr. Byron Johnson** shares key insights from the Global Flourishing Study to connect research to the real-world scenarios you face every day. “Drug Czar” **Sara Carter** will bring additional perspective on addiction recovery and national drug policy to provide insight and equip your ministry, specifically highlighting the critical role faith-based organizations play in this process.



12:30 p.m. — 2:00 p.m. **Exhibit Hall Open with Lunch** 🍷

### *Exhibit Hall C*

Make your way to the Exhibit Hall to pick up a boxed lunch to stay fueled while you take advantage of a final opportunity to connect with exhibitors before this space packs up.

🍷 Food and/or beverage included    💰 Additional cost    📧 By invitation only



12:45 p.m. — 1:45 p.m.

**Emerging Leaders Lunch**

*Grand Gallery Overlook E & F*

This is your last scheduled opportunity to connect with other emerging leaders before the conference wraps up. Grab a boxed lunch and head to the Grand Gallery for a relaxed time of conversation, encouragement, and a few more moments together to close out the week.

1:00 p.m. — 2:00 p.m.

**Prayer Room Open with Prayer Team**

*Chase Boardroom — DeVos Place Convention Center*

2:15 p.m. — 3:30 p.m.

**Track Seminars Group 4**

See pages 32–39 for seminar descriptions and locations.

3:45 p.m. — 4:30 p.m.

**The Member Advantage**



*Grand Gallery C*

You're more than just a meal—and we're more than just a conference. Join our team to discover the full range of member benefits available to you and your staff. From access to our robust Member Portal—filled with resources, tools, and connections—to practical perks like fuel discounts for your ministry vehicles, there's more available than you might realize. Come learn how to make the most of your membership—and walk away with tools that strengthen your ministry every day.

3:45 p.m. — 4:45 p.m.

**Public Reading of Scripture**

**SPONSOR**

*Grand Gallery F*

Pause and center yourself as Scripture is read aloud—creating space to reflect, refocus, and prepare your heart.



4:30 p.m. — 5:30 p.m.

**Prayer Room Open with Prayer Team**

*Chase Boardroom — DeVos Place Convention Center*

While this is the final scheduled time the Prayer Room will be open, you can continue to submit prayer requests using the cards available outside the Prayer Room and at Registration. Our prayer team will continue to faithfully check the secure boxes and lift up each request.

5:30 p.m. — 7:30 p.m.

**General Session and Dinner**

**SPONSORS**

*Doors open at 5:10 p.m.*

*DeVos Ballroom*



As the day winds down, join us for an evening designed to refresh and lift your perspective. This general session offers time to reconnect with others, share a few lighter moments, and enter into worship together. We'll also honor two leaders whose lives and service have made a lasting impact across our network. You'll be invited into a giving opportunity—an intentional moment to prayerfully consider how you can invest in the work God is doing through this movement. You'll also get an early look at what's ahead for next year's conference. And don't miss a compelling message from **Kat Armstrong** that will challenge and strengthen you in your leadership—grounding your work in love that fuels endurance, shapes your calling, and sustains the impact you're making.



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JUNE 11 Friday

Enjoy breakfast on your own, with coffee and tea available at Super Seminar locations.

7:30 a.m. — 8:00 a.m. **Morning Devotions with Our Daily Bread Ministries**  
*River View Outdoor Space — Between the Amway Grand Hotel and the DeVos Place Convention Center*

8:00 a.m. — 12:30 p.m. **Registration & Connection Point Open**  
*DeVos Place Convention Center Foyer*

8:00 a.m. — 12:30 p.m. **Bookstore Open**  
*Ballroom Foyer*

8:30 a.m. — 9:45 a.m. **Super Seminars**  
*See page 41 for Super Seminar descriptions and locations.*  
These last seminar sessions are designed to be focused, high-impact, and immediately applicable—equipping you with practical takeaways you can carry straight into your ministry. Make the most of this time and step into sessions that will sharpen, challenge, and strengthen you.



10:15 a.m. — 11:45 a.m. **Morning General Session**  
*Door open at 9:55 a.m.*  
*DeVos Ballroom*



As our time together draws to a close, we invite you to step into one final gathering—an opportunity to pause, reflect, and be sent out with renewed vision and encouragement. This closing General Session will include a rich time of worship, a few prize giveaways—including a 2027 Annual Conference registration—and a highlight video capturing the moments that shaped our days in Grand Rapids. You'll also hear a powerful and thought-provoking message from **Eugene Cho**, known for his passionate voice, global perspective, and heart for justice and the Church. It's a meaningful and memorable way to end the week together.

SPONSORS



12:30 p.m. — 4:00 p.m. **Mel Trotter Ministries Tour**    
See page 23 for a description of the tour. Box lunches will be provided for registered attendees at the conclusion of the general session—please pick up your lunch as you exit at 11:45 a.m. *Tour check-in location: Meet outside the Rendezvous lobby bar, main level of the Amway Grand Hotel.*

SPONSOR



*Thank you* for joining us in Grand Rapids  
—may the Lord bless you and keep you as you go.  
We're grateful for your presence and can't wait to see you in Spokane next year!

# SEMINARS

## 15 THEMED TRACKS 4 GROUP TIMES

Explore our 15 themed track sessions across four timeframes, or “groups.” Start by looking at tracks that fit your role or choose a variety of seminars that align with your interests.

We recommend selecting two options per group, as seats may fill quickly!

PAGE	SEMINAR TRACKS
32	Addiction Recovery
33	Client & Culture
33	Communications & Marketing
34	Community Engagement
34	Diversifying Revenue
35	Frontline Services & Hospitality
35	Growing Forward
36	Hot Topics
36	Leadership & Staff Development
37	Resource Development 1
37	Resource Development 2
38	Operations & Administration
38	Organizational Growth
39	Transformational Programming 1
39	Transformational Programming 2
41	<b>SUPER SEMINARS</b>

**Room capacity is limited.**

Arrive early and have a backup option.

TRACK THEME

## ADDICTION RECOVERY

River Overlook A & B

*Advancing recovery through compassion, innovation, and holistic care*

### GROUP 1 The Dynamics of Codependency, Trauma, and Addiction

1  
TUE  
3:15 — 4:30 PM  
Recognize how codependent patterns develop in addiction and their power to sabotage both recovery and relationships. Learn to identify unhealthy and enabling behaviors, and discover tools to replace them with healthy boundaries, accountability, and patterns.

PRESENTER: **Rose Russell**, Director Center for Women & Children, Bay Area Rescue Mission

### GROUP 2 Bringing Together Faith, Science, and Community: The Backwards Bike

2  
WED  
3:15 — 4:30 PM  
Explore how Helping Up Mission (Baltimore, Maryland) integrates evidence-based practices with spiritual formation using a trauma-informed recovery model that focuses on three fundamental layers of behavior change: Identity, Process, and Outcomes.

PRESENTERS: **Pamela Wilkerson**, Director Women & Children's Center, Helping Up Mission; **Mike Rallo**, Director of Spiritual Life, Helping Up Mission; **Brent Jones, Sr.** Director of Men's Programs, Helping Up Mission

### GROUP 3 Moral Injury and Spiritual Struggle in Recovery

3  
THUR  
9:15 — 10:30 AM  
Recovery should go beyond substance abuse and behavior problems to address deep moral and spiritual wounds like guilt, shame, betrayal, and disconnection. Learn how faith-based programs can offer safe, restorative pathways towards healing and explore models that create space for whole-person healing.

PRESENTER: **Diera Shaw-Mendez**, Co-executive Director, Hope House for Our Families

### GROUP 4 After the Finish Line: Recovery is a Marathon

4  
THUR  
2:15 — 3:30 PM  
Graduation represents the starting line, not the finish line. Once graduates move outside your structured environment, they will face new challenges and old triggers that can upend their recovery. Equip your team with practical tools and strategies for an effective aftercare program.

PRESENTER: **Shayne Priddy**, Director of Programs, Renewed Recovery & Genesis Process

## CLIENT & CULTURE

Grand Gallery Overlook A & B

*Responding to culture and trends with biblical wisdom and compassion*

### What Makes Christian Counseling and Programs Unique?

Many Christian counseling staff learn secular clinical counseling methods. Teach them what makes your Christian approach different and effective while also learning how to effectively communicate your ministry's unique role to secular stakeholders and the government.

**PRESENTER:** **Dr. Andrew Sears**, Executive Director, City Vision University

### Reclaiming Relevance: The Future of Faithful Impact

Amidst culture shifts and short attention spans, faith-based organizations must stay relevant without compromising their values. Blend authenticity, strategic communication, and community partnership in ways that resonate with new generations and learn key trends that shape how people engage with faith-based causes.

**PRESENTER:** **Kyle Gorman**, Executive Director of Advancement, Evansville Rescue Mission

### Foundations of Trauma-Informed Culture

Explore the research that has contributed to best practices for understanding both adverse and positive childhood experiences, as well as insight on how trauma and poverty intersect. Learn the Six Principles of Trauma Informed Care and how to apply them at your ministry.

**PRESENTERS:** **Jamie Avant**, VP of Effinity Training and Wellness Services, Metropolitan Ministries; **Amy Greene**, Director of Spiritual Care, Metropolitan Ministries; **Kimberly Livsey**, Chief Program Officer, Atlanta Mission

### The Ministry of Showing Up: How Presence Heals, Builds Trust, Increases Engagement, Inspires Generosity

Learn practical strategies that cultivate meaningful connection through presence, empathy, and intentional engagement. Recognize telltale signs of disengagement, understand why people avoid connection, and transform missed connections into ministry opportunities that build trust and inspire generosity.

**PRESENTERS:** **Chad Borgestad**, Senior Consultant, The FOCUS Group; **Brad Miller**, Senior Consultant, The FOCUS Group

## COMMUNICATION & MARKETING

Grand Gallery Overlook C & D

*Strengthening trust and credibility through purposeful interaction and innovation*

**Louder**<sup>7</sup>  
strategy · websites · marketing

### Designing Community Awareness Campaigns

Shift perceptions of homelessness, position your ministry as a leader in solutions, build awareness that translates into engagement, action, and long-term support while forming deeper connections with your community. Using advanced research, create a multi-channel media strategy that increases visibility and drives measurable engagement.

**PRESENTERS:** **James Read**, Chief Creative Officer, BDI; **Amanda Kirby**, Senior Account Director/Strategist, BDI; **Sarah Peterka**, Community Relations Director, Union Gospel Mission — Twin Cities

### Find and Tell Stories that Create Connections and Drive Results

A good story can demonstrate impact or offer a better understanding of your work. Engage with an interactive process that teaches you how to turn stories into words that drive action. Walk away with practical tools that inspire and engage with your audience.

**PRESENTERS:** **Doug Bouws**, VP of Client Services, Canopy; **Daniel Jenkins**, Partner, Canopy

### So You Want to Start a Podcast

Walk through the process to create and launch a podcast listeners will love. Learn everything from developing your concept and choosing the right equipment to recording, editing, and publishing, as well as promoting your content. Perfect for beginners ready to share their voice.

**PRESENTER:** **Celia Lively**, Sr. Director of Community Engagement, Knox Area Rescue Ministries

### Essential Elements for a High-Conversion Homepage

Your homepage is the front door to your ministry. It should accurately reflect your brand, build trust and affinity, and move people to take action. Learn the simple, effective elements that instantly strengthen your message and help more people engage with your work.

**PRESENTER:** **Janelle Suzanne**, Managing Partner and Chief Marketing Officer, Louder Agency

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Silence or turn off devices to maintain a focused environment.

## COMMUNITY ENGAGEMENT

Grand Gallery Overlook G  
**Building ministry support by mobilizing people, resources, and partnerships**

### GROUP 1 You've Got Volunteers—Now What?

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Explore how to develop a strong volunteer program with clearly communicated guidelines and expectations, thoughtful orientations, and essential documentation. Leave with practical tools, templates, and faith-centered strategies that make the volunteer experience safe, meaningful, and mission-driven.

**PRESENTERS:** **Pam Billet**, *Women & Children Shelter Manager, LifePath Christian Ministries*; **Susan Workinger**, *Manager of Donor Relations, LifePath Christian Ministries*; **Beth Elston**, *Lead Client Advocate & Support Specialist, MissionTracker*

### GROUP 2 Coordinating a Church-Based Response to Homelessness

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Explore proven models for bidirectional partnerships in which your staff facilitate the formation of relationships between churches and individual families facing homelessness. Understand the unique stability churches bring to these families and receive free access to a supportive discipleship course.

**PRESENTER:** **Adam Lipscomb**, *Church Partnership Strategist, Mel Trotter Ministries*

### GROUP 3 Engaging Capitol Hill: Effective Advocacy

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Learn to effectively advocate during meetings with elected representatives and other government officials. Guidance will include preparing for the conversation, establishing a purpose, what to expect, clearly communicating key messages, as well as instructions for handling difficulties and objections, and proper follow-up.

**PRESENTER:** **Anna Valeria**, *Consultant, Livingston Impact Advisors*

### GROUP 4 Igniting Mission Impact Through Church Partnerships

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Develop a practical roadmap to design, launch, and sustain a strong church program that mobilizes volunteers, identifies shared values, and deepens ministry collaboration. Learn practical tools that help move churches from one-time service projects toward long-term, meaningful involvement.

**PRESENTER:** **Ashley Murray**, *Director of Church Partnerships, San Diego Rescue Mission*

## DIVERSIFYING REVENUE

Grand Gallery F  
**Expanding financial sustainability through entrepreneurial ventures, innovation, and strategic growth**



### Financing What's Next

Developing a large capital campaign plan requires vision, practical training, and creative funding approaches that extend far beyond traditional fundraising. Explore available grants and other powerful tools that can help ministries expand their housing impact without cannibalizing existing donor support.

**PRESENTER:** **Kevin Foster**, *Founder & President, Capital for Compassion*

### Generating Value Through Social Enterprise

Explore a Social Enterprise Intervention (SEI) model that addresses poverty, unemployment, and social instability. Integrate business principles with mission-driven values that serve as both a workforce development strategy and a catalyst for systemic change—bridging the gap between charitable service and economic empowerment.

**PRESENTER:** **Carrie Arnold**, *VP Workforce Development, Cherry Street Mission*

### Beginners to Experts: Strategies for Event Planners

Glean wisdom from an event planning guru with 25 years of experience! This interactive session will address organizing successful dinners, brunches, and other fundraising events, and invite participants to share successes and failures to encourage and inspire one another.

**PRESENTER:** **Mary Denison**, *Development Director, Kalamazoo Gospel Ministries*

### Thrift as Mission: Fueling Kingdom Impact with Courageous Growth

Explore how to strategically grow a thrift enterprise that generates sustainable revenue, expands ministry impact, and transforms your community—while maintaining your faith-based values. Move from “just another thrift shop” to a thriving enterprise fueling your mission, blessing your community, and pointing people to Christ.

**PRESENTERS:** **Scott Thielen**, *CEO, Yakima Union Gospel Mission*; **Autumn Bernier**, *VP Operations & Enterprise, Yakima Union Gospel Mission*

**Room capacity is limited.**

Arrive early and have a backup option.

## FRONTLINE SERVICES & HOSPITALITY



SLINGSHOT  
GROUP

River Overlook F

*Delivering dignity and care through hospitality, best practices, and trauma-informed service*

### A Shepherd's Heart: Caring for You So You Can Care for Others

With constant crises and needs, leaders can lose sight of the biblical rhythm of rest and renewal. This session reframes self-care as a spiritual discipline and theological necessity. Explore disciplines that prevent burnout and deepen Christlikeness, engage in practices designed to restore spiritual vitality, and implement organizational structures that support rest.

**PRESENTER: Edward Buller**, *Street Ministries Manager, Union Gospel Mission — Winnipeg*

### Good Stewards at the Table: Honoring God Through Food Service

Food service often represents the most visible ministry touchpoint. Explore how to elevate it to an opportunity that reflects dignity, excellence, and wise stewardship, while balancing hospitality with operational efficiency. Every meal can affirm each person's worth and shape their life transformation journey.

**PRESENTER: Steven Kreis**, *Sr. Director of Food Services, Denver Rescue Mission*

### Radical Hospitality: Biblical Foundations and Characteristics

Explore a biblical understanding of hospitality while examining specific practices and characteristics of hospitable places. Gain a deepened understanding of how to set up spaces that intentionally foster connection and discover spiritual practices that sustain the work of hospitality even in the midst of weariness.

**PRESENTER: Matthew Johnson**, *Director of Faith-based Initiatives, Fletcher Group*

### First Moments Matter: Shaping Trauma-Informed Intakes

The first moment of engagement sets the tone for an individual's whole experience with your organization. Learn from the journey Water Street Mission (Lancaster, Pennsylvania) has taken to enhance its physical environment, intake processes, and forms in a way that reflects trauma-informed hospitality.

**PRESENTERS: Lillie Otte**, *VP Residential Life; Water Street Mission*; **Jackie Concepcion**, *Director Social Services, Water Street Mission*

## GROWING FORWARD



Grand Gallery Overlook H

*Strengthening small-budget ministries through smart strategy, stewardship, and scalable solutions*

### Tools to Move from Overwhelmed to Organized

Ministry directors juggle board prep, audits, staff, and endless reporting—leaving little time for leadership. Discover how proven systems and dashboards can streamline operations, strengthen accountability, and create space to lead strategically. Learn how to reduce stress, empower teams, and focus on people and purpose.

**PRESENTERS: Sam Coates**, *President, CFO Leverage*; **Daniel Weaver**, *CFO, CFO Leverage*

### Market Your Ministry with a Limited Budget

Limited marketing staff and budget? No problem! Learn about free (or nearly free) resources you can use to market your ministry. Hear real examples of working with local media outlets to grow your brand awareness.

**PRESENTERS: Tatum Curry**, *Marketing Coordinator, Butte Rescue Mission*; **Brayton Erickson**, *Executive Director, Butte Rescue Mission*

### Unlocking Potential: How Collaboration Can Drive Impact

Today's complex landscape makes partnerships essential. They offer a powerful avenue to achieve more together than any single organization could alone. Participants will learn how to identify ideal partners, build frameworks for success, and measure collective impact.

**PRESENTER: Karl Pettit**, *President, Valley Mission*

### Stewarding Resources & Supporting Your Small Team

Explore practical strategies to enhance the financial health and wellbeing of your small ministry team. A panel will feature professionals sharing tools, templates, and best practices that equip small ministries to steward wisely, while prioritizing your ministry footprint and the growth of your team.

**PRESENTERS: Jon Barron**, *National Director — Nonprofit & Religious Practices, Gallagher Insurance*; **James Dick**, *Area Vice President — Nonprofit & Religious Practices, Gallagher Insurance*

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Silence or turn off devices to maintain a focused environment.

## HOT TOPICS

Grand Gallery C

**Tackling today's toughest questions and anticipating tomorrow's challenges**

## LEADERSHIP & STAFF DEVELOPMENT

River Overlook C & D

**Inspiring intentionality and growth for ministry leaders**

GROUP  
1

### Legal and Cultural Threats Facing Life Transformation Ministries

Hear about cases, legislation, and legal or cultural issues that threaten your mission or ministry, as well as how to protect your organization. Get practical tips on managing legal threats, learn from real-life examples of what can happen, and participate in a readiness assessment.

**PRESENTER: Patrick Piccolo**, *Legal Counsel and Deputy Director Church and Ministry Alliance, Alliance Defending Freedom*

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### Culture and Identity: The Secret Sauce of Ministry

Uncover how a healthy culture and clear ministry identity power lasting impact. Build and sustain a values-driven culture that attracts the right people, strengthens unity, and fuels effectiveness. Leave with practical tools to define, measure, and protect a culture where both people and mission flourish.

**PRESENTERS: Justin Boles**, *COO, Miracle Hill Ministries*; **Ryan Duerk**, *President/CEO, Miracle Hill Ministries*; **Reid Lehman**, *former CEO, Miracle Hill Ministries*

GROUP  
2

### Be the Salt and Light: Practical Ways to Serve Like Jesus in a Divided World

Today's constant tension between differing world views leads to a never-ending barrage of accusations and condemnation. What if Jesus has called us to something greater than choosing sides? Explore your calling and conviction to live as salt and light, as Jesus did.

**PRESENTER: Dennis Van Kampen**, *President/CEO, Denver Rescue Mission*

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### A Blueprint for Building Leadership Development

Explore the one-year program The Bowery Mission (New York City, New York) designed to equip managers with advanced leadership skills and prepare high-performing team members for future management roles. Take home a framework for curriculum structure, workshop cadence, participant selection strategies, and measurement tools.

**PRESENTER: Isabella White**, *Chief Human Resources Officer, The Bowery Mission*

GROUP  
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### The Collaboration Ecosystem

Position your organization to lead without having to provide all the services yourself. Learn how (and with whom) to partner, how to leverage your strengths, and how to set up joint funding, to keep people from experiencing homelessness and teach them how to launch.

**PRESENTER: Chris Palusky**, *CEO, Mel Trotter Ministries*

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### Avoiding Traps that Derail Team Culture

After learning to identify the five common traps that hold teams back, experts will offer guidance on how to "trap-proof" your team to help it reach full potential. Practice recognizing traps you can avoid and empower your team to prevent these traps in the future.

**PRESENTER: Toni McEwan**, *VP Nonprofit, Slingshot Group*

GROUP  
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### Leading from a Full Cup: Integrating Faith, Health, and Wellness

Many nonprofit leaders find themselves leading on an empty tank. Learn to shift from exhaustion to overflow by implementing sustainable rhythms. Discover how intentional care for your body, mind, and spirit restores clarity, deepens impact, and helps you lead forward with purpose and peace.

**PRESENTER: Kristen Myers-Chatman**, *COO, mission:activate*

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### Leadership Lessons I Wish I Had Learned Long Ago

Do you wish you could gather lessons learned from mentors and previous failures and share them with your younger self? Give your leadership a boost and leave with a list of dos and don'ts that will challenge and transform how you show up every day.

**PRESENTER: Scott Chin**, *CEO, Seattle's Union Gospel Mission*

**Room capacity is limited.**

Arrive early and have a backup option.

## RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT 1

Grand Gallery D

**Leveraging resource pathways to maximize ministry**

### Planned Giving: Moving from Legacy to Vision

Explore how to build deep, long-term donor relationships that lead to meaningful legacy gifts. Through presentation, discussion, and hands-on exercises, participants will learn how to start and sustain donor conversations, outline compelling cases for support, and develop actionable plans with measurable outcomes.

**PRESENTERS:** **Laura De Vries**, Senior Consultant, DBD Group; **Robin Jordan-Ropokis**, Senior Consultant, DBD Group

### Cross Cultural Storytelling

Unpack the shift in Christianity that has reshaped the fundraising landscape. Faith-based organizations must adapt to discover how culturally contextualized narratives can build lasting connections with a broader donor community. Learn how to personalize and segment audiences to foster deeper connections and increase donor engagement.

**PRESENTERS:** **Patrick Doty**, Senior Consultant Client Services, Douglas Shaw & Associates; **Robert Johnson**, Senior Creative Director, Douglas Shaw & Associates

### Beyond the Pyramid: Rethinking Major Gifts in 2026

Donor behavior no longer fits the traditional giving pyramid. Faith-based nonprofits generally see nearly 50 percent of their revenue from less than 1% of donors who fund critical growth opportunities. Learn the essential steps for finding, acquiring, and upgrading major donors in 2026.

**PRESENTERS:** **Roy Jones**, President, Fit Fundraising; **Dr. Candace Gregory**, President/CEO, Open Door Mission — Omaha

### Unlocking Donor Insights: 2025 Mission Donor Benchmarking Report

Masterworks and Virtuous have once again partnered to produce a comprehensive benchmarking report on fundraising metrics for ministries fighting homelessness. Hear key findings, receive an advance printed copy, and join a lively discussion on applying these insights to achieve sustainable fundraising success.

**PRESENTERS:** **Jaclyn Jones**, Account Executive, Masterworks; **Carly Berna**, VP Marketing, Virtuous

## RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT 2

Grand Gallery E

### Donor Retention: A Systematic Approach to Sustainable Fundraising

Given the challenges and costs associated with new donor acquisition, Rockford Rescue Mission (Rockford, Illinois) developed and implemented a donor cultivation and retention strategy that has shown excellent results. Attendees will learn about the organization-wide effort that relies on documented processes.

**PRESENTER:** **Ted Tomita**, Chief Development Officer, Rockford Rescue Mission

### AI for Digital Fundraising: Pro-Level Communication at Your Fingertips

Join a hands-on session demonstrating how to leverage a large language AI model to maximize fundraising efforts. You'll learn how to instantly generate personalized, impactful copy for appeals and how to develop strategies and protocols to generate the most revenue.

**PRESENTER:** **Jeff Kliewer**, CEO, ViewSpark

### The Next-Gen Donor Playbook: From TikTok to Turnout

Millennials and Gen Z make up the largest cohort of donors! Unpack what they look for and how to deliver it. Launch campaigns that leverage appropriate touchpoints and leave with actionable insights that shift your mindset and systems to strengthen your donor pipeline going forward.

**PRESENTERS:** **Arvetta Jideonwo**, Chief Development Officer, Wheeler Mission; **James Read**, Chief Creative Officer, BDI

### The How of Donor Cultivation

Explore the tools and techniques Water Street Mission (Lancaster, Pennsylvania) uses to cultivate new donors as direct mail campaigns decline. Gain an understanding of how many touch points first-time donors need to make a donation and then investigate networking and digital channels for cultivation.

**PRESENTER:** **Ricky Prado**, Fundraising Database Analyst, Water Street Mission

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Silence or turn off devices to maintain a focused environment.

**OPERATIONS & ADMINISTRATION**Our Daily Bread  
Ministries.

River Overlook E

**Strengthening ministries through effective management, systems, and support****ORGANIZATIONAL GROWTH**

Grand Gallery Overlook E &amp; F

**Developing teams that drive organizational health and long-term growth****GROUP****1****A Biblical Framework for Performance Management**

Current and aspiring leaders will learn how to use the parable of the fig tree in Luke 13:6 — 9 as a metaphorical lens that explores employee performance, development, and accountability. Use data to diagnose common barriers, communicate expectations with compassion, and recognize and reinforce fruitfulness.

**PRESENTER: Ashley Roose**, VP of Operations & Human Resources, Open Door Mission — Rochester

**TUE**3:15 —  
4:30  
**PM****Shaping a Ministry That Thinks Like a Startup**

Life transformation ministries can combine entrepreneurial agility with deep compassion to move from scrappy to scalable. Learn how Hope the Mission (Van Nuys, California) went from a few beds to thousands, by acting first and finding resources later. Discover how risk-taking, innovation, and faith coexist.

**PRESENTER: Ken Craft**, Founder & CEO, Hope the Mission

**GROUP****2****Understanding the Medical Leave Maze**

Get a handle on unraveling compliance for medical leaves and take advantage of guidance for cross-over applications and criteria for mandated leaves.

Understand how leaves interplay with employer policies, as well as the required and best practice forms, notifications, and documentation.

**PRESENTER: Angie Criner**, President/Consultant, Career Cross Training

**WED**3:15 —  
4:30  
**PM****Training Ground: Developing an Effective Internship Program**

Discover how an effective internship program can enhance the services you provide to your guests. Walk through the steps needed to start a successful internship program and learn both the myths and the benefits of interns.

**PRESENTER: Michelle Alexander**, VP of Programs, Star of Hope Mission

**GROUP****3****Navigating Leadership Transitions: CEO/Board Perspectives**

Join an interactive and candid conversation about transition perils and possibilities. Learn practical strategies that maintain forward momentum so the board and leadership can maintain continuity and growth and discover key considerations that help promote a seamless transition.

**PRESENTERS: Dan Stoltzfus**, CEO, Helping Up Mission; **Chuck Knudsen**, Board Chair, Helping Up Mission; **Bob Gehman**, former CEO, Helping Up Mission

**THUR**9:15 —  
10:30  
**AM****A Team Approach to Program, Development, and Operations**

You know the tension between what we do to change a life, what we do to fund that life change, and how we manage systems to ensure the changed life. Explore how The Rescue Mission (Fort Wayne, Indiana) fuses these dynamics into a cohesive team.

**PRESENTERS: Thomas McArthur**, CEO/President, The Rescue Mission; **Dan Rogers**, Chief Stewardship Officer, The Rescue Mission

**GROUP****4****Emergency Management Tabletop Exercises**

Participate in a live emergency management tabletop exercise designed to stress test and identify vulnerabilities within your organization. Learn to identify gaps, build actionable solution strategies, and receive the building blocks to create and execute your own emergency management tabletop exercises.

**PRESENTER: Jeffery Dashner**, Former Sr. VP Operations, Mel Trotter Ministries

**THUR**2:15 —  
3:30  
**PM****Healthy Board Habits**

Explore the Seven Habits of Healthy Boards, rooted in biblical principles. Strengthen board engagement, cultivate a culture of generosity and prayer, and align governance practices with mission impact. Walk away with renewed clarity on serving faithfully, leading effectively, and stewarding your ministry with excellence.

**PRESENTER: Kent Vanderwood**, Senior Consultant, The Timothy Group

**Room capacity is limited.**Arrive early and have  
a backup option.

## TRANSFORMATIONAL PROGRAMMING 1

Grand Gallery A  
*Inspiring life-changing programs toward next-level outcomes*

### Redefining Workforce Development

Hear about the Atlanta Mission (Atlanta, Georgia) Next Steps Program, which offers an opportunity for individuals to begin building a future marked by employment, independence, and a renewed sense of dignity. Learn best practices for replication and practical tips to launch a workforce development program.

**PRESENTER:** **Tensley Almand**, CEO, Atlanta Mission

### Aftercare and the Five Pillars of Service

Learn from the Knox Area Rescue Ministries (Knoxville, Tennessee) community-centered approach to breaking the cycle of chronic homelessness. Collaboratively, they seek to stabilize and sustain individual households, foster positive relationships and community connections, and teach individuals to thrive beyond the structured shelter environment.

**PRESENTERS:** **Terry Bray**, Director of Frontline Ministries, Knox Area Rescue Ministries; **Drew Mattson**, Aftercare Advocate, Knox Area Rescue Ministries

### Implementing and Sustaining a Children's Program

Hear about Boise Rescue Mission Ministries (Boise, Idaho) programs for children and teens when school is not in session. In addition to meals, tutoring, field trips, and programming, the kids enjoy positive peer and adult interaction and access to numerous opportunities that build strong foundations.

**PRESENTERS:** **Jennifer Morin**, Children's Program Manager, Boise Rescue Mission Ministries; **Kelsey Korvela**, Children's Program Director, Boise Rescue Mission Ministries

### Insight from Numbers: Build a Meaningful Data Culture

Outreach, Inc. (Indianapolis, Indiana) understands that data fuels clarity, stewardship, and mission alignment. Learn to track data that matters and use results to refine strategy and demonstrate impact. Leave with tools and inspiration to use data to fuel ministry—not bureaucracy.

**PRESENTERS:** **Andrew Neal**, CEO, Outreach Inc.; **Kelsie Stingham-Marquis**, Director of Community Partnerships, Outreach Inc.

## TRANSFORMATIONAL PROGRAMMING 2

Grand Gallery B

### Helping Home Happen

Learn how Rescue Ministries of Mid-Michigan (Saginaw, Michigan) helps individuals and families create a stable foundation as they transition to independent living. The program provides a furnished apartment and wraparound services to help decrease recidivism and make practical use of volunteers and donations.

**PRESENTER:** **Dan Streeter**, CEO, Rescue Ministries of Mid-Michigan

### Interventions That Work

Explore case studies using Cognitive Behavioral Therapy and Narrative Exposure Therapy as a framework to assist guests in overcoming various challenges. Learn how to have REAL conversations with individuals struggling with addiction and gather information about modalities intersecting evangelism and intervention.

**PRESENTER:** **Leo Rodas**, Board Member, River of Life

### From Halfway to Wholeway: Creating Transformational Programs

Inspired by Brenda Lovelady Spahn's conviction that people need more than halfway houses, explore how to design comprehensive transitional programs that restore dignity, address barriers, and empower long-term success. Gain practical insights into creating holistic systems of care that move individuals from crisis to thriving.

**PRESENTER:** **Melinda McGahee**, CEO, The Lovelady Center

### A Low-Barrier, Drop-in Center Strategy

Hear about a mission that offers an alternative for non-compliant individuals, providing a safe space that keeps them off the streets but doesn't disrupt shelter guests. Unpack how this approach reduces stress, saves money, and still gives them opportunities to share the Gospel.

**PRESENTER:** **Randy Barton**, Sr. Director of Operations, City Rescue Mission of Lansing

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# Build Your Remarkable Team

## Nonprofit Staffing and Coaching That Serves Your Remarkable Mission

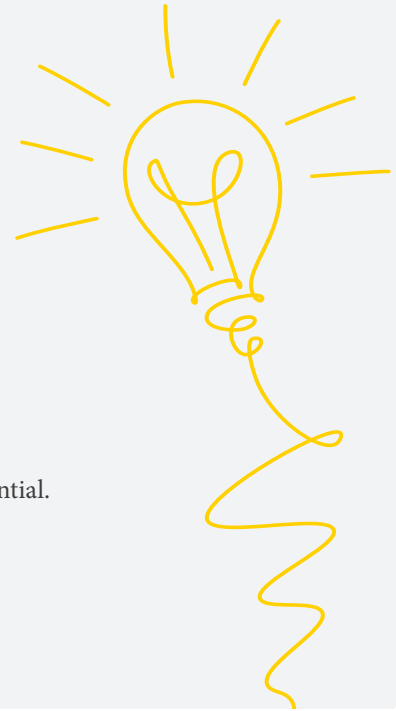
What if you...

- Could fill open positions faster?
- Led an innovative team of people who loved their work?
- Had access to a nationwide network of qualified candidates?
- Felt confident about leading your nonprofit through big transitions?
- Had a team equipped to increase your mission impact?

We partner with you to find great leaders – and coach your team to unleash their potential.

Let's take the guesswork out of your next:

- Executive search
- Specialized search
- Succession planning
- Remarkable Teams Consulting
- And more!



*"Loved that Slingshot cared enough to get to know and understand our culture and delivered candidates that were a great fit."*

**Jon Rocke**  
Peoria Rescue Ministries

*Working with the Slingshot group has been a game-changer for Star Gospel Mission. Their commitment to understanding our culture translated into a stream of highly qualified candidates who are helping take our work to the next level. Thanks, Slingshot!*

**Dr. Marion Platt**  
Star Gospel Mission

*"Slingshot Group was pivotal in bringing us top quality candidates with the experience and professional background we needed. Their expertise, process and dynamic team served our organization exceedingly well with multiple new hires."*

**Steven Smith**  
Gloo

# SUPER SEMINARS

## Five Keys to CEO Succession

River Overlook C & D

Steve Woodworth from Masterworks will share stories and insights from the biggest, best, and most disastrous ministry successions to help you steward your own succession and set up your team and organization for success.

**PRESENTER:** Steve Woodworth, Executive Chairman, Masterworks

## Managing Leadership Anxiety: Yours and Theirs

Grand Gallery Overlook A & B

Attendees will gain insight and understanding that will help in noticing triggers, lowering reactivity, developing deeper connection, and increasing emotional wellbeing, all while accomplishing challenging tasks and responsibilities in a variety of difficult situations.

**PRESENTER:** Steve Cuss, Founder, Capable Life

## Hey Boss, We Have a Problem: Managing Crisis

River Overlook A & B

Organizations can learn to thrive in a crisis with proper preparation. Unpack three essential traits of effective crisis decision-makers and leave equipped with practical tools to confidently tackle your ten toughest decisions in the coming year.

**PRESENTER:** Jack Briggs, Consultant, Front Right Strategies

## Practicing Peace: Forming Emotionally and Spiritually Mature Leaders

Grand Gallery Overlook E & F

Scripture calls God's people to a different way of life and Jesus taught his followers to become peacemakers, to speak the truth in love, and to bear the fruit of the Spirit. Explore emotional and spiritual maturity, and practices for sustaining steadiness, clarity, and wisdom in demanding leadership environments.

**PRESENTER:** Michael Gulker, President, The Colossian Forum

## Build a Remarkable Team

Grand Gallery Overlook C & D

Begin by completing a Team Awareness Assessment. Using the Seven Key Signatures of a remarkable team, participants will leverage their customized team assessment results to identify strengths, gaps, and pathways to a healthier more remarkable team.

**PRESENTERS:** Tim Foot, CEO/President, Slingshot Group; Brooke Hodnefield, Executive Consultant, Slingshot Group

## Don't Forget to Fill Out the Seminar Evaluation Form!

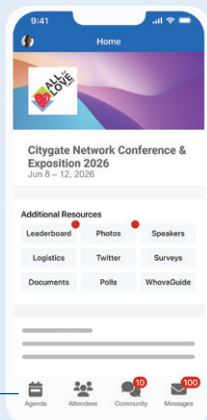
**STEP 1**

Download Whova, then sign-in to find the event



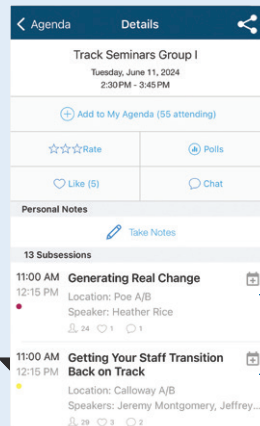
**STEP 2**

Click "Agenda"



**STEP 3**

Open Track Seminar Group



**STEP 4**

Find Seminar

**STEP 5**

Select "Rate" then answer questions & submit!





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*We walk alongside ministries to grow generosity and lasting impact.*

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## HOW WE SERVE

- Capital Campaigns
- Donor Intelligence
- Major Donor Game Plan
- Annual Fund
- Executive Search

# SEMINAR SPEAKERS

With such a strong and engaging speaker lineup, we know many of you will want to continue the conversation. If you have follow-up questions or would like to connect, you'll find their email addresses below ...

**Adam Lipscomb**

adamlipscomb@meltrotter.org

**Amanda Kirby**

akirby@bdiagency.com

**Amy Greene**

amy.greene@metromin.org

**Andrew Neal**

aneal@outreachindiana.org

**Dr. Andrew Sears**

andrew@cityvision.edu

**Angie Criner**

career Crosstraining@gmail.com

**Anna Valeria**

avaleria@livingstonassociates.com

**Arvetta Jideonwo**

arvettajideonwo@wheelermission.org

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tmcewan@slingshotgroup.org



# CITYGATE NETWORK'S *Districts*

Built on a grassroots approach, Citygate Network's nine districts unite ministries—strengthening local connections through collaboration, fellowship, shared learning, and mutual support. Each district is led by a president and vice president who represent their region, meet regularly with Citygate Network, and help coordinate events—ensuring strong alignment and meaningful connections across the network.

**Bluegrass District**  
Josh Torbich | President  
Trina Fullard | Vice-President

**Deep South**  
Tensley Almand | President  
Buddy Morrow | Vice-President

**Evergreen District**  
Kim Cook | President  
Scott Thielen | Vice-President

**Great Lakes District**  
Tracy Gorman | President  
Ann Ebbert | Vice-President

**Heartland District**  
Rob Swiers | President  
Daniel Buller | Vice-President

**Liberty District**  
Dan Stoltzfus | President  
Stephanie Halley | Vice-President

**Northern Lights District**  
Michelle Porter | President  
Frank Ulrich | Vice-President

**Rawhide District**  
Steven Whitaker | President  
Charles Wolford | Vice-President

**Sierra District**  
Jeff Gilman | President  
Bram Begonia | Vice-President

## Regional Coordinators

Our regional coordinators are seasoned ministry leaders who walk alongside ministry CEOs—offering insight, practical support, and meaningful connections, while faithfully listening, encouraging, and covering this work in prayer.



Bill Mollard | Northern Lights,  
Western Provinces  
(778) 828-2089

[bmollard@citygatenetwork.org](mailto:bmollard@citygatenetwork.org)



Penny Kievet | Deep South  
+ Virgin Islands  
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[pkievet@citygatenetwork.org](mailto:pkievet@citygatenetwork.org)



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Peter Duraisami | Northern  
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Phil Altmeyer  
Evergreen  
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[paltmeyer@citygatenetwork.org](mailto:paltmeyer@citygatenetwork.org)



Herb Smith  
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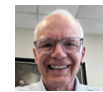
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Great Lakes + Missouri  
(317) 430-8249

[ralvis@citygatenetwork.org](mailto:ralvis@citygatenetwork.org)



Ken Peterson  
Heartland + Wisconsin  
(651) 402-9620

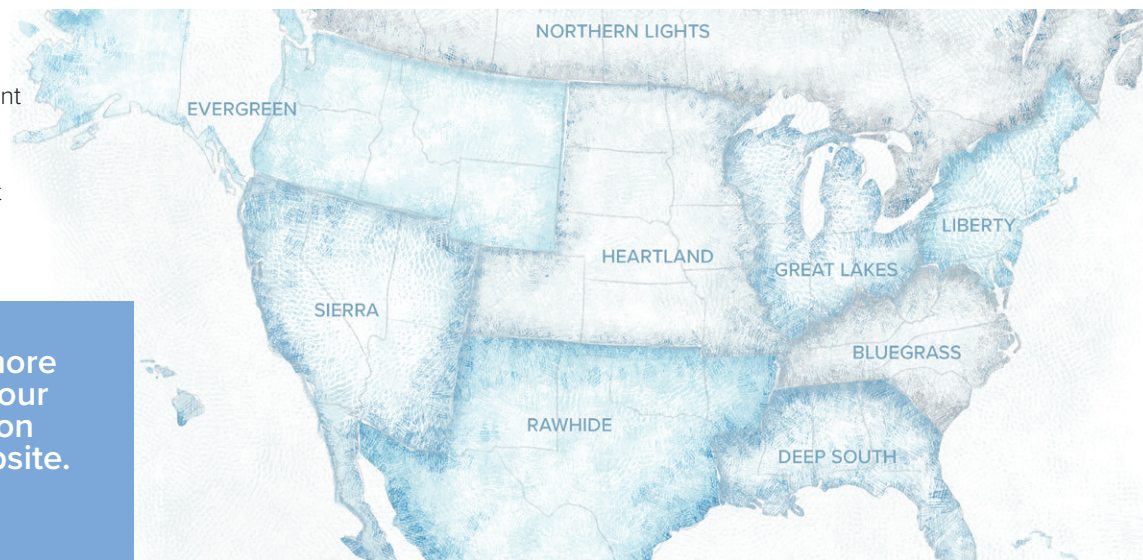
[kpeterson@citygatenetwork.org](mailto:kpeterson@citygatenetwork.org)



*Starts August 1!*  
Glenn Cranfield  
Bluegrass

(615) 613-5280

[gcranfield@citygatenetwork.org](mailto:gcranfield@citygatenetwork.org)



Learn more  
about your  
district on  
our website.

# UPCOMING EVENTS

Mark your calendars for these upcoming events designed to help you sustain momentum and continue the work ahead.



**August 24 – 26, 2026**  
**Sheraton Denver West**  
**Denver, Colorado**

Leading a faith-based nonprofit comes with unique challenges and increasing complexity. The **CEO Summit** creates space for executive leaders to step away, engage deeply with peers from across North America, and navigate those challenges together. Through relevant content, candid conversations, and meaningful connection, this gathering offers a powerful opportunity to recharge, refocus, and return with renewed clarity and purpose.

A couple of our featured speakers this year include:



**Cliff Robinson**  
Executive VP & Chief Operating Officer, Chick-fil-A



**Tim Foot**  
CEO/President, Slingshot Group

... and more to come!

**Register today!**



## DISTRICT EVENTS

Citygate Network hosts district events on a rotating basis. This fall, the districts listed below will gather for a time of connection, learning, and renewal—strengthening relationships and refocusing on the heart of ministry.



Rooted in the theme *Above All Else* (Proverbs 4:23), each gathering offers leadership development, Christ-centered encouragement, and space to recharge. Citygate Network President/CEO **Tom De Vries** will be joined by **Steve Cuss**, to help attendees explore how to lead well without losing your soul—and how to lead the most difficult person you know: yourself.



### Great Lakes

September 16 – 18 | Schaumburg, Illinois  
*Chicago suburb*



### Evergreen

September 22 – 24 | Coeur d'Alene, Idaho



### Rawhide

September 23 – 25 | Ft. Worth, Texas



### Deep South

September 28 – 30 | Atlanta, Georgia



**Registration for these events is now open!**

If your district isn't listed this year, you're warmly invited to join the nearest event!



## What happens when a simple conversation becomes a catalyst for change?

On **October 8 — 9, 2026**, Citygate Network invites member CEOs to participate in Conversations on a Bench—a 24-hour livestreamed storytelling event where leaders sit in their communities, engaging in real, unscripted conversations that share stories of hope, resilience, and transformation—shifting public perception and highlighting Christ-centered compassion in action.

Beginning Thursday, October 8, at 3:00 p.m. ET, and continuing for 24 hours, this unified effort will amplify the work happening across North American communities through national visibility and a collective voice.

Participation includes resources, training, and ongoing support to help you plan and execute your event with confidence. **Visit the Exhibit Hall to see a live demonstration of the technology and learn how to bring this event to life in your community.**



**Join the movement  
—your voice matters!**



**Helping Up Mission (Baltimore, MD)  
October 13 – 16, 2026**

**Seattle's Union Gospel Mission  
April 13 – 16, 2027**

While district events take place on a rotating schedule, there are many other opportunities to engage throughout the year—including **Innovation & Impact Labs**. If you've been considering one, this is your invitation!

These immersive, four-day experiences place ministry leaders inside best-in-class programs and operations to see what drives excellence. Teams of four to five leaders engage in hands-on learning, peer collaboration, and tailored coaching—leaving with a practical 90-day plan ready to implement.

**Scan to learn more!**



# UPCOMING EVENTS

Mark your calendars for these upcoming events designed to help you sustain momentum and continue the work ahead.

## GREATER THINGS

JOHN 14:12

### 2027 Annual Conference & Exposition

June 2 — 5, 2027 | Spokane, Washington

Looking ahead to 2027, we're gathering in Spokane, Washington, for a time of connection, worship, learning, and renewed vision.

Our theme, *Greater Things*, invites us to move beyond what we can accomplish on our own and step into the work God desires to do through us:

**"I am telling you the truth: those who believe in me will do what I do—yes, they will do even greater things, because I am going to the Father." John 14:12**

Together, we'll explore what it means to lead and serve with faith, depend on the power of the Holy Spirit, and trust God to bring transformation in the lives of those we serve.

We're curating a dynamic speaker lineup designed to challenge, equip, and encourage you—stay tuned!

**Mark your calendar now for June 2 — 5, 2027, in Spokane, Washington!**



Secure the lowest rate of just **\$519** — **PLUS every 5th person is FREE\***!

**Special In-Conference Offer!**

**Register online by June 30, 2026, to take advantage of this limited-time offer.**

\* We understand that plans can change. Substitutions are always welcome. Cancellations made up to four weeks before the event will incur a \$150 fee. After May 2, 2027, no refunds will be issued, except in cases of family emergencies.



### September 9 — 11, 2026 Colorado Springs, Colorado

What happens when intentional leaders commit to grow—together?

Learning, encouragement, and accountability form the foundation of Citygate Network's **Leadership Collaboratives**. This initiative guides a cohort of leaders in building self-awareness and personal effectiveness to strengthen their ability to lead others and expand their influence.

Through executive coaching, monthly cohort calls focused on key leadership competencies, and small group connections, participants will experience meaningful growth and peer support.

Open to leaders across Citygate Network, this initiative kicks off in Colorado Springs, September 9 — 11, followed by ongoing virtual engagement and a one-day gathering at the 2027 conference in Spokane, Washington, on June 1.

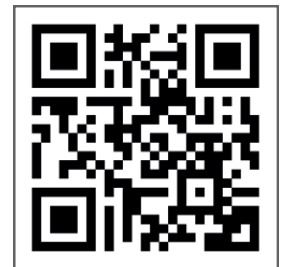
Thanks to a generous grant, participants are only responsible for paying for travel to and lodging at in-person gatherings.



**Interested?  
Visit the website  
for more details.**

Every dollar, *on mission.*  
Every decision, *on mission.*  
Every day.

SCAN TO EXPLORE —



MISSIONTRACKER.IO/VIANOVA

# giving OPPORTUNITY

Membership dues and event fees sustain much of our work—but they don't cover it all. Your generosity helps bridge the gap, enabling Citygate Network to continue equipping and strengthening ministries on the frontlines of homelessness, addiction recovery, and life transformation.

## When you give, you help:

### Strengthen a Movement

Citygate Network serves ministries across North America without a centralized donor base. Your support fuels a collective effort—equipping leaders, connecting peers, and advancing gospel-centered impact in communities everywhere.

### Expand What's Possible

Your generosity accelerates new initiatives, resources, and opportunities that help ministries respond to growing complexity with confidence, excellence, and compassion.

Every dollar given directly supports this shared work—providing tools, resources, connections, and encouragement to those serving every day.

During the General Session on Thursday evening, you'll have an opportunity to invest in Citygate Network. We invite you to prayerfully consider partnering with us—whether through a one-time gift or ongoing support.

Scan the QR code or visit our website to learn how you can help us strengthen ministries and advance lasting life transformation across North America.



**CITYGATE™  
NETWORK**

## Giving Opportunity

Every day, missions and ministries provide compassionate care for people facing homelessness, addiction, and poverty. Their dedicated efforts lead to lasting impact.

Citygate Network empowers and strengthens these ministries by encouraging their loving actions, amplifying their voice, and energizing their missional efforts. We exist to equip gospel-centered organizations to transform lives from suffering to flourishing.

*Give Online*



[www.citygatenetwork.org/give](http://www.citygatenetwork.org/give)

All contributions made to Citygate Network are subject to the discernment and discretion of the board of directors and are tax deductible as allowed by law. Unless otherwise noted, no goods or services were provided by Citygate Network in exchange for this gift.



**Many ways to support the churches and ministries you love.**

### Serving Individuals & Families



Kingdom Investments



Estate Planning



Trust Administration



Planned Giving

### Serving Churches, Ministries & Institutions



Ministry Loans



Kingdom Investments



Ministry Accounting



Asset Management



Estate Planning

Explore which option is right for you:  
**[WatersEdge.com](https://www.WatersEdge.com) | 800-949-9988**



# CITYGATE NETWORK *Team*

Meet the team that makes up Citygate Network—and the many hands faithfully working behind the scenes to bring this gathering to life.

## Citygate Network Staff & Conference Team



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**Bram Begonia**

Conference Support

**Chris Palusky**

Conference Local Mission Support

**Christine Matos**

Conference Registration

**David Winger**

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**Emery Gualtieri**

Conference Registration

**Herb Smith**

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**Jesse Ralph**

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**Lydia Barron**

Graphic Designer

**Rachel Aden**

Event Venue Consultant

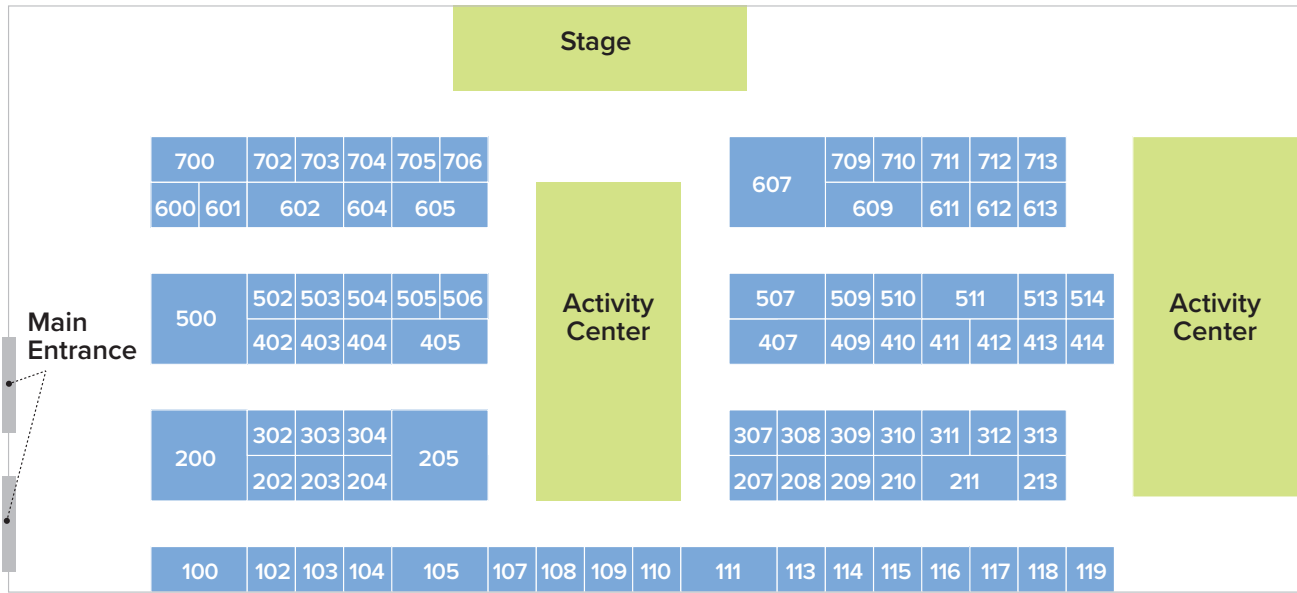
**Raeshel'le Selvage**

Conference Volunteer Coordination

**Ty De Vries**

Conference A/V and Session Recordings





## EXHIBIT HALL BOOTHS

- |                                     |  |  |   |
|-------------------------------------|--|--|---|
| 612 ACE Overcomers                  | 500 Douglas Shaw & Associates                    | 313 Oneicity                                     | 509 WatersEdge  |
| 505 AllGive                         | 702 EBS Tax Credits                              | 611 Our Daily Bread Ministries                   | 602 Whitehouse & Schapiro   |
| 110 Alliance Defending Freedom      | 504 ECFA   | 303 Pulse For Good                               | 403 Wilson Marketing  |
| 304 American Bedding Mfg.           | 102 Effinity Training                            | 211 Relief Products                              | 402 Wilson Sheehan Lab for Economic Opportunities at the University of Notre Dame |
| 204 AmPhil                          | 209 Ember AI                                     | 412 RightNow Media                               |   |
| 711 AndGo                           | 713 ESS Universal                                | 200 RKD Group                                    |   |
| 103 Arbor Research Group            | 114 FaithSearch Partners                         | 113 Rooted Software                              |   |
| 607 BDI                             | 502 Fit Fundraising                              | 115 Schooley Mitchell                            |   |
| 513 Become Unmistakable             | 510 Fletcher Group                               | 600 Slingshot Group                              |   |
| 118 Best Christian Workplaces       | 310 Focus Consulting                             | 511 SMCo Thrift                                  |   |
| 104 Bloomerang                      | 413 Fundraise Up                                 | 310 Sonic Palette                                |   |
| 700 blue dawg                       | 405 Gallagher Insurance                          | 609 StepUP Beds / Sourcing Systems Intl.         |   |
| 705 BMC                             | 213 Gateway Communications                       | 309 The 1687 Foundation                          |   |
| 312 Brook Valley Management, Inc.   | 604 Genesis Process                              | 202 The Chalmers Center for Economic Development |   |
| 706 Canopy                          | 709 Giving Guitars                               | 117 The Colossian Forum                          |   |
| 703 Capital for Compassion          | 601 givingMD                                     | 119 The Focus Group                              |   |
| 505 Career Cross Training,          | 105 Jess Crate Furniture                         | 409 The Lukens Company                           |   |
| 108 CFO Leverage                    | 107 Jon Ruybalid, Citygate Network Legal Counsel | 506 The Timothy Group                            |   |
| 404 Christian Counseling Associates | 507 Louder Agency                                | 111 Thrivent Financial                           |   |
| 307 City Vision University          | 205 Masterworks                                  | 411 Thryfter                                     |   |
| 613 Compass Financial Ministry      | 208 Mission Accounting and Advisory Partners     | 514 Transformations by Weiland                   |   |
| 109 Conversations on a Bench        | 704 mission:activate                             | 710 Trinity Ministries                           |   |
| 308 DBD Group                       | 407 MissionTracker                               | 207 TrueSense Marketing                          |   |
| 116 Delia Martín Agency             | 203 Neighbor Solutions                           | 410 Trustward                                    |   |
| 210 DickersonBakker                 | 712 Next Step                                    | 503 Up and Running Again                         |   |
| 605 DonorPerfect                    | 414 Nimble Connect                               | 302 ViewSpark                                    |   |
|                                     | 311 Norix Group                                  | 100 Virtuous                                     |   |

## SCHEDULE

**Tuesday**  
2:00 p.m. — 3:00 p.m.

**Community Block Party & Exhibit Hall Grand Opening**

7:45 p.m. — 9:00 p.m. 🍷  
includes Dessert

**Wednesday**  
7:45 a.m. — 9:00 a.m. 🍷  
includes Breakfast

1:00 p.m. — 2:45 p.m. 🍷  
includes Dessert

**Thursday**  
7:45 a.m. — 9:00 a.m.  
includes Coffee

12:30 p.m. — 2:00 p.m. 🍷  
includes Lunch



Smart questions, honest benchmarks, and recommendations we can actually use. That's real value.

The Arbor Group team asked the right questions, grounded their work in credible data, and delivered insights that were practical, relevant, and directly applicable to strengthening our programs.

— Perry Hines, President & CEO  
Wheeler Mission



**ARBOR**  
RESEARCH GROUP

Insight Alone Is Not Enough

## The Right Research Partner Matters

Mission-driven leaders face complex challenges—changing cultural realities, limited resources, staffing pressures, and growing community needs. In this environment, research must do more than provide data; it must help leaders make wise, confident decisions.

Unlike large, one-size-fits-all research firms, Arbor Research Group partners personally with CEOs and executive leaders to deliver custom program evaluation, organizational review, and community research tailored to each organization's mission and context. But the Arbor team does much more than deliver findings—they help leaders understand, prioritize, and implement insights with confidence.

**Trusted** by  
non-profits and  
mission-driven  
organizations

Arbor Research Group  
137 N. Michigan Street  
South Bend, IN 46601  
(574) 217-2466  
[arborresearchgroup.org](http://arborresearchgroup.org)



# EXHIBITOR INFORMATION

## **ACE Overcomers 612**

A trauma-informed, evidence-based curriculum of powerful biblical and scientific principles that retrains the brain and resets the nervous system. Used in missions, jails, churches, and schools.  
(209) 626-5446 | [aceovercomers.org](http://aceovercomers.org)

## **AllGive 505-A**

AllGive is an online giving platform that helps churches keep 100% of every gift to ministry—where it belongs. No fees. Just mission impact.  
(616) 308-1851 | [allgive.online](http://allgive.online)

## **Alliance Defending Freedom 110**

Equip your rescue mission or shelter for today's legal and cultural challenges. From legal support and counsel to educational resources, ADF exists to ensure you can freely pursue your mission.  
(800) 835-5233  
[administryalliance.org/citygate](http://administryalliance.org/citygate)

## **American Bedding Mfg. 304**

Mattresses and covers including custom sizes, overflow mats. Metal bunk and single beds with matching furniture and linens. Prices and catalog available.  
(800) 203-2507  
[sales@americanbeddingmfg.com](mailto:sales@americanbeddingmfg.com)

## **AmPhil 204**

AmPhil is a Christian company that strengthens civil society by helping nonprofits raise more money.  
(302) 635-7354 | [amphil.com](http://amphil.com)

## **AndGo 711**

AndGo is the case management software purpose-built for case managers. AndGo streamlines workflows, enhances accuracy, and ensures data security.  
(812) 214-9500 | [andgocm.com](http://andgocm.com)

## **Arbor Research Group 103**

Arbor Research Group partners with Christian organizations through data-driven research—surveys, audits, and strategic studies that transform how ministries lead, serve, and grow.  
(574) 217-2466  
[arborresearchgroup.com](http://arborresearchgroup.com)

## **BDI 807**

Releasing generosity to help a hurting world - that is our mission. Serving others is our primary focus, and by embracing certain key principles, abundant growth will be the natural result.  
(626) 359-1015 | [bdiagency.com](http://bdiagency.com)

## **Become Unmistakable 513**

Become Unmistakable helps organizations upskill managers through leadership training and intuitive software, enabling better development, alignment, engagement, and high-performing teams.  
(616) 802-4340  
[becomeunmistakable.com](http://becomeunmistakable.com)

## **Best Christian Workplaces 118**

BCW helps organizations measure the health of their culture and drive change for greater Kingdom impact. We offer the most widely used Christian employee engagement survey and database in the world.  
(206) 230-8111 | [workplaces.org](http://workplaces.org)

## **Bloomerang 104**

Bloomerang is a donor, volunteer, and fundraising management solution that helps nonprofits deliver a better giving experience and create thriving organizations through simple-to-use technology.  
(317) 296-8100 | [bloomerang.com](http://bloomerang.com)

## **blue dawg 700**

Serving over 50 missions (large and small) with direct mail, email, and digital fundraising. Success starts with God first, donors second, mission third and blue dawg last.  
(205) 949-2451 | [gobluedawg.com](http://gobluedawg.com)

## **BMC 705**

End-to-end POS systems designed for thrift stores including: donor tracking, production/barcode tags, customer loyalty and discounting, rotation discounts, round-up, store reporting, and Jamalytics.  
(517) 485-1732 | [bmc-pos.com](http://bmc-pos.com)

## **Brook Valley Management 312**

We offer nonprofits a unique hassle-free fundraising opportunity. We understand that fundraising can be challenging. That's why we are committed to making it easy for you and at no cost to you.  
(205) 667-3531  
[donatethisrecyclethat.com](http://donatethisrecyclethat.com)

## **Canopy 706**

Canopy delivers transformative results for nonprofits through the power of planned giving.  
(616) 723-8369 | [canopy-giving.com](http://canopy-giving.com)

## **Capital for Compassion 703**

Learn how rescue missions can fund \$8M+ housing projects using AHP grants—expanding impact without donor strain. Faith meets finance for lasting change.  
(616) 786-9926  
[capitalforcompassion.com](http://capitalforcompassion.com)

## **Career Cross Training 505-B**

Strategic HR consulting from a stewardship perspective to enhance the life/work quality of your employees and protect your ministry. Selective Executive Search.  
(719) 201-6392  
[careercrosstraining@gmail.com](mailto:careercrosstraining@gmail.com)

## **CFO Leverage 108**

CFO Leverage is ready to assist your ministry with financial management needs, from bookkeeping to contract CFO, to other back office administrative projects.  
(901) 487-2718 | [cfoleverage.com](http://cfoleverage.com)

## **Christian Counseling Associates 404**

Christian Counseling Associates offers affordable, faith-based outpatient care for mental health and addiction, with insurance and grant support available to those in financial need.  
(724) 396-1510  
[christiancounselingwpa.com](http://christiancounselingwpa.com)

## **City Vision University 307**

The only accredited online university founded out of Citygate Network. Providing degrees in nonprofit mgmt., counseling, business, and ministry. Join 120+ missions partnering with us!  
(816) 960-2008 | [cityvision.edu](http://cityvision.edu)

## **Compass Financial Ministry 613**

Compass wants to see everyone, everywhere faithfully living by God's principles on finances. We offer books and Bible studies on handling finances, and operating a business, God's way.  
(407) 331-6000  
[compassfinancialministry.org](http://compassfinancialministry.org)

**Conversations on a Bench 109**

For 24 hours, ministries across North America are hosting honest conversations about homelessness, addiction, and mental health. Pull up a seat in person or via livestream to join the conversation.

(719) 266-8300  
[conversationsonabench.org](http://conversationsonabench.org)

**DBD Group 308**

DBD Group is a leader in fundraising consulting for nonprofits across the US. Turn to us for your next campaign, strategic plan or more. [www.dbd.group/downloads](http://www.dbd.group/downloads) or visit our booth.

(877) 323-3904 | [dbd.group](http://dbd.group)

**Delia Martín Agency 116**

Full-service fundraising agency with over 100 years experience working with rescue missions and other ministries. We limit the number of partners we work with so we can better serve you.

(818) 512-7339  
[deliamartinagency.com](http://deliamartinagency.com)

**Dickerson, Bakker & Associates 210**

We are DickersonBakker. We provide solutions to help nonprofits grow and thrive. Over the past four decades, we have helped hundreds of organizations raise hundreds of millions of dollars.

(800) 382-0094  
[dickersonbakker.com](http://dickersonbakker.com)

**DonorPerfect 605**

We make it easy to do good without compromising stability or scale. DonorPerfect empowers nonprofit staff with simple, reliable tools designed for measurable impact. Trusted by more than 75,000 nonprofits.

(800) 220-8111 | [donorperfect.com](http://donorperfect.com)

**Douglas Shaw & Associates 500**

Douglas Shaw & Associates partners with life-transformation ministries to provide strategies for sustained revenue growth, mobilizing donors through multi-channel custom direct response fundraising.

(630) 562-1321 | [douglasshaw.com](http://douglasshaw.com)

**EBS Tax Credits 702**

EBS has delivered \$95 million for 30 capital projects. We secure funds, structure them for maximum benefit, ensure compatibility with other funding, and walk you through closing and compliance.

(616) 990-6511 | [ebstaxcredits.com](http://ebstaxcredits.com)

**ECFA 504**

ECFA is a growing community of over 2,800 leading churches and ministries committed to upholding the highest standards of integrity.

(540) 535-0103 | [ecfa.org](http://ecfa.org)

**Effinity Training 102**

Effinity Training provides interactive customized virtual and in-person training focused on fostering a trauma-informed culture. Our offerings include compassion fatigue, self-care and mindfulness.

(813) 368-4328 | [effinitytraining.org](http://effinitytraining.org)

**Ember AI 209**

EmberAI helps organizations rebuild and strengthen relationships through intelligent, personalized SMS and AI-driven conversations.

(864) 380-2438 | [emberai.gold](http://emberai.gold)

**ESS Universal 713**

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(616) 229-0597  
[heavydutybunkbeds.com](http://heavydutybunkbeds.com)

**FaithSearch Partners 114**

FaithSearch Partners is the premier executive search firm dedicated to faith-driven organizations. We excel in securing mission-advancing leaders to advance God's kingdom and your mission.

(214) 865-6561  
[faithsearchpartners.com](http://faithsearchpartners.com)

**Fit Fundraising 502**

Fit Fundraising provides fundraising counsel to increase the number of major gifts. We optimize your direct response and development programs to improve major giving performance.

(434) 258-4416 | [fitfundraising.com](http://fitfundraising.com)

**Fletcher Group 510**

Whether you're starting a recovery home or expanding your work to fulfill your mission, the Fletcher Group is here to partner with you make a real difference in the lives of your community members.

(606) 657-4662 | [fletchergroup.org](http://fletchergroup.org)

**Focus Consulting 310-A**

Visit Focus Consulting's booth to see how we help organizations turn purpose into impact. Ask about our specialized services including our Vocational Training curriculum. Together we can transform lives!

(505) 503-0193  
[focusrestconsult.com](http://focusrestconsult.com)

**Fundraise Up 413**

Fundraise Up helps Christian nonprofits raise more online and offline — turning donor intention into completed gifts and one-time givers into faithful recurring supporters.

(718) 831-6596 | [fundraiseup.com](http://fundraiseup.com)

**Gallagher 405**

Gallagher administers Citygate Network's endorsed insurance program to active members, providing a full compliment of insurance products and risk management services.

(719) 352-9535 | [ajg.com/nonprofit](http://ajg.com/nonprofit)

**Gateway Communications 213**

Gateway Communications has a 25-year history of successful donor cultivation and reactivation through telephone fundraising.

(503) 257-0100 | [gatewayci.com](http://gatewayci.com)

**Genesis Process 604**

Relapse prevention training for individual and group counseling. Curriculum for individual and group counseling, and recovery classes. Recovery program assessment, support, and development.

(971) 983-7022 | [genesisprocess.org](http://genesisprocess.org)

**Giving Guitars 709**

We deliver hope and inspiration through the power of music. Visiting 163 ministries serving families and youth, donating more than 250 guitars, impacting thousands of lives. Support the journey!

(615) 422-5706 | [givingguitars.org](http://givingguitars.org)

**givingMD 601**

givingMD helps ministries grow digital fundraising using "Moneyball Digital"—data-driven strategy and donor journeys that turn more supporters into long-term partners.

(972) 571-8644 | [givingMD.com](http://givingMD.com)

**Indy Film Co**

We help organizations tell a better story through film and photo. Get to the heart of your audience faster with a cinematic, story-driven brand film.

(601) 870-2727 | [indyfilm.co](http://indyfilm.co)

**Jess Crate Furniture 105**

Women-owned. American-made solid wood and steel furniture, dorm mattresses, wholesale linens, and bedbug covers. Jess Crate manufactures all products in North Carolina. Factory-direct pricing. (215) 625-3600 | [jesscrate.com](http://jesscrate.com)

**Jon Ruybalid — Citygate Network's Legal Counsel 107**

Citygate Network's legal counsel offering ministry members free 20-minute consults. Decades of experience supporting Christian ministries. Policies & procedures, governance, and employment matters. (402) 631-3384 | [ruybalidlaw.com](http://ruybalidlaw.com)

**Louder Agency 507**

Advance your Mission and accomplish more than you thought possible with a highly-skilled web and marketing team committed to helping you reach more people, raise more funds, and do more good. (615) 538-8359 | [louderagency.com](http://louderagency.com)

**Masterworks 205**

Masterworks is a marketing and fundraising agency that is committed to helping Christian organizations fully accomplish their missions in the world. (360) 394-4300 | [masterworks.agency](http://masterworks.agency)

**Mission Accounting and Advisory Partners (MAAP) 208**

MAAP provides missions and ministries accurate, timely, and relevant financial data that focuses on the needs of decision makers, via process consulting, software implementations, and outsourcing. (816) 392-8425 | [gomaap.com](http://gomaap.com)

**mission:activate 704**

mission:activate helps purpose-driven organizations grow their good through fundraising, donor engagement, marketing strategy, and leadership coaching to drive measurable results and lasting impact. (616) 340-6258 | [missionactivate.com](http://missionactivate.com)

**MissionTracker 407**

MissionTracker is a grassroots software company offering a web-based application to easily track your residents, clients, outreach individuals, volunteers, and staff members. HIPAA Compliant. (833) 687-2251 | [missiontracker.io](http://missiontracker.io)

**Neighbor Solutions 203**

Does your software frustrate you? Come meet the minds behind the case management software designed BY nonprofits, FOR nonprofits. Less time logging. More time with your neighbors. (210) 833-1734 | [neighbor.solutions](http://neighbor.solutions)

**Next Step 712**

Faith based, social enterprise non-profit providing job skills training and employment to individuals that have been pushed towards the edges of our society—yet are determined to build a better future (616) 243-4477 | [nextstep-wm.org](http://nextstep-wm.org)

**Nimble Connect 414**

Great development leaders know the power of quality donor appreciation. Nimble Connect allows your mission to create relationships that make your organization the donor's favorite charity. (401) 646-2531 | [nimble-connect.com](http://nimble-connect.com)

**Norix Group 311**

We design innovative, robust furniture that meets the real-world need for humanizing challenging environments. (630) 231-1331 | [norix.com](http://norix.com)

**Oneicity 313**

Oneicity provides a complete range of proven digital and direct-mail fundraising and marketing solutions for ministries of all sizes nationwide. (206) 922-2411 | [oneicity.com](http://oneicity.com)

**Our Daily Bread Ministries 611**

Our Daily Bread Ministries exists to help individuals deepen their personal relationship with the Lord through resources that speak to everyday life issues. (616) 974-2210 | [odb.org](http://odb.org)

**Pulse For Good 303**

Utilize self-service kiosks, automated phone surveys, and an online survey platform to provide a safe space for your clients to share how they feel about your services. (435) 770-2683 | [pulseforgood.com](http://pulseforgood.com)

**Relief Products LLC 211**

Relief Products offers a comprehensive line of commercial quality mattresses, pillows, linens and sleep accessories. Also a superb line of commercial furniture through a collab with LEEDER FURNITURE. (253) 312-0653 | [reliefproductsllc.com](http://reliefproductsllc.com)

**RightNow Media 412**

RightNow Media helps every person, family, small group, and student grow in their faith with 24/7 access to 25,000+ biblical videos. We help you equip and disciple everyone in your ministry every day. (972) 560-4375 | [rightnowmedia.org](http://rightnowmedia.org)

**RKD Group 200**

RKD Group is North America's leading fundraising and marketing services provider to hundreds of nonprofit organizations, including rescue missions and ministries. (800) 222-6070 | [rkdgroup.com](http://rkdgroup.com)

**Rooted Software 113**

We're a tech services company serving ministries, churches, faith-based nonprofits and businesses. We free you to focus on your mission, by taking expert care of your IT, CRM and systems, and app dev. (785) 347-9300 | [rooted.software](http://rooted.software)

**Schooley Mitchell 115**

We help shelters, ministries, churches, faith based nonprofits, and schools to reduce essential costs to create more money for the programs and services that are helping to restore human lives. (415) 794-5918 | [schooleymitchell.com/ddow/](http://schooleymitchell.com/ddow/)  
[npservantleader](http://npservantleader)

**Slingshot Group 600**

We build remarkable teams through staffing and coaching. (913) 951-7511 | [slingshotgroup.org](http://slingshotgroup.org)

**SMCo Thrift 511**

SMCo Thrift helps thrift stores fund the work and grow the brand of the non-profit initiatives they support. The SMCo Thrift team works along with you to Do Thrift Better. (865) 269-3461 | [smcothrift.com](http://smcothrift.com)

**Sonic Palette 310-B**

Sonic Palette Productions, 4x Emmy-winning, creates cinematic documentaries for nonprofits and faith orgs. Our films move people to act and have helped raise \$5M+ through record campaigns. (708) 314-1997 | [sonicpalette.com](http://sonicpalette.com)

**StepUP Beds / Sourcing Systems Intl. 609**

StepUp Bed is a modular bed system designed to provide simplified access to the upper sleeping areas for all guests in high-density living and sleeping quarters. (206) 226-3608 | [stepupbed.com](http://stepupbed.com)

A large grid of small dots for taking notes, covering most of the page.

**The 1687 Foundation 309**

The 1687 Foundation gives hope and encouragement by providing FREE Christian resources within the U.S. to military, first responders, children, healthcare facilities, and underserved populations.  
(541) 549-7600 | 1687foundation.com

**The Chalmers Center for Economic Development 202**

Strengthen your Life-Transforming Ministry! Get the training & curriculum your team needs to launch financial education and career preparedness classes designed for low-income adults.  
(423) 635-8454 | chalmers.org

**The Colossian Forum 117**

The Colossian Forum works with people to cultivate connection across difference. We teach leaders how to proactively identify and lean into potential areas of conflict and how to better care for people when conflict arises.  
(616) 328-6016 | colossianforum.org

**The FOCUS Group 119**

The FOCUS Group serves Christian nonprofits by providing counsel on major donor strategies, annual funds and capital campaigns, as well as training and coaching for executives and development teams.  
(800) 324-9117 | thefocusgroup.com

**The Lukens Company 409**

The Lukens Company is an award-winning marketing agency that provides expert direct response, donor development, and fundraising services to nonprofits, cultural institutions and advocacy groups.  
(703) 845-8484  
thelukenscompany.com

**The Timothy Group 506**

We've helped over 2,000 Christian organizations implement fundraising and capacity-building strategies through vision, experience, and leadership. Together we've raised \$2.3 Billion.  
(616) 224-4060 | timothygroup.com

**Thrivent Financial 111**

Where Money Means More™ We're more than a financial services organization—we're your partners in navigating life's financial challenges with care and focus on what matters to you.  
(360) 927-2525 | thrivent.com

**Thryfter Technologies 411**

We can show you how to further maximize (by a multiple of 10x or more) your waste stream revenues (rags, store drops, vintage, etc.) in a fun forward thinking way.  
(913) 626-6735 | thryfter.com

**Transformations by Wieland 514**

Smart furniture solutions that outlast multiple generations.  
Smart Design. Stellar Style  
(260) 267-9578  
transformationsfurniture.com

**Trinity Ministries 710**

Trinity/HPSI is a free national purchasing group where members access aggressive pricing contracts with vendors across multiple industries. Save on food, janitorial, paper goods, maintenance and more!  
(615) 672-0229 | trinity-usa.net

**TrueSense Marketing 207**

Family-owned TrueSense Marketing practices Full-Circle Fundraising: omnichannel donor marketing that helps nonprofits deepen donor relationships.  
(724) 371-3640 | truesense.com

**Trustward 410**

Trustward provides fractional bookkeeping, accounting, and CFO services to nonprofits with budgets from \$1M-20M. We bring a proven, modern approach that ensures you have board-ready financial clarity!  
(804) 270-6980 | trustward.com

**Up and Running Again 503**

It is our mission to assist individuals seeking to overcome economic poverty. We accomplish this through the holistic health of training and supporting these individuals to complete a half-marathon.  
(310) 818-3240  
upandrunningagain.org

**ViewSpark 302**

ViewSpark is the first and only engagement/fundraising tool enabling you to capture your organization's work in video or pictures and deliver it in real time to donors directly from your mobile phone.  
(877) 544-8877 | viewspark.org

**Virtuous Software 100/101**

Virtuous is more than a nonprofit CRM. Virtuous is the only responsive fundraising platform designed to help ministries and nonprofits build better donor relationships and increase impact at scale.  
(866) 329-4009 | virtuous.org

**WatersEdge 509**

WatersEdge exists to financially empower donors and ministries to transform lives with the Gospel of Jesus Christ. Smart charitable giving solutions, biblically grounded investments, loans, accounting  
(800) 949-9988 | watersedge.com

**Whitehouse & Schapiro 602**

Whitehouse & Schapiro has more than 100 years of service supporting charitable organizations. Our unmatched expertise in secondhand clothing, toys, shoes, and remnants, coupled with our adeptness.  
(715) 514-8240 | webuyrags.com

**Wilson Marketing Group 403**

We're the specialist in the marketing of mixed institutional clothing and other items. Since 1982, we've been dedicated to assisting nonprofits turn their recyclables into money to further their work.  
(770) 279-0607  
wilsonmarketing.com

**Wilson Sheehan Lab for Economic Opportunities at the University of Notre Dame 402**

LEO, at the University of Notre Dame, provides research at no cost to innovative nonprofits fighting poverty to prove the effectiveness of their programs unlocking support and resources for growth.  
(574) 631-7039 | leo.nd.edu



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**James Dick** (Eastern US)

m: (518) 222-2910

[james\\_dick@ajg.com](mailto:james_dick@ajg.com)

**Jon Barron** (Western US)

m: (719) 352-9525

[jon\\_barron@ajg.com](mailto:jon_barron@ajg.com)

**Samuel Rognstad** (Benefits)

m: (602) 909-7085

[samuel\\_rogstad@ajg.com](mailto:samuel_rogstad@ajg.com)

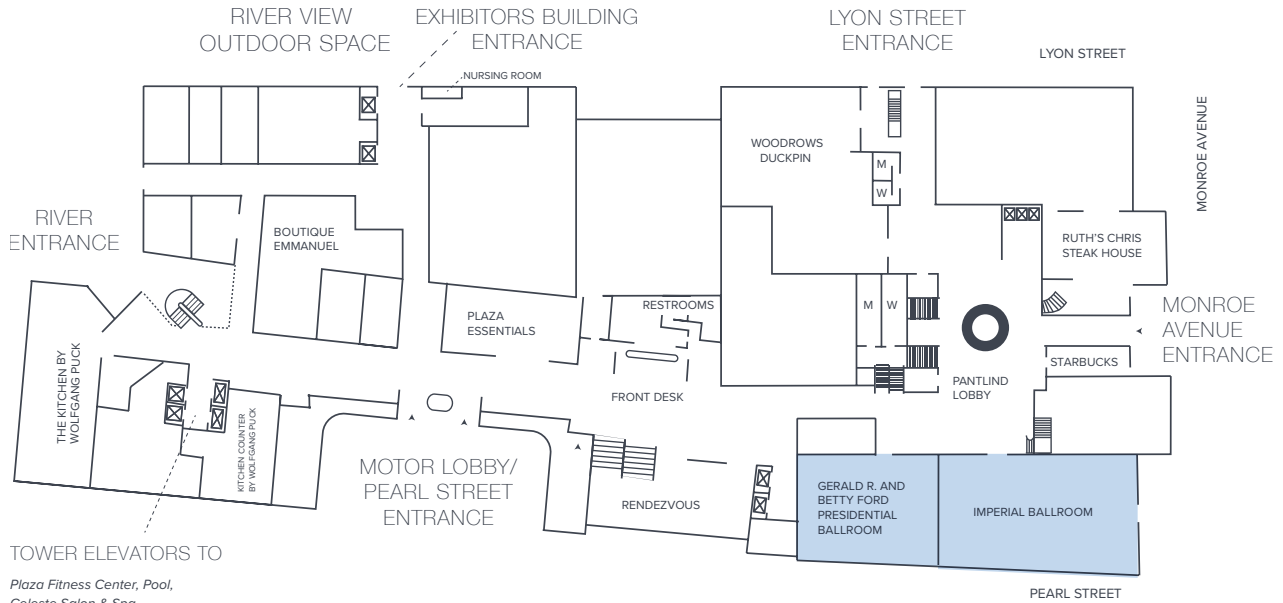
[AJG.com/nonprofit](https://ajg.com/nonprofit) **The Gallagher Way.** Since 1927.



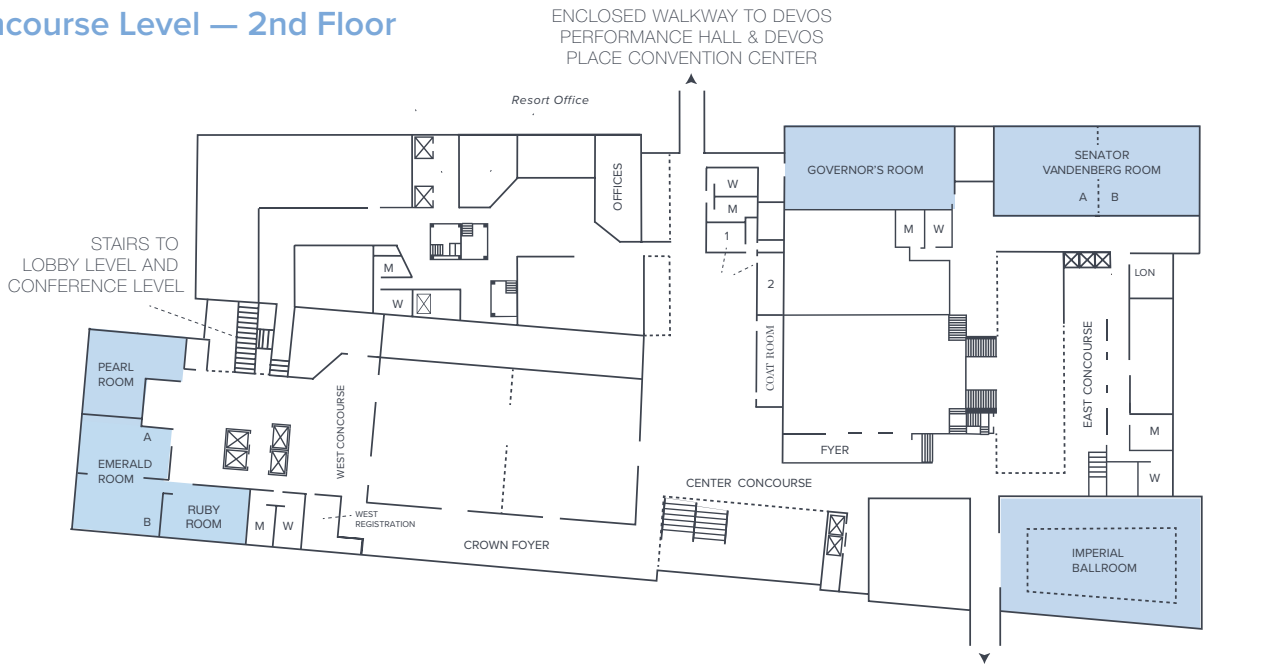
*Alignment that leads to empowerment*

# AMWAY GRAND

## Lobby Level — 1st Floor



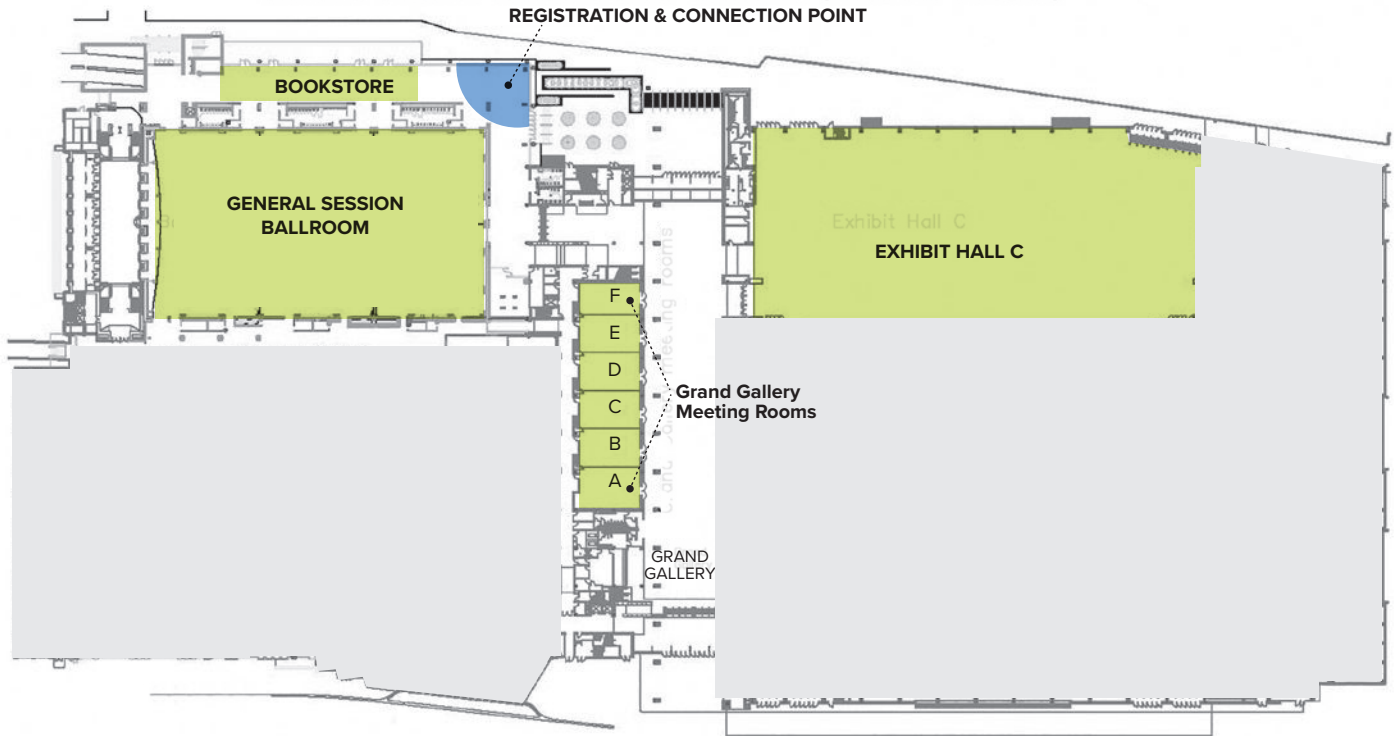
## Concourse Level — 2nd Floor



# DEVOS PLACE

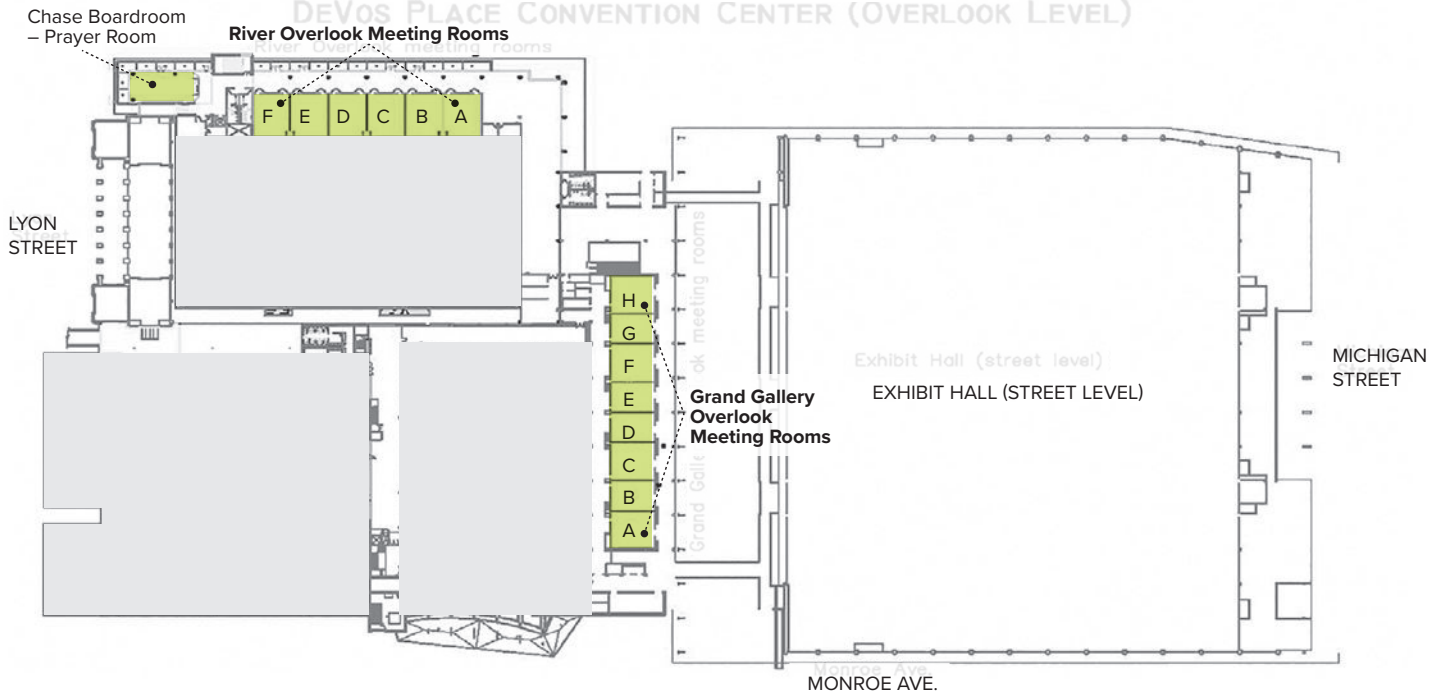
## Street Level

### DEVOS PLACE CONVENTION CENTER (STREET LEVEL)



## Overlook Level

### DEVOS PLACE CONVENTION CENTER (OVERLOOK LEVEL)



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Tuesday, June 9,  
3:15 PM – 4:30 PM

INTERRUPT HOMELESSNESS

## Building Community Awareness Campaigns



**JAMES READ**  
Chief Creative Officer,  
BDI



**AMANDA KIRBY**  
Strategist/Sr. Account Director,  
BDI



**SARAH PETERKA**  
Community Relations Director,  
Union Gospel Mission Twin Cities

Thursday, June 11,  
9:15 AM – 10:30 AM

WORLD HOMELESS DAY

## The Next-Gen Donor Playbook: From TikTok to Turnout



**JAMES READ**  
Chief Creative Officer,  
BDI



**ARVETTA JIDEONWO**  
Chief Development Officer,  
Wheeler Mission



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