

New Capacity Building Program Empowers Nonprofit Leaders for Sustainable Success

Harrisburg, Arkansas, December 4, 2025 — The Alliance for Rural Impact (ARI) is the recipient of a Carl B. & Florence E. King Foundation award to provide capacity support in southeast Arkansas. Capacity for Impact: Strengthening Delta Roots, is a comprehensive program designed to equip participants with the essential strategies and tools needed to drive long-term success and fundraising effectiveness.

Capacity for Impact: Strengthening Delta Roots addresses core elements of nonprofit leadership focusing on visioning, needs assessment, program development, budgeting, board engagement, strategic planning, marketing, fundraising, ethics, and accountability. This transformative series is tailored to guide nonprofit and ministerial professionals as they prepare to secure resources that will sustain and grow their organizations.

"We are honored to have been chosen for this award by the Carl B. & Florence E. King Foundation. This program is the result of years long research in the region that has identified a clear and definitive need for nonprofit development training and technical assistance," said Jamie Wright, ARI co-founder and executive director. "Nonprofits are a critical resource in rural communities, yet many operate with limited resources, fragile infrastructure, and little access to strategic guidance."

Southeast Arkansas faces some of the highest poverty and lowest philanthropic investment rates in the State of Arkansas. Capacity for Impact: Strengthening Delta Roots targets under-resourced local nonprofits, delivering immediate, transformative benefits—including increased grant readiness, stronger program governance, financial stewardship, and enhanced collaboration among isolated leaders—while connecting participants to a growing coalition focused on revitalizing the area.

"This funding isn't just about training; it is about unlocking the full potential of local leaders who serve the region's most vulnerable populations," said Jennifer Watkins, ARI co-founder and director of operations. "ARI's goal is to provide a deeper level of connection, confidence, and collaboration to unlock opportunity, begin to restore belonging, and catalyze durable change in the region."

For more information on this announcement, contact Jamie Wright at jamie@ruralimpact.org.

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About Alliance for Rural Impact

The Alliance for Rural Impact is a nonprofit organization dedicated to advancing the prosperity of rural communities throughout the Mississippi Delta and Mid-South. As a coalition of technical assistance specialists, we champion community equity by delivering innovative solutions in financial stabilization, strategic planning, capacity building, and long-term implementation. Our mission is to empower rural regions by pairing expert guidance with targeted investments, ensuring that rural communities and businesses have the resources and opportunities needed to thrive in an increasingly competitive global economy.