

The Institute for Nonprofit Practice Certificate in Nonprofit Management and Leadership

Equipping the Vineyard's most promising nonprofit leaders with the skills, confidence, networks, and resources they need to sustain and preserve the Vineyard that we love.



INP CLASS OF 2019

Nonprofits touch everything we love about the Vineyard. How can we ensure they will be sustainable and fulfill their missions today and in the future? For the past two years, the Martha's Vineyard Nonprofit Collaborative (MVNC), an island-based nonprofit organization devoted to strengthening the Island's nonprofits, has invested in the Island's nonprofit leaders by engaging The Institute for Nonprofit Practice (INP) to offer their intensive Core Certificate Program in Nonprofit Management and Leadership to Island nonprofit leaders. Tailored to MV characteristics and needs, hosting the INP program on Island allows access to professional development, both physically and financially, to current executive directors and emerging nonprofit leaders of all sized organizations.

As part of Jonathan M. Tisch College of Civic Life at Tufts University, the INP program started in Boston for over ten years ago, grew to Cape Cod (now in its third year) and is launching in New York City this year.

Leaders representing all nonprofit sectors from 19 different organizations have participated in and benefited from the Vineyard program to date. See the full list of organizations at the end.

"The INP Core Certificate Program is an excellent hands-on program for nonprofit leaders to gain critical skills while interacting with peers facing common challenges. The collaboration we have seen has been outstanding, capitalizing on respective strengths and avoiding duplication which is critical when resources are scarce.

- Robert Egerton, Board Chair, MV Community Services



INP CLASS OF 2020

This INP program addresses several issues specific to the Vineyard:

- **Leadership transitions.** As baby boomers retire, many organizations do not have a large enough staff to provide succession from inside. Some of those who are taking the lead are younger and less experienced and the INP program provides tangible benefits from factual and experiential learning.
- **Increase efficiencies and impact.** Stronger collaboration among nonprofits will have a more significant, collective, impact on the community and may maximize the limited resources of most nonprofits.
- **Strengthening bonds.** The Island has over 100+ nonprofits. To be sustainable, we need more partnering, collaboration, and mergers; this requires bonds of trust and honest communication both between nonprofits whose mission serves a similar "space" and those can and do benefit from increased collaboration. INP has a proven track record of building these strong bonds between cohort members that last long after graduation.
- **Access.** Professional development is difficult for nonprofits due to the Island's isolated location, and the cost of these programs and expenses to travel off-Island for classes are typically too high for small nonprofits.

The INP curriculum combines traditional classroom learning in a monthly full-day, intensive management seminar format taking place on the Cape, with small group practice seminars taking place on Island 3x a month. This format provides students an opportunity to apply newly acquired knowledge and skills to their work environment with the support and guidance of their peers. The class runs September-May.

What is INP's community impact? Program evaluation for INP illustrates:

- 95% of surveyed alumni said that INP improved their management skills
- 93% indicated that it improved their leadership abilities
- The greatest skill and knowledge gains have been made in finance, fundraising, and marketing
- 97% of surveyed alumni indicated that graduating from the program led to an increase in confidence to put their skills into action

"We live in a unique community requiring infrastructure and services for the seasonal crowd that is sometimes beyond the capacity of our much smaller year-round population. We are blessed with a large number of not-for-profits that are providing much of this needed infrastructure, but they need skilled and effective leaders. With a small cadre of year-rounders from which to recruit and promote, these leaders need education and ongoing peer support. This is what the INP Leadership program can provide so effectively in an intense and timely manner. We are grateful that our current and evolving island NPO leaders have been included in this valuable program"

- James Butterick, Board President, Hospice of MV

Finances.

The total funds to support 9 students for the INP program each year is \$81,000.

- \$9,000 is the tuition (and other costs) per student;
- \$3,500 per student (approximately 40%), is funded by the nonprofit sending the student;
- \$5,400 per student, (approximately 60%), is funded by MVNC and a group of funders who subsidize this cost to make it more financially feasible to more Islands nonprofits.

The MVNC and funders' contribution also includes scholarships for nonprofits who need further assistance with tuition.

***Participating Organizations: 2019/2020**

Chappaquiddick Community Center, Campground Association, Center for Living, Featherstone Center for the Arts, Great Pond Foundation, Hospice Martha's Vineyard, Island Food Pantry, Island Grown Initiative, Island Housing Trust, Martha's Vineyard Agricultural Society, Martha's Vineyard Community Services, Martha's Vineyard Film Festival, Martha's Vineyard Fisherman Preservation Trust, Martha's Vineyard Nonprofit Collaborative, Martha's Vineyard Shellfish Group, Misty Meadows Equine Learning Center, Permanent Endowment, The Trustees of Reservations, and Vineyard House

Funders: 2019/2020

Tower Foundation (fund MV and Cape Cod), Cape Cod 5 Foundation (fund MV and Cape Cod), United way of Cape and the Islands of MV (fund MV and Cape Cod), MV Permanent Endowment, MV Rotary Club, Vineyard Fund for Board Development and Education, MV Nonprofit Collaborative, Private Donors

We need your support! The stronger our leaders are, the more resilient our community will be. Please consider investing in our Island today and it's future by supporting this essential leadership program.

See more from the 2019 class here: <https://vimeo.com/33199199>. Read about the Program in the [Martha's Vineyard Times](#).

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