

## January 2013

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### [Working in an Abundant Not-for-Profit](#)

Blog

[Lynda](#)

January 2, 2013

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*I'm lucky to work in an abundant not-for-profit.*

*You might think bringing talented volunteers into your organization would make salaried employees feel less valued. My experience has been the exact opposite.*

*In an abundant not-for-profit, my ability to engage and lead highly skilled people is highly valued and necessary for our organization to be successful. Utilizing my skills to meaningfully engage all of this amazing talent is a win-win for me and the knowledge philanthropists I work with. Not to mention the inspiration, excitement and challenge (the good kind!) they inject into my daily...*

[Read more about Working in an Abundant Not-for-Profit](#)

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### [Entering the Home Stretch](#)

Blog

[Lynda](#)

January 9, 2013

4

The arrival of a new year often marks transition, change - and new beginnings. Here at Vantage Point, we begin this New Year with tremendous excitement about the completion of our new book, *The Abundant Not-for-Profit*.

Over the next few weeks, as we prepare for the book's official launch, we will be sharing previews of the content on this blog.

We'll also send exclusive discounts and special announcements to our book interest list, so we encourage you to [register with us now](#), if you haven't already.

Today, **we are thrilled to share the front cover with you** for the first time.

Two incredibly...

[Read more about Entering the Home Stretch](#)

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### [Strong to Abundant](#)

Blog

[Colleen](#)

January 15, 2013

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At Vantage Point, we have spent a decade learning how to build an abundant organization.

It didn't take long for us to realize that before an organization could get to abundant it had to get to strong. Over the years, many experts have studied effective not-for-profit organizations and outlined good practices in leadership, governance, planning and talent engagement. We agree with many of their ideas, and have worked with many not-for-profit leaders to institute good practices in their organizations.

Once an organization is strong – once it is mission-based and operating effectively – it can...

[Read more about Strong to Abundant](#)

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## **[Bowling Alone? Introducing The Abundant Not-for-Profit](#)**

Blog

[Lynda](#)

January 22, 2013

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**People are abandoning community.**

**Today's generation is apathetic.**

**Volunteerism is dead.**

There. We said it. Now do we have your attention?

We've all heard the same news: Charities are in trouble. People are disengaged. Volunteering is on the decline. Sponsorship and grant money is disappearing. Bowling alleys are empty.

We don't agree. Well, at least on the *people* part. And people are our thing.

Here's a thought: What if we told you it isn't that people are abandoning community. It's that *community* is abandoning people.

Visit any online or social media group and you'll see hundreds – even...

[Read more about Bowling Alone? Introducing The Abundant Not-for-Profit](#)

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## **[Want to Capture Volunteer Talent? End your "Program," Begin your "Strategy"](#)**

Blog

[Annastasia](#)

January 25, 2013

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I object to the term "volunteer program."

In our sector many organizations use this term to describe all the voluntary roles that perform day to day operations (i.e. actual programs and services). Recruitment, onboarding, training, engagement, supervision and recognition of people in these roles are managed within the "volunteer program."

If I asked you to list all the programs and services your organization operates, would "volunteer program" be among them? No. Because volunteers aren't a program. They are the people who bring your programs, services and mission to life. Just the same as...

[Read more about Want to Capture Volunteer Talent? End your "Program," Begin your "Strategy"](#)

[4 comments](#)

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## **[What if the Talent Walks in Your Door?](#)**

Blog

[Colleen](#)

January 28, 2013

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Often people come to Vantage Point and say they would like to volunteer with us. Can you remember a time when someone said that to you? I'll bet it has happened! Many people in the community are passionate about your cause, and they will often approach your organization to explore how they can contribute. And if your organization has an event, or if you have an ongoing task they could do, you **might** be able to slot them in.

What if you could begin to match their specific skills and interests to a meaningful (new) role in your organization? We have developed a step-by-step process you can put in...

[Read more about What if the Talent Walks in Your Door?](#)

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## **[You'll Never Ignite a Board of Warm Bodies](#)**

Blog

[Annastasia](#)

January 31, 2013

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Are you proud of your board? Do the people around the table inspire you? When recruiting, do you ask yourself: *will this person bring greater pride and inspiration to the board?*

Too many of us begin board recruitment with lofty goals and end up accepting “warm bodies.” We know these people are not a perfect fit. They are only “qualified” because they have the time and some interest.

Let’s stop this practice and start working with only the best. Period.

Your board composition is greater than the sum of its parts. One person has the potential to change the entire culture. When high performing...

[Read more about You'll Never Ignite a Board of Warm Bodies](#)

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