

Nonprofit Chamber of Services Partner of the Week

This series has been established with the intent of increasing awareness of the many causes and efforts taken on by our nonprofit partners. If your business has a particular event taking place during the course of a week, an anniversary for example, please make this known and we will do all possible to accommodate a spotlight that coincides. On behalf of our membership, we wish to say “thank you” for taking a few moments from your busy schedule to learn a bit more about our community of nonprofit partners.

BKD, LLP, is one of the top 10 largest CPA and Advisory firms in the country and the third largest in Wichita. BKD, LLP, firm wide, has helped over 1,200 not for profits go beyond their numbers by applying their technical expertise, unmatched client service and disciplined delivery of solutions to their management and financial needs. BKD’s approximately 1,600 personnel, including more than 200 partners, are based in 27 offices within 11 states in the central United States.

The BKD, LLP Wichita office employs 55 and has a team of non profit professionals who specifically know and understand the needs of area not for profits. Two of those team members are Bill Pickert and Noelle Testa. Bill is the partner in charge of the Wichita office. Bill has been with BKD,LLP for over 20 years and has led the Wichita office for 7 years. Bill graduated from the University of Kansas with Bachelor of Science degrees in both Accounting and Business Administration. Noelle is the not for profit niche team leader and is the supervisor responsible for many not for profit audits. Noelle is a graduate of California State University with a Bachelor of Science degree in Accounting.

BKD, LLP takes its corporate citizenship seriously. The Wichita BKD office encourages their team of professionals to be involved in community and philanthropic events to strengthen ties to the community and, at the same time, lend a hand in improving the quality of life in the community in which they live and work.

BKD’s employees actively participate on numerous not for profit boards and strive to provide leadership and education on key issues to community organizations. Organizations to which employees have either sat on boards or were/are active include: Botanica, Exploration Place, Make a Wish Foundation, Wichita Symphony, Leukemia & Lymphoma Society, Junior League of Wichita, Greater Area Wichita Sports Commission, Quivira Council Boy Scouts of America, American Red Cross, Wichita Area Chamber of Commerce, Susan G. Komen Breast Cancer Foundation, United Way of the Plains, YWCA, YMCA, League of Women Voters, Wichita River Festival, Lords Diner and many more.

Recently, BKD, LLP has partnered with the Non Profit Chamber of Services for an upcoming lunch and learn scheduled for March 2, 2006, from 11:30 a.m. – 1:00 p.m. at the Wichita Art Museum. The focus of the program is “Grant Requests: The Key to Finding the Right Foundation” luncheon. The luncheon is free and will focus on matching your fund raising focus on the philosophy of the correct foundation.

For more information on either the lunch and learn or services provided by BKD, LLP to not for profit organizations, call (316) 265-2811, or check out www.bkd.com.