

Covestro Institute for Engagement (CIE) and the Nonprofit Community

CIE is a collaboration between the Bayer Center for Nonprofit Management at Robert Morris University and Covestro LLC, connecting the purpose and mission of nonprofit organizations with the skills and talents of business professionals.



Through CIE, we offer new ways to connect employees to meaningful and rewarding community organizations and projects, while working with nonprofits on their organizational challenges to achieve tangible results.

CIE builds a sturdy bridge between businesses and nonprofits, delivering substantive value and mutual long-term benefit. Our programs like *BoardsWork!* and *Skills-Based Volunteering* provide nonprofits with opportunities to effectively focus on challenges and implement sound solutions, while businesses exercise active social responsibility through employee engagement and development.



ASSET collaborated with a team of SBV participants from Covestro LLC to restructure their bills of material, which would allow their ERP system to automatically transfer funds between general ledger accounts. Rebecca Shapiro, director of business technology for ASSET's STEM Education said, "The biggest advantage of having a team work with us was getting an outside perspective on a problem we had been wrestling with for some time but could not afford to solve using consultants. With the team's help, we evaluated a number of scenarios and came up with a solution that worked. Our next step is implementing the action plan that the team also worked with us to develop."

Become Inaugural Members

Through the generosity of Covestro LLC and our foundation champions, nonprofit organizations can become inaugural members of CIE. Nonprofits with an annual budget of \$1M or less can participate in a CIE program for a yearly investment of only \$250, and those more than \$1M for just \$500. CIE members also receive discounted educational and training opportunities at BCNM, invitations to exclusive CIE events, and publicity in multiple media outlets.

BoardsWork! Builds Better Boards

BoardsWork! helps organizations clarify board roles and responsibilities, sharpen strategic thinking and financial oversight, streamline policies and procedures or implement direct fundraising strategies. Nonprofit boards can also develop mutually beneficial partnerships with service-minded business professionals who are trained in effective nonprofit governance through custom board member matches. By participating in *BoardsWork!*, nonprofit award agencies receive an individualized governance assessment, a customized, half-day board retreat and up to two newly trained board members.

Skills-Based Volunteering Solves Challenges

Skills-Based Volunteering creates opportunities for organizational growth. It encourages a sense of community and engagement between businesses and nonprofit organizations when skilled teams of three or four employees apply their business expertise to a specific challenge that a nonprofit needs to solve. They work together, stimulating cross-functional and organizational relationships. Organizations tackle business roadblocks in twelve-week projects.



GREATER PITTSBURGH

community
food bank



MEMBER OF
FEEDING
AMERICA

“Being a part of the SBV project was a unique and rewarding opportunity. I applied my professional skills to support the business strategies of the Food Bank. I also grew in my leadership and communication skills by facilitating the team. Through this project I further developed and exercised my skills in writing standard operating procedures and analyzing key performance indicators. This experience went beyond the volunteering that I typically engage in and helped the long term success of the Food Bank,” Sally Lonchar, Regional Product Management, Covestro LLC.

Greater Pittsburgh Community Food Bank set a goal to provide 60 million meals by 2025. They partnered with five employees from Covestro through CIE to improve the inventory metrics and processes. The team included professionals with experience in warehouse management, logistics, product management and data. They built a key performance indicator (KPI) dashboard, and created a standard operating procedure that initiated an improved inventory audit procedure.



“Working with this highly capable team was critical to improve our systems and operations. The quality of the deliverable and the level of professionalism was amazing. This kind of expertise is not something we could afford to hire without cutting into program expenses,” Justin Lee, chief operating officer, the Food Bank.

Becoming a CIE Member is the Best Deal in Town!

Our generous CIE Champions make it possible for your organization to join the Covestro Institute for Engagement as a nonprofit member for just \$250 or \$500, depending on your budget size.

This nominal investment covers a customized board retreat with matching of up to two new board members or a skilled team that will work with you to help solve a specific challenge in 12 weeks, in addition to a number of benefits, like discounts on our classes and ongoing support from our team.

For more details on this valuable opportunity, visit our website at CIE-BCNM.ORG or call CIE program specialist Jen Pease at 412-397-6013.

Thank you, Champions!

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