

Making an Impact as a Coalition of Hope

2026 HFNY Partner Convening • September 29, 2026 • W83 Ministry Center

Meet Our Breakout Group Facilitators

This year's Partner Convening brings together practitioners from across fundraising, governance, grant research, and impact measurement to lead candid, practical breakout conversations with our affiliate network.

AI Fundraising in Your Organization

Leya Petrovani Miller LPM CONSULTING

Facilitator Bio: Leya has spent 15+ years helping nonprofits build fundraising programs that work, and has helped organizations raise more than \$100M in transformational gifts. She founded LPM Consulting to do that work at scale, grounded in community-centric fundraising: donors as partners in the mission rather than the audience it revolves around. Current and past clients include NYU Langone Health, Evidence Action, the Animal Legal Defense Fund, the Obama Foundation, the ACLU, and Hope for New York. On AI, Leya runs LPM's own operations on a system she built and maintains herself, and works on it most days. That is where this session's material comes from. She teaches a practice rather than a curriculum, including the parts she got wrong and reversed, and writes publicly about the ethics of using these tools.

Navigating Board Governance

BJ Sung PINNACLE SOCIAL IMPACT CONSULTANCY

Facilitator Bio: BJ Sung, founder of Pinnacle Social Impact Consulting, is an expert in nonprofit management, board governance, and philanthropy with over 25 years of experience. She helps mission-driven organizations develop strong leaders, effective boards, and lasting community impact. As a BoardSource Certified Nonprofit Governance Consultant, BJ advises nonprofits on governance, strategic planning, executive coaching, organizational development, succession planning, mergers, and leadership transitions. BJ brings the rare perspective of having worked across executive leadership, corporate philanthropy, and nonprofit sectors. As Chair Emerita of a leading domestic violence prevention organization for 10 years, she coached and partnered closely with the Executive Director, led a successful merger, and helped triple the organization's budget. She currently serves on the board of New York City Center and is a former board member of Nonprofit New York and Manhattan Community Board 5, among others.

Elevating Your Grant Research Strategy with AI

Vince Randazzo MATCHGRANT

MatchGrant is an AI powered funding intelligence platform that surfaces the right grant opportunities in seconds, then gives you what you need to manage and win them. Founded by a nonprofit executive director who lost critical federal funding and could not find an affordable tool to replace it, MatchGrant helps nonprofits, schools, municipalities, and foundations move from discovery to submission. Its engine pulls from a wide range of funding data, including thousands of 990 filings, to surface funders that genuinely fit and reveal who is already supporting peer organizations. MatchGrant was proudly named one of the Top 10 Most Innovative Companies by the Technology Association of Georgia in 2026.

Facilitator Bio: Vince Randazzo is a Growth Executive at MatchGrant, where he partners with nonprofit leaders to help them find and win the funding their missions depend on. He brings over a decade of experience across business development and account management, and has spent his career building relationships that create real value for the people on the other side of them. Vince is known for a collaborative approach, genuine curiosity about the organizations he works with, and a commitment to doing the work well. He lives in Atlanta, Georgia with his wife Lauren and their two children, JJ (4) and Harbor (2).

Measuring Collective Impact Together

Dr. Amanda Eckhardt IMPACT RISING

Impact Rising is an impact infrastructure company building clarity, alignment, and continuous improvement into research and capacity building across the nonprofit sector. Their team of 10 practitioners, evaluators, funder advisors, and former nonprofit executives has led organizations ranging from early-stage startups to \$150M+ institutions, guiding strategy and growth while helping shape the field of impact at national and international levels. Through their three core offerings — IR Lab, IR Academy, and IR Fund — they help funders, nonprofits, and collectives build data-informed, collaborative strategies, stronger evaluation capacity, and a more aligned, sector-wide ecosystem that enables measurable, lasting change.

Facilitator Bio: Dr. Amanda Eckhardt is the co-founder of Impact Rising, where she partners with organizations and funders nationwide to enhance social and financial impact. With over 10 years of executive leadership in New York City-based anti-violence nonprofits, she has successfully led organizations ranging from \$2M to \$120M in various stages, achieving consistent 15-20% annual growth. Her training and fellowships in evaluation are backed by premier institutions such as Harvard Medical School, Lehigh University, the National Institutes of Health, the Robin Hood Foundation, and Arbor Rising. A recognized thought leader, Amanda has worked as a consultant for the Department of Justice and has published extensively on impact design and evaluation, including in the American Journal of Evaluation and at leading conferences.