

Overall Schedule

Tuesday October 21

4:30p-6p: Pre-Session Attendee Reception

Wednesday, October 22- *Pre-Sessions (Pre-registration required)*

7:30a-5p: CAPS Pre-Session

8a-12p: Designing Smarter Salesforce Pages & Development Pre-Sessions

Lunch will be provided to pre-session attendees

1p-5p: People and Policies: HR Basic for Affiliates & Federal Grants Management Pre-Sessions

Thursday October 23- *All sessions are open to all Summit attendees except CAPS*

7:30a-1p: CAPS Pre-Session

8a-10a: Executive Director Roundtable & Building Your Path: Empowering the Next Generation of Nonprofit Leaders

8a-12p: Brand Guidelines Help Desk and Live Grants Management Clinic

10:15a-12:15p: Program Staff Roundtable

12:30p-1:30p: Movie Screening of No Place to Grow Old

Our housing crisis has a human cost. American adults are aging into homelessness at unprecedented rates. Older adults (55+) are the fastest growing population entering homelessness across the country. Their numbers are on pace to triple by 2030. We realized few people knew about this crisis, and even less were talking about it. We know that stories have the power to raise awareness and create change, so we set out to make a film. See the trailer here: <https://www.noplacetogrowold.com/>

2p-3:30p: Opening Session

3:45p-5:15p: National Affiliate Council (NAC) regional meetings

5:30p: Buses depart for the opening Reception

6p-9p: Opening Reception at Museum of Latin American Art

Friday, October 24

8a-9a: Breakfast

9a-10:15a: Keynote with Erin Dawkins

10:30a-11a: Lightning Talks

11a-12p: Lightning Talk Breakouts

12p-1:30p: Lunch and Keynote with Heath Slawner

2p-5:30p: Long Beach and Networking Activities. See Descriptions [HERE](#)

6:30p: Celebration of Excellence Reception

7p: Celebration of Excellence Dinner

Saturday, October 25

8a-9a: Breakfast

9a-10:30a: Breakout Session 1. See descriptions [HERE](#)

10:45a-12:15p: Breakout Session 2. See descriptions [HERE](#)

12:15p-1:30p: Lunch and Disaster Plenary

1:45p-3:15p: Breakout Session 3. See descriptions [HERE](#)

3:30- 4:15p Closing Session

6p-8p Closing Reception Hosted by the NAC

Pre-Sessions

Pre-Session Descriptions

Tuesday, October 21

4p-6p Pre-Session Attendee Reception. More details will be provided in the app.

Wednesday, October 22

Pre-Registration is required for all Wednesday Sessions

Certified Aging in Place Specialist (CAPS)

CAPS Pre-Session will take place over 3 days. Wednesday 10/22 7:30a-5p with 30 minutes for Lunch, Thursday 10/23 7:30a- 1:30p with 30 minutes for Lunch, and Friday 10/24 1:30p-5p. You must complete all three days to receive certification.

Development Pre-Session 8a-12p

Development is always a popular topic at Summit! This pre-session is an opportunity to hear from members of our National Office Development Team in advance of the conference, allowing you to engage in other sessions during the main event.

- *From Prospect to Partner: Unlocking New Funding with Tara Cruise, Director of Partnership Development*
 - We'll explore best practices for positioning your work, crafting compelling outreach, and leveraging the rising interest in resilience and disaster response funding. Whether you're refining your pitch or building new relationships from scratch, this session will give you tools to strengthen your development strategy and maximize your impact.
- *Partnership Studio: Build a Proposal in Real Time with Chad Magaziner, Director of Strategic Partnership*
 - Work alongside your peers and the national office to co-create a corporate partnership proposal that aligns with a major brand's mission. This hands-on workshop will walk you through aligning your impact, storytelling, and local assets to funder priorities. This session will include making a strong case for general operating support to corporate partners using metrics, mission alignment, and storytelling. Participants will leave with talking points, templates, and examples used in fundraising asks. We will have opportunities to focus on both new and returning corporate funders and foundations.
- *Individual Gifts on a Modest Budget: Building relationships without big infrastructure with Varya Zhigilei, Senior Director Development Operations & Donor Engagement*

- This interactive and discussion-based session will 1) take a brief look at the behavioral science and cognitive biases that influence giving decisions, like social proof, loss aversion, and identity alignment and how to ethically apply them to your fundraising materials and strategy, and 2) explore how we can identify, engage, and cultivate donors through sustained, meaningful outreach with limited time and capacity.

Designing Smarter Pages in Salesforce: Unlocking Dynamic Capabilities 8a-12p

This hands-on training is designed for Salesforce end users who want to optimize their experience with Lightning App Builder and make the most of the platform's dynamic page capabilities. Whether you're customizing record pages for clarity, tailoring content based on user needs, or streamlining workflows with visibility rules, this session will give you the tools and confidence to enhance usability and performance.

Preparing for and Implementing Federal Funding with Civitas 1p-5p

Grants Management for Housing Rehabilitation and Community Development Programs

This extended pre-session workshop will equip Rebuilding Together affiliates with the knowledge and tools needed to successfully identify, secure, and manage federal, state, and local funding for housing rehabilitation and community development programs. The first half of the session will provide a comprehensive overview of funding opportunities – including HUD programs such as the Community Development Block Grant (CDBG), HOME Investment Partnerships (HOME), Section 108, and Lead Hazard Reduction; USDA Rural Development housing programs; Federal Home Loan Bank programs; and relevant state and local resources. Participants will learn about eligibility requirements, application processes, and strategies to strengthen funding proposals and build sustainable funding portfolios. The second half will shift to practical implementation, focusing on the essential policies and procedures required for effective grants management. Participants will gain a working understanding of the federal Uniform Guidance (2 CFR 200), with emphasis on financial management, procurement, internal controls, and compliance monitoring. HUD- and USDA-specific requirements will be addressed, along with practical examples, checklists, and best practices for managing federal and state awards. By the end of the session, participants will be able to:

- Identify key federal, state, and local funding sources relevant to housing rehabilitation and community development.
- Understand the application and eligibility requirements for these programs.
- Develop internal policies and procedures that align with federal Uniform Guidance.
- Strengthen organizational compliance capacity and reduce risk when managing federal awards.

This interactive session is designed for affiliate leaders, program managers, and development staff seeking both an introduction to funding opportunities and the operational tools to manage them effectively.

People & Policies: HR Basics for Affiliate Leaders 1p-5p

This session is for those who need a basic understanding of HR practices, no matter what your role is at your affiliate. We will break down the basics – hiring, compliance, employee relations, documentation and more – into practical tips you can implement immediately to ensure you are operating a positive and legally sound affiliate

Thursday, October 23

Thursday Pre-Sessions are available to all summit participants

Brand Guidelines Help Desk 8a-12p

Visit the Brand Guidelines Help Desk for one-on-one support from the national office's marketing and development teams. Bring whatever you're working on—donor letters, newsletters, social media posts, flyers—and we'll help you update and tailor your materials to align with Rebuilding Together's refreshed brand guidelines. Participants will receive further communication to sign up for a specific time in this window to ensure adequate staffing for support.

Live Grants Management Clinic 8a-12p

Visit the Live Grants Management Clinic for 1:1 or small group support from the National Grants Operations Team. Participants will receive further communication to sign up for a specific time in this window to ensure adequate staffing for support.

Executive Director Roundtable: Sharing Successes and Overcoming Challenges 8a-10a

Join fellow Executive Directors for a collaborative and engaging roundtable session where we will focus on the shared experiences, successes, and challenges faced in leadership roles. This session provides an open space for peer-to-peer dialogue, where attendees can exchange strategies, lessons learned, and best practices from their unique organizational contexts. Key discussion topics may include: Leadership Successes: What initiatives have worked well in your organization? From strategic growth to team development, we'll share the tactics that have led to meaningful impact. Overcoming Common Challenges: What obstacles have been the toughest to navigate, and how have you addressed them? Let's discuss solutions for managing financial constraints, navigating changing board dynamics, fostering organizational resilience, and more. Leadership Development: Strategies for sustaining and growing your personal leadership capacity while managing organizational expectations. Attendees will leave with practical ideas to implement within their own organizations, as well as a strong network of peers to lean on for continued advice and support.

Building Your Path: Empowering the Next Generation of Nonprofit Leaders 8a-10a

Join other Rebuilding Together early career professionals for an interactive session focused on leadership development, career growth, and impact within Rebuilding Together and the nonprofit sector. Learn from peers and seasoned leaders as you explore how to amplify your voice, build your network, and shape the future of community revitalization.

Program Staff Roundtable: Sharing Successes and Addressing Challenges 10:15a-12:15p

This session is a dynamic, peer-led roundtable designed for program staff to come together and share their successes, challenges, and innovative solutions. As we work on the frontlines to improve access to safe, affordable housing, this gathering provides a valuable opportunity to exchange ideas, problem-solve together, and learn from one another's experiences. Key discussion topics may include: Programmatic Successes: What strategies or programs have seen positive outcomes? Navigating Challenges: What are the most pressing challenges you're facing? Whether it's dealing with limited resources, navigating complex client needs, or managing staff burnout, we'll discuss practical solutions and coping strategies. Client-Centered Approaches: Best practices for engaging and empowering clients. By the end of this session, participants will leave with actionable takeaways to enhance their programs, a network of peers for ongoing support, and renewed inspiration to continue making a difference in the housing sector.

Keynote Speakers

Wendy M. Masiello, Lt Gen, USAF (retired)
Independent Director



Wendy Masiello retired from the United States Air Force as a Lieutenant General, and is president of Wendy Mas Consulting, LLC.

Prior to her retirement, General Masiello was the first three-star general to serve as Director of the Defense Contract Management Agency. She also served as Deputy Assistant Secretary (Contracting), Office of the Assistant Secretary of the Air Force for Acquisition, and as Program Executive Officer for the Air Force's \$65 billion Service Acquisition portfolio. Wendy commanded the 96th Air Base Wing at Edwards Air Force Base CA and deployed to Iraq and Afghanistan as Principal Assistant Responsible for Contracting for Forces. She currently serves as the lead independent director for KBR Inc., and as a director for StandardAero (SARO), EURPAC Service, Inc., Tlingit Haida Tribal Business Corporation and MRIGlobal. She is also a director on the Procurement Round Table, and ReBuilding Together's National Board.

Masiello holds a Bachelor of Business Administration in Marketing from Texas Tech University, a Master of Science in Logistics Management from the Air Force Institute of Technology, and a Master of Science in National Resource Strategy from the Industrial College of the Armed Forces, Fort Lesley J. McNair, Washington, D.C.

Her medals and recognition include a Distinguished Service Medal, Legion of Merit, Bronze Star, 2023 Texas Tech's Rawls College of Business Distinguished Alum, 2017 Texas Tech Distinguished Alum, twice named to Executive Mosaic's Washington 100, Greater Washington Government Contractor "Public Sector Partner of the Year," and is an NCMA Fellow and NCMA Certified Professional Contracts Manager.

Erin Dawkins



Erin Dawkins has over 25 years of experience in both the corporate and non-profit sectors, and is known for fostering collaboration that drives business objectives while infusing organizations with cultural relevance, social impact and purposeful storytelling for diverse audiences. She is the Principal of EJD Consulting, specializing in executive management and leadership, social impact and philanthropy, and branding & marketing.

Previously, Erin served as Senior Vice President of Brand and Operations at House of Taylor – The Elizabeth Taylor Companies, where she led the development of Elizabeth Taylor’s lifestyle brands and created purpose-driven strategies benefiting The Elizabeth Taylor AIDS Foundation. Her career includes senior roles at NYU Langone Medical Center, Matchfire, Good Scout Group, Malaria No More, CCS Fundraising and Aon Corporation. She has also partnered with national organizations, such as the National Urban League, and its affiliates, advising on executive leadership, board development, fundraising and awareness-building.

Erin holds a Bachelor of Arts degree in Psychology from Dartmouth College and a Master of Business Administration degree from Cornell University. She serves as Chair of the Board for the Social Impact Fund, is a member of the Advisory Board for CareerSpring Los Angeles and is a trustee of Chadwick School.

Lightning Talks

Lightning Talk Breakout: Federal Home Loan Bank with Stefanie Seldin (Philadelphia) and Fred Banuelos (FHLB)

Learn how your organization can tap into the resources of the Federal Home Loan Bank (FHLB) system to support affordable housing and community development efforts. This talk will introduce how Rebuilding Together Philadelphia has benefitted from their partnership with the FHLB

Lightning Talk Breakout: Brand Guidelines at the Local Level with Anjeanette Gunter (Houston) and Lisa McFall (National)

Our national brand guidelines go far beyond logos and colors—they reflect how we communicate our mission, the photos we choose to share, and the personality of Rebuilding Together as a movement. In this Lightning Talk, Anjeanette will share how she has successfully brought these brand guidelines to life at the local level, creating consistent, mission-centered communications that resonate with volunteers, donors, and the broader community. Attendees will hear practical tips for aligning local storytelling with our national voice and learn how a consistent brand strengthens credibility, visibility, and impact across the network.

Lightning Talk Breakout: Bringing New Energy to Our Mission with Sam Allie (Duneland)

Feeling stuck in the “we’ve always done it this way” mindset? This session will explore how affiliates are reimagining their messaging, programs, and partnerships to bring fresh momentum to their mission. Whether it’s reaching new audiences or energizing longtime supporters, learn how to infuse new life into your work.

Lightning Talk Breakout: Becoming a Licensed General Contractor with Deanna Everton (Silicon Valley) and Beth Morrison-North (Greater Charlotte)

Is your affiliate ready to take the leap into becoming a licensed general contractor? This session will explore the benefits, challenges, and practical steps involved in licensure—including how it can open up new funding and partnership opportunities while increasing control over project quality and timelines.

Lightning Talk Breakout: Acquisition, Rehab, & Rental with Bob Cleveland (Southern Nevada) and Kirk Brown (Platte Valley East)

How can affiliates address the affordable housing crisis while also sustaining core repair programs? This Lightning Talk will spotlight an innovative funding model where affiliates acquire and rehab homes, rent them at affordable rates, and use the rental income to support general operating expenses. By pairing housing creation with long-term financial stability, this approach demonstrates how affiliates can expand their impact while building a reliable revenue stream to sustain critical home repair work.

Friday Afternoon

Friday October 24

Afternoon Activities

Friday afternoon is intended to give participants an opportunity to get to know the city of Long Beach or spend time networking with Rebuilding Together national office and affiliate leaders. You may choose to participate in the activities listed below which are included in your registration with Summit. You must sign up in the Summit App to reserve your space. If event times are not overlapping, you may sign up for more than one of these activities.

Participants can also choose to explore Long Beach independently. The Summit Team will coordinate a meetup spot for trips to The Queen Mary and The Aquarium. Those meetups are not included in Summit Registration but will be listed in the app for your reference.

2p-5p: Stronger Together: A LEGO® SERIOUS PLAY® Workshop on Collaboration and Leadership

3-hour immersive workshop | 25-person cap | Advance registration required

This highly interactive session uses the LEGO® SERIOUS PLAY® (LSP) methodology to create a powerful shared learning experience around the conference theme: Stronger Together. Participants will explore the dynamics of collaboration, both within their affiliate teams and across the national Rebuilding Together network. Through guided LEGO-based storytelling and reflective exercises, attendees will build physical models that represent their organizational strengths, obstacles to partnership, and aspirations for deeper cooperation.

The session will include facilitated prompts tied to the value of affiliation, the power of shared purpose, and the idea that durable teams (like well-built LEGO models) rely on both structure and imagination. The hands-on nature of LSP encourages creative risk-taking and allows even the quietest voices in the room to be heard.

2p-5p: Alamitos Beach Clean-up

25-person cap | Advance registration required

Long Beach is known for its beaches; join us for a clean up! After a brief introduction we will take a 15 minute walk to Alamitos Beach in Long Beach for a hands-on experience that goes beyond picking up trash. This activity will highlight the less-visible side of plastic pollution and how pervasive the issue truly is. While the shoreline will never stay perfectly clean, the goal of this cleanup is to shift perspectives—helping us see the broader impact of waste, spark meaningful conversations, and inspire action that extends far beyond the beach.

2-3:30p: Long Beach Heritage Walking Tour

15-person cap | Advance registration required

Description Coming Soon!

2p-4p: National Staff Office Hours

The following National Staff members will be hosting Office hours. Please see the app for sign up.

Nathan Petrillo, Max Gouttebroze, Oluchi Pitts, Lisa McFall, Perry Bird, Elizabeth Fries, Jerod Frenzl, & Becky Carter

4p-5:30p: Movie Screening & Discussion of No Place to Grow Old

Our housing crisis has a human cost. American adults are aging into homelessness at unprecedented rates. Older adults (55+) are the fastest growing population entering homelessness across the country. Their numbers are on pace to triple by 2030. We realized few people knew about this crisis, and even less were talking about it. We know that stories have the power to raise awareness and create change, so we set out to make a film. See the trailer here: <https://www.noplacetogrowold.com/>

Watch the 50-minute film and join us for a group discussion immediately following the film screening. The film will also play on Thursday, October 23 at 12:30p, however the discussion will only take place on Friday.

Saturday 9a-10:30a

Saturday, October 25

9a-10:30a Breakout Sessions

Strategy Track

Walls That Talk, Words That Matter with Shereese Floyd of Rebuilding Together of Greater Charlotte

The homes we repair hold more than walls and windows, they hold histories, resilience, and hope. But how we tell those stories matters just as much as the repairs themselves. This session explores ethical storytelling through an *asset-framed* lens, ensuring that the language we use about our neighbors honors their dignity and strength. We'll unpack common pitfalls in nonprofit narratives, explore inclusive language practices, and demonstrate how AI tools can help gather, organize, and elevate stories without losing the human heart at the center. Attendees will leave with practical frameworks and prompts for telling the story of Rebuilding Together's work in a way that uplifts, connects, and inspires.

Program Operations Track

Understanding Burnout and the Importance of Self-Care with Chloe Bernardi, LCSW-C, LICSW and Executive Director of Rebuilding Together Montgomery County

We all recognize burnout, but do we fully understand secondary trauma, the signs and symptoms of anxiety, and the importance of acknowledging that it's OK not to be OK? In this interactive session, we will explore how our homeowners' experiences of trauma can affect us as service providers, identify early warning signs in ourselves and others, and learn practical strategies to check in on your own well-being and that of your staff.

Administration & Executive Director/ Board Members Track

Running Lean: Operational Efficiency for Small-Staffed Affiliates with Clark Sweat

Affiliates with limited staff and resources are constantly juggling priorities, tools, and time. This session provides practical strategies for improving day-to-day efficiency without burning out your team. We'll explore how to make better use of low-cost (or free) tools, build internal systems that reduce duplication of effort, and adopt workflows that save time.

While artificial intelligence (AI) will be briefly addressed—especially how tools like ChatGPT can support marketing, grant writing, and scheduling—the session will focus on accessible, real-world

examples that participants can implement immediately. The goal is not just to introduce new tech, but to help participants think more strategically about how they work.

Development Track

Individual Gifts on a Modest Budget: Building relationships without big infrastructure with Varya Zhigilei, Senior Director Development Operations & Donor Engagement at Rebuilding Together National Office

This interactive and discussion-based session will 1) take a brief look at the behavioral science and cognitive biases that influence giving decisions, like social proof, loss aversion, and identity alignment and how to ethically apply them to your fundraising materials and strategy, and 2) explore how we can identify, engage, and cultivate donors through sustained, meaningful outreach with limited time and capacity.

Grants Management Track

Financial Management for HUD-Funded Housing Rehabilitation Programs with Erich Chatham from Civitas

This session will explore the key financial management requirements for HUD-funded programs, with an emphasis on housing rehabilitation under CDBG and HOME. We will cover eligible and ineligible costs, procurement methods, cost reasonableness standards, and audit requirements. Special attention will be given to structuring Requests for Qualifications (RFQs) for contractor pools and navigating advance funding versus reimbursement structures. Participants will leave with practical tools to strengthen internal controls and ensure compliance with 2 CFR 200 and HUD regulations.

Saturday 10:45a- 12:15p

Saturday, October 25

10:45a- 12:15p Breakout Sessions

Strategy Track & Program Operations Track

Building Skills, Building Homes: Leveraging Housing Work for Workforce Development
With Chris Adame, VP of Community, Wells Fargo, Sean Ticknor, Program Director, Rebuilding Together East Bay Network, and Danielle Faulkner, Sr. Program Manager, Rebuilding Together East Bay Network

This interactive workshop explores how affiliates can expand existing housing repair efforts to create workforce development pathways. Participants will learn about The Big Skills Program, a replicable model that connects home preservation work with trades-based skill-building, employment pipelines, and measurable housing outcomes. Speakers will also share how workforce programs can align with Community Reinvestment Act (CRA) goals to unlock new funding, strengthen volunteer partnerships, and support long-term impact. Attendees will gain early access to a beta version of a new online learning platform designed to support the adoption of workforce programs at the local level. The session will include real-world examples, discussion time, and the opportunity to join an ongoing peer learning community.

Executive Director/ Board Members Track

Tools to Boost Collaboration and Unlock Team Strengths with Heather Backstrom

This interactive workshop is designed for leaders and managers of small teams across the affiliate network. With a focus on practical tools and peer-based learning, this session will equip participants to enhance collaboration and unlock the unique strengths of team members through a coaching based approach. This is critical for success in the fast-paced, resource-constrained environments in which they work.

Participants will engage in activities and conversations that surface their own collaboration styles and assess their strengths. They will gain practical tools they can take back and use with their teams immediately. The session balances reflection, participation, and action. The session is tailored for leaders who wear many hats.

Administration Track

The National Insurance Program with Lockton

Description Coming Soon!

Development Track

From Prospect to Partner: Unlocking New Funding with Tara Cruise, Director of Partnership Development at Rebuilding Together's National Office

We'll explore best practices for positioning your work, crafting compelling outreach, and leveraging the rising interest in resilience and disaster response funding. Whether you're refining your pitch or building new relationships from scratch, this session will give you tools to strengthen your development strategy and maximize your impact

Grants Management Track

Write to Win: A Practical Guide to Successful Grant Proposals with Sierra Lamb, Patricia Lovejoy, and Emma Haydasz of Rebuilding Together's National Office

In the competitive world of nonprofit fundraising, securing funding can be the key to turning visionary projects into reality. This dynamic and hands-on workshop will provide attendees with the tools and strategies to write compelling, fundable grant proposals. Join us for an interactive session where panelists will share real-world tips and strategies for writing proposals that connect with funders. Bring your questions, roadblocks, and experiences—we'll learn from each other and tackle common challenges together.

Saturday 1:45p-3:15p

Saturday, October 25
1:45p-3:15p Breakout Sessions

Strategy Track

Disaster Recovery at Every Stage: Best Practices from the Field

Join experienced affiliate leaders for a panel session focused on practical, proven strategies for disaster recovery. From preparedness planning to immediate response and long-term rebuilding, this conversation will highlight lessons learned and share actionable tools that any affiliate can apply before, during, and after a disaster. As disasters become more frequent and severe, even in areas not traditionally considered high-risk, we believe every affiliate has a role to play in disaster recovery. Whether you're just beginning to explore this work or looking to strengthen your current efforts, this session will offer practical insights to help you support your community when it matters most.

Program Operations Track

Developing Proficient Processes: Strengthening Operations for Sustainable Impact with Elizabeth Fries and Becky Carter of Rebuilding Together's National Office

As Rebuilding Together affiliates grow in scale and complexity, so must our internal processes and policies. This session will explore how formalizing policies and procedures can strengthen affiliate operations, improve decision-making, reduce organizational risk and leave more space for visionary conversation and goal setting. Whether you're navigating growth, onboarding new staff or board members, or preparing for the unexpected, having clear, consistent systems in place ensures your affiliate is set up for long-term success.

Join us to learn practical steps for strengthening your operations—from developing internal controls and standard operating procedures to implementing effective decision-making frameworks. The first half will be a presentation format and the second half will be a workshop to review what you have and learn from peers. Be sure to bring your materials (proof book, laptop, anything you'd like reviewed).

Executive Directors & Board Members Track

Board Engagement, Fundraising, and Succession Planning for Long-Term Impact with Clark Sweat

A strong board is more than just a governing body—it's a leadership team, a fundraising engine, and a key to sustainable growth. This session focuses on how affiliates can build more engaged, diverse, and effective boards that contribute meaningfully to fundraising, succession planning, and long-term organizational health.

We'll explore what makes a board truly high-performing, how to navigate leadership transitions (including board and staff turnover), and ways to move from passive to active board participation. The session will also include a look at development responsibilities, with practical ways to involve board members in donor engagement—even if they “don't like to ask.”

Administration Track

Understanding the Audit & Single Audit Process with Lakia Goodman, Controller in Rebuilding Together's National Office

This training provides affiliates with a clear overview of the audit and single audit processes, including when each is required and what documentation and preparation are necessary. Participants will learn how to navigate auditor requests, understand key compliance areas, and avoid common pitfalls. Whether you're new to audits or need a refresher, this session will empower you with practical knowledge to ensure a smooth and successful audit experience.

Development Track

Partnership Studio: Build a Proposal in Real Time with Chad Magaziner, Director of Strategic Partnership at Rebuilding Together's National Office

Work alongside your peers and the national office to co-create a corporate partnership proposal that aligns with a major brand's mission. This hands-on workshop will walk you through aligning your impact, storytelling, and local assets to funder priorities. This session will include making a strong case for general operating support to corporate partners using metrics, mission alignment, and storytelling. Participants will leave with talking points, templates, and examples used in fundraising asks. We will have opportunities to focus on both new and returning corporate funders and foundations.

Grants Management Track

Building Stronger Affiliates: Contracts, Cost Allocation, and Indirect Cost Recovery with Erich Chatham from Civitas

This session will focus on best practices for preparing applications, negotiating grant contracts, and managing agreements once executed. The discussion will then turn to direct and indirect cost allocation, including the process for establishing a Negotiated Indirect Cost Rate Agreement (NICRA) and the use of the de minimis 15% rate. Emphasis will be placed on documenting costs and ensuring affiliates are fairly compensated for the true cost of program delivery. Participants will gain strategies to improve sustainability, transparency, and compliance in federally funded programs.