



Welcome!

Certified Nonprofit Professional Program

Grantseeker Session

Wednesday, August 13 @ 1-2pm

To help us with attendance, please put your name and organization in the chat.



Presenters



*Shari Martin
President & CEO
Cobb Community Foundation*



*Lisa-Ruth Karnes
Programs Manager
Cobb Community Foundation*



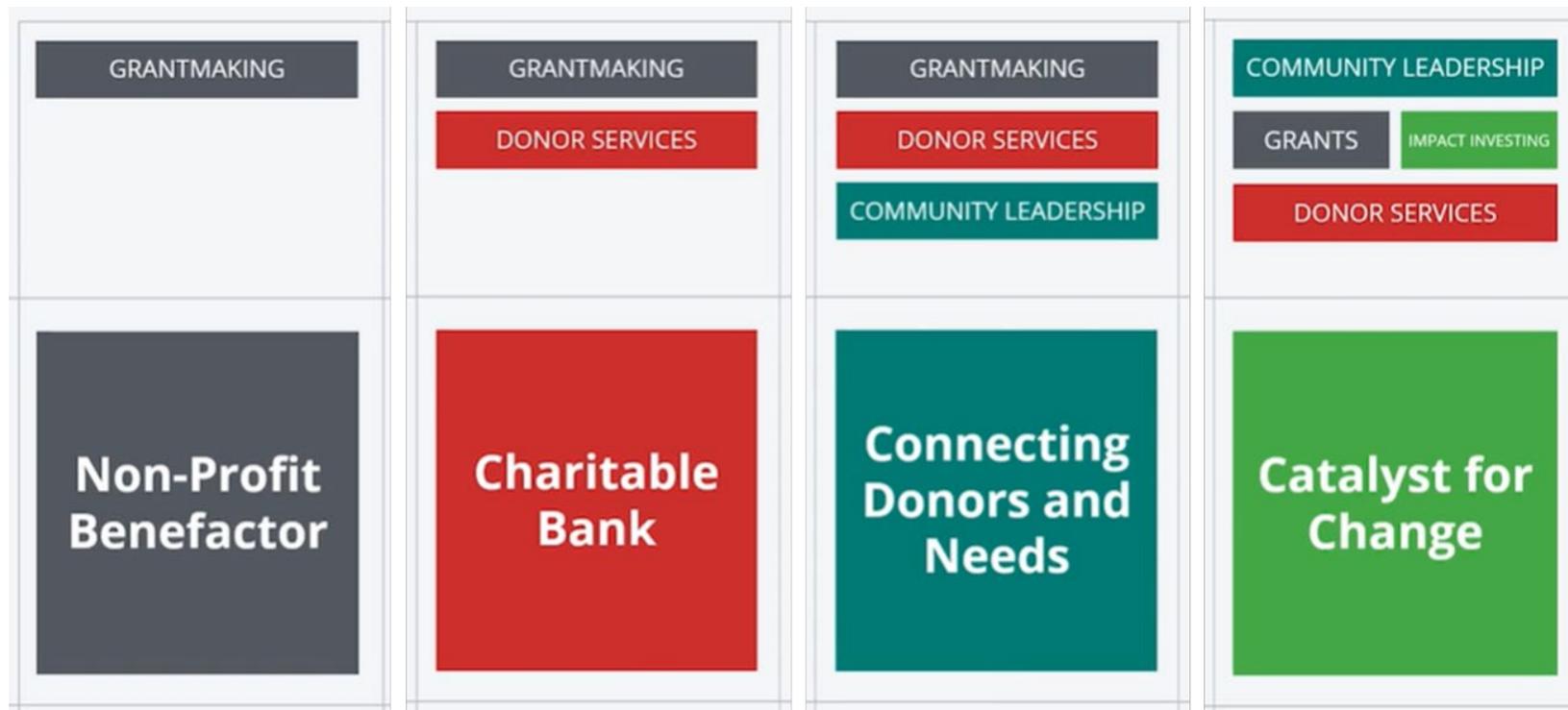
*Amber Jones
Development Associate
Serenade Heights, Inc.*

Nakeia Gray-Smith, Client Services and Office Manager
Gitanjali Bakshi, Communications and Marketing Manager
Richard Parham, Operations and Support Specialist
May Ison, Intern



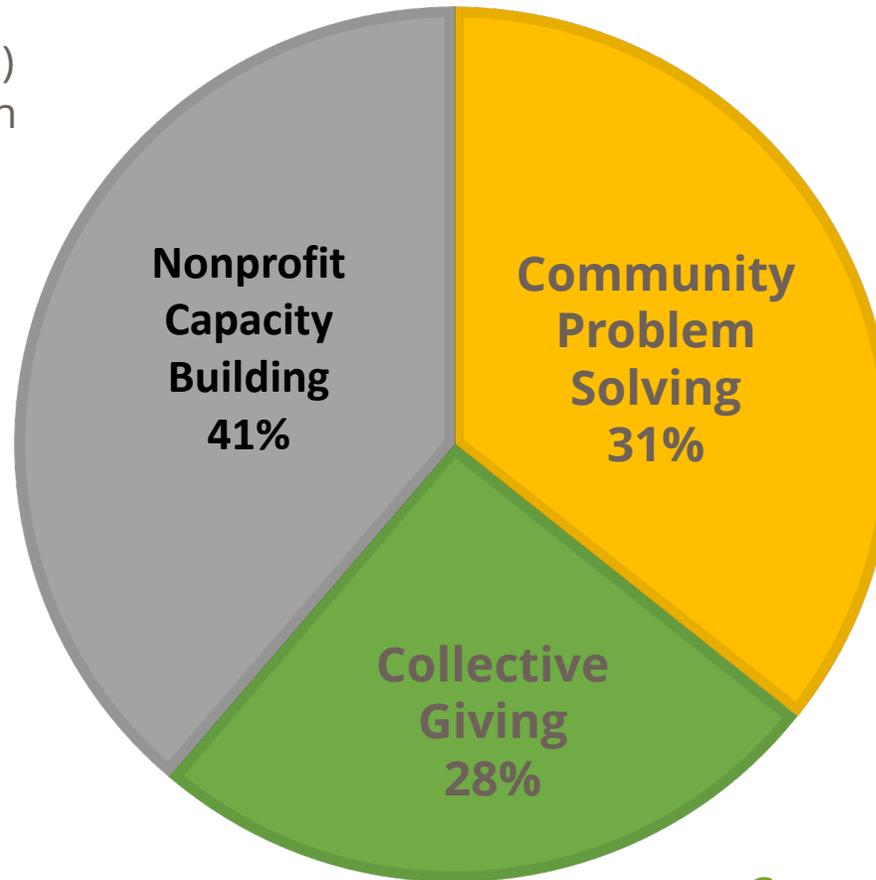
Who is Cobb Community Foundation?

Our mission is to be a catalyst for a thriving community— mobilizing people, ideas, and resources to improve quality of life in and around Cobb.



| 2025 Grantmaking Allocation

- KSU Certified Nonprofit Practitioner Program (CNP)
- Ignite (Nonprofit Education Series)
- Nonprofit Awards



- Vital Signs
- Mental Well Being Grants
- Economic Mobility
- Childcare Support Fund

Overall budget of \$370K

- Corporate Champion Designated Grant
- Match Magic: Cobb's Holiday Giveathon

ACTIVATE GOOD



Vital Signs

Understanding local needs

A collaboration of Cobb government, nonprofit and other key community stakeholders that will create a single source of meaningful, longitudinal data and qualitative findings that can guide human services and other resource providers in Cobb County in determining what is needed, what is working and what is not



Phase 1: Stakeholder engagement: May 2025 – August 2025

Phase 2: Data collection: August 2025 – December 2025

Phase 3: Data analysis: January 2026 – April 2026

Current Stakeholders

Cobb Chamber	Chattahoochee Tech
Cobb Collaborative	City of Acworth Parks and Recreation
Cobb County CDBG Office	City of Mableton
Cobb-Douglas Public Health	Cobb Chamber
ELPM	MUST Ministries
GEEARS	Ninth District Opportunity
Highland Rivers	Northwest Family YMCA
Ingenuity Unlimited	Senior Services
Kennesaw State University	Sheltering Arms
Latin American Association	Sweetwater Mission
Life University	United Way of Greater Atlanta NW Metro Region
Marietta City Schools	Wellstar

2025 Ignite Series

Nonprofit Sustainability & Strategic Options Program™

To help organizations make informed, mission-driven decisions about their futures, the Georgia Center for Nonprofits proposes a focused, action-oriented program that enables nonprofit leaders to assess sustainability, explore strategic options, and take appropriate action.

SAVE THE DATE

Nonprofit Sustainability & Strategic Options

AUGUST 26, 3:00 PM - 6:00 PM

COBB CHAMBER

ignite
Nonprofit Learning Series

 COBB COMMUNITY
FOUNDATION

In-person opportunity designed to equip you with tools and support to make informed decisions in today's funding landscape

| CNP Credential and Incentive

- KSU's Wellstar College of Health and Human Services is affiliated with the Nonprofit Leadership Alliance (NLA) which offers the credential of Certified Nonprofit Professional (CNP).
- The Certified Nonprofit Professional (CNP) Professional Track is a six-month facilitator-led program that will elevate your skills and equip you with the tools needed to be a successful social impact leader.
- 6 month online and in-person program



| How does it work?

Between 3-5 individual nonprofit leaders will be selected to receive:



NLA/KSU

- Enrollment and tuition for NLA/KSU's 6-month virtual CNP program
- Jan through July 2026
- Mandatory coursework



KSU

- 6 in-person cohort workshops with Assistant Dean and Professor Dr. Jennifer Wade-Berg, PhD, MPA, CNP at KSU
- Jan through July 2026



CCF

- A \$5,000 unrestricted grant awarded to the organization upon graduation from the course

**ACTIVATE
GOOD**



Amber Jones

Serenade Heights, Inc.

- What made you want to apply to the CNP program?
- How much time did it *really* take?
- How has the CNP affected your career in nonprofit?
- What is your advice to someone considering applying?



Eligibility

Eligible Organizations

Nonprofits (or their fiscal sponsors) must meet the following requirements:

- Must be providing services in Cobb County OR to Cobb County residents
- Must be classified (or a fiscal sponsor must be classified) by the U.S. Internal Revenue Service under Section 501(c)(3) as a nonprofit, tax-exempt public charity, to which donations are deductible as charitable contributions under Section 170 (c)(2)
- Must be registered with the Georgia Secretary of State as a nonprofit (verify here: <https://ecorp.sos.ga.gov/BusinessSearch>)
- Effective date of its 501(c)(3) classification must be before August 13, 2024
- If applying under a fiscal sponsor, operations of the applicant nonprofit must have begun before August 13, 2024
- Faith-based organizations are eligible for non-proselytizing activities
- Individual schools and school districts are ineligible
- Government entities are ineligible
- Only one application per EIN number will be accepted

Eligible Individuals

Nonprofit Experience:

- A minimum of 4 years of field experience in the nonprofit industry *AND one of the education criteria below*

Education:

- Bachelor's degree *or*
- Minimum of 4 years of military service *or*
- Specialty nonprofit certificate completion + 2 years of professional experience

**ACTIVATE
GOOD**



2025-2026 CNP Cohort Schedule

Wed August 13	Application opens
Wed August 13 @ 1-2pm	Grantseeker session (virtual)
Wed Sep 10 @ 5pm	Application closes @ 5pm EDT
Wed Oct 1 after 12pm	Semifinalists notified
Mon Oct 6 @ 2-7pm	In-person interviews at Cobb Community Foundation
Tue Oct 7	Recipients notified
Wed Oct 15	Deadline for grant agreements signed
Mon Jan 26, 2026	Online coursework begins
Mon Feb 23 @ 1:30-5pm	In-person cohort meeting
TBD Feb 2026	Elevate - a virtual conference for nonprofit leaders
Mon Mar 23 @ 1:30-5pm	In-person cohort meeting @ KSU
Mon Apr 20 @ 1:30-5pm	In-person cohort meeting @ KSU
Mon May 18 @ 1:30-5pm	In-person cohort meeting @ KSU
Mon Jun 22 @ 1:30-5pm	In-person cohort meeting @ KSU
Mon Jul 20 @ 1:30-3pm	In-person cohort meeting @ KSU
Mon Jul 20 @ 3-5pm	Final presentations and celebration @ KSU
August 2026	Incentive grant disbursement

**ACTIVATE
GOOD**



| FAQs

What is the selection committee looking for?

- The intent of the grant is to grow and strengthen organizations, so they are seeking candidates who want to stay with their current nonprofits.

How many hours per week is the commitment?

- Approximately 10 hours per week

Are there reporting requirements?

- Recipients must report on progress monthly in CCF's online portal and will give a final presentation, which will be uploaded to the portal

Are the grant funds truly unrestricted?

- Yes, but KSU will provide coaching to help recipients determine the best use of funds.

Where can I find more details about the coursework?

- [Link to National Leadership Alliance Outline and Syllabus](#)
- [Link to CNP Program Outline and Eligibility document](#)

**ACTIVATE
GOOD**



Accessing the application

www.grantinterface.com/Home/Logon?urlkey=cobbfoundation

1. Create an account, if you do not already have one.
2. *If you think someone in your organization already has an account (your org applied to Match Magic, or someone in your org may have applied to the CNP program in the past). **please email me lisa-ruth@cobbfoundation.org** before creating a new account!*
3. Once you log in, click “Apply” at the top of the page.
4. Click the “Apply” button on the lower right when the process is open.



Application Overview

Three parts



Uploads

- 501c3 or fiscal sponsor
- 501c3 letter
- GA Sec of State reg
- 990/990EZ/990N
- If 990N, income statement and balance sheet



About Your Organization

- Mission and history
- Programs and services
- # of ppl
- Impact
- Unique



About You

- Your resume or CV
- Why interested?
- Career goals
- Accomplishments
- Why now?

**ACTIVATE
GOOD**



Uploads

IRS 501(c)(3) Determination Letter*

Applicant  

- [Click here to see an example of what the document that we are asking for should look like.](#)
- If you have a fiscal sponsor, this should be the 501c3 Determination Letter of your fiscal sponsor.
- If you are affiliated with a [central organization](#), please upload the group 501c3 Determination Letter and a letter from the central organization stating that the applicant organization is under the group exemption and in good standing. The letter must be dated within the past year.

Allowed file types: .doc, .docx, .pdf, .jpg, .jpeg, .png

[Upload a file](#) [2 MiB allowed]

Screenshot of your Active GA Secretary of State Charitable Organization Registration*

Applicant  

Please follow these directions exactly as described.

- [Go to the GA Secretary of State website](#) and search for your organization's name. Take a screenshot of the page that shows your Active/Compliance status.
- [Click here to see an example of what the document that we are asking for should look like.](#)
- If you have a fiscal sponsor, this should be the GA State Registration of your fiscal sponsor.

Allowed file types: .doc, .docx, .pdf, .jpg, .jpeg, .png

[Upload a file](#) [2 MiB allowed]

Most Recently Filed 990*

Everyone  

- [Click here to see an example of what the document that we are asking for should look like.](#)
- If you have a fiscal sponsor, this should be the most recent 990 of your fiscal sponsor.
- 990N or 990EZ are acceptable if that is what your organization files.
- If you are uploading a 990N, you **MUST** also upload an income statement (profit and loss) and a balance sheet (assets, liabilities and net assets) from your mostly recently completed fiscal year. Combine the 990N and income statement into one file and upload.

Allowed file types: .doc, .docx, .pdf

[Upload a file](#) [6 MiB allowed]

About Your Organization

1. **Mission Statement and History – 10,000 characters**
2. **Briefly List services you provide in Cobb County – e.g. housing, financial assistance, food pantry, etc.**
3. **Total number of people served annually - number**
4. **Impact in Cobb County – how many people do you serve annually that are residents of Cobb County?
Number**
5. **How is your organization making a difference in our community? 5,000 characters**
6. **What makes your organization unique? 3,000 characters**

**ACTIVATE
GOOD**



About You

1. Upload your resume or CV. Please read the eligibility requirements in section 1 and ensure that your resume/CV reflects the eligibility requirements.

Please upload your Resume or CV.*

This document **MUST** include:

- Your highest level of education and from what institution
- Your work history in the nonprofit industry (you must have at least 4 years to be eligible for this grant) and your responsibilities associated with each role
- Your involvement in the community or volunteer service

Allowed file types: .doc, .docx, .pdf

[Upload a file](#) [3 MiB allowed]

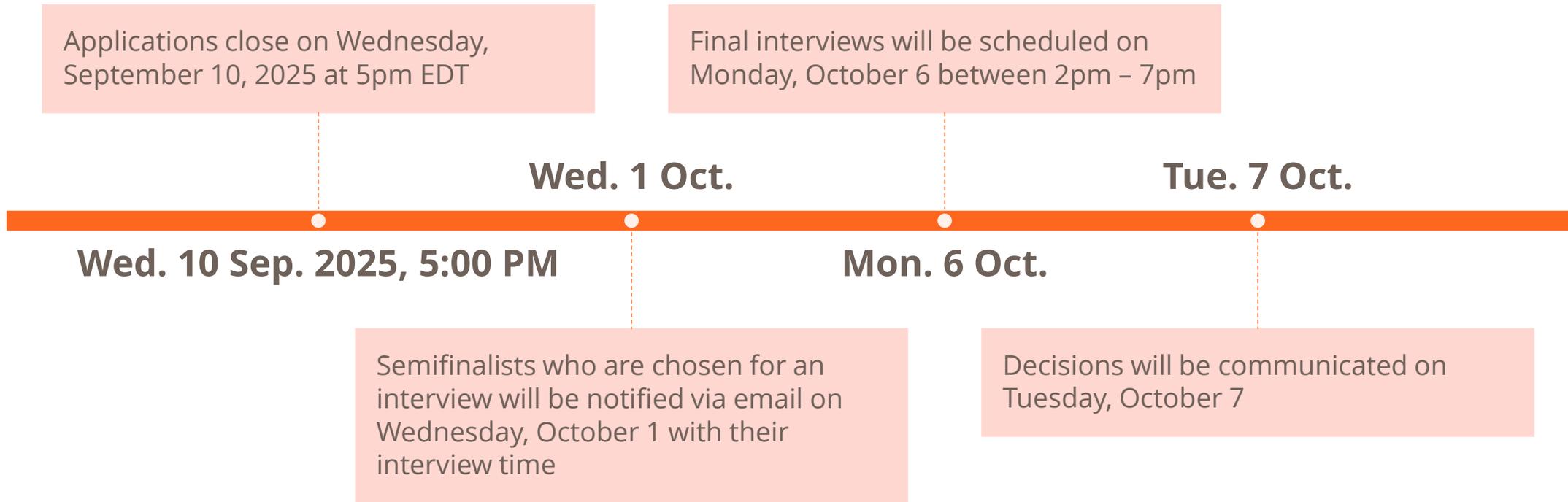
2. Why are you interested in obtaining a Certified Nonprofit credential? 5,000 characters
3. What are your career aspirations? 5,000 characters
4. Tell us about the professional accomplishment of which you are most proud. 5,000 characters
5. Why is now the right time in your organization for you to receive this credential? 5,000 characters
6. Can you attend all of the mandatory events? (cohort meetings, Elevate conference, final presentations)

**ACTIVATE
GOOD**



What happens next?

Place a HOLD on your calendar for Monday, October 6 between 2pm – 7pm



Questions?

- Don't forget application deadline is **Wednesday, September 10 at 5pm EDT**
- Email lisa-ruth@cobbfoundation.org or call **770-859-2359**
- Slides and recording will be emailed to you, posted on our website [HERE](#), and linked inside the application itself.

thank
you!



**ACTIVATE
GOOD**



COBB COMMUNITY
FOUNDATION