



Insurance Essentials for Nonprofits

Presented by Marvin Harris, CAE
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Agenda

- Why Insurance Matters for Nonprofits
- Workers' Compensation
- General Liability
- Directors & Officer (D&O)
- Property
- Tailoring Coverage
- Key Takeaways for EDs
- What New EDs Ask
- Insurance Decision Checklist
- Discussion and Q&A



Why Insurance Matters for Nonprofits

- Protects mission and operations
- Safeguards staff, board, and assets
- Demonstrates accountability and professionalism



Workers' Compensation

- Coverage for employee injuries on the job
- Protects both the worker and the organization
- State law drives the requirement
- Liability risk without it
- Why NGAT carries it: employees on staff, compliance



General Liability

- Covers accidents, injuries, and damages to others
- Critical for events, offices, and public interactions
- NGAT: necessary due to conferences, members, and visitors



Directors & Officers (D&O)

- Protects leadership from governance-related lawsuits
- Covers board decisions and management actions
- Why NGAT carries it: safeguard board & ED from personal risk



Property

- Covers buildings, equipment, and contents
- Essential if nonprofit owns property (like NGAT)
- Optional if leasing – may rely on landlord coverage



Tailoring Coverage

- One size doesn't fit all – depends on staff, property, and activities
- Annual policy review ensures right coverage
- Adjust as nonprofit grows or changes



Key Takeaways for EDs

- Must-haves: Workers' Comp, General Liability, D&O
- Situational: Property, Cybersecurity, Event Insurance
- Review policies annually with your broker



What New EDs Ask

- Why do we need insurance if we're small?
- What's must-have vs. nice-to-have coverage?
- How much coverage is enough?
- How much does it cost?
- Where do I start — broker or agent?
- Does the board need to be involved?
 - Fiduciary Duty – legal and ethical obligation
 - Personal Liability Exposure – can be held personally
 - Governance vs Management – oversees risk at the strategic level
 - Funders and Transparency – builds credibility



Insurance Decision Checklist

- Do you have employees? → Workers' Compensation
- Do you host events or interact with the public? → General Liability
- Do you have a board? → Directors & Officers (D&O)
- Do you own property? → Property Insurance
- Do you handle sensitive data or fundraising online? → Cyber Liability
- Do you run large or high-risk events? → Event Insurance



Closing

- Safeguard your nonprofit to protect its mission
- Insurance is an investment in sustainability
- Questions & Discussion



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