

The **Alliance of Arizona Nonprofits** is pleased to announce an exciting new initiative to foster and **facilitate collaboration, share resources** and form new **partnerships** among our members and the community at-large. The over-arching goal of this initiative is a strengthened, more sustainable nonprofit sector. To achieve this goal, the Alliance will use a wide variety of communication formats from **print media**, to online **social networking** groups, **searchable databases** to **face-to-face** discussion groups. **MEMBER MATCH** is our first step to fulfilling this goal.

MEMBER MATCH will be a print-based directory of Alliance members organized by geography, mission and populations served, enabling nonprofits to easily find similar organizations with which to collaborate, partner or share resources. The print directory will also include practical information about the collaboration process, best practices and resources on how to get started.

WHY MEMBER MATCH

Over the last few months, the **Alliance of Arizona Nonprofits** has conducted several forums and town halls all over Arizona. A common theme surfaced from your feedback – *"we need a way for nonprofit organizations to learn about each other and increase awareness about resources and collaborative opportunities."* This theme validates our findings from our *January 2010 Arizona Nonprofit Economic Survey results: "Collaboration is the Future"* - Similar to the findings in our early 2009 survey, nearly one out of four nonprofits is considering or reviewing possibilities for merger with other nonprofits and other joint ventures. We believe this could be a prominent trend in 2010, as organizations hit hard by government budget cuts have no choice but consolidation if essential services are to be continued in Arizona. In comments responding to open-ended questions, many organizations highlighted the need to work with other nonprofits, as well as government and business partners to reorient how they are doing business with fewer resources.

WHAT WE NEED FROM YOU

If you're an Alliance member, It's important that your **MEMBER MATCH** Profile reflects what you want other Alliance members and community stakeholders to know about your organization's mission, programs and services. We have developed a short online survey that should take no longer than **5 minutes** to complete. Use this link to go to the online survey: <http://www.surveymonkey.com/s/MemberMatch>. To meet our publication deadline, please complete the survey **by APRIL 9, 2010**.

If you are not an Alliance member, please contact Sam Richard, Director of Community Engagement, to find out how you can be part of **MEMBER MATCH**.