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Peter Milnes and son Brook Milnes of Manchester discuss the Hoffman-Haas Fellowship with Founder John E. Hoffman of Sullivan NH

Fellowship Strives for Creating a Lasting Value for NH

MANCHESTER: More than 50 well-known board leaders and philanthropists celebrated the launch of the Hoffman-Haas Fellowship program in a kick-off event this week held at DYN.

Offered by the NH Center for Nonprofits, the Fellowship is designed to engage, prepare and inspire community leaders to serve on nonprofit governing boards. Named in honor of two NH philanthropists and board leaders, John E. Hoffman of Sullivan and Thomas W. Haas of Durham, this program will strive to increase the level of capacity and effectiveness of nonprofit boards across the state.

"My hope has been realized just by looking around the room, I couldn't imagine a better way to meet the need of boards than this Fellowship. It is an honor to have my name associated with the program" commented John E. Hoffman.

The T.W. Haas Foundation and John E. Hoffman Family Foundation along with corporate partner, TD Bank and Northland Products were underwriters for the first cohort.

The Center plans to host the Fellowship pilot in Manchester and then branch out to other regions of the state, holding two cohorts at once in September 2014. A critical component of the 6-month Fellowship is a connection between mentors and Fellows.

Board Chair John Gilbert in welcoming the audience, noted that this new program developed by the Center in partnership with its supporters, is one designed to bring “lasting change” to the nonprofit sector and to the well-being of NH.

The Manchester cohort mentors include; Carolyn Benthien, Barry Brensinger, John Callahan, Byron Champlin, Ellie Cochran, Bradford Cook, Jim Cook, Kathy Cook, Michael Daily, Jane Difley, Meredith Funston, Benjamin Gayman, John Gilbert, William Gillett, Kathy Harrington, Carol Jue, Kenneth Jue, Deborah Kosits, Kirk Leoni, Grace Mattern, Melinda Mosier, Michael Ostrowski, Mary Rauh, Teresa Rosenberger, Connie Roy-Czyzowski, Ed Tomey, Jeanine Tousignant, Karen Van Der Beken, Bill Webb, Ruth Zax.

The Manchester cohort Fellows include; Bret Clemons, Krista Dupre, Brooke Freeland, Jeff Galvin, Marlene Hammond, Scott Harding, Jason Haviland, Steve Johnson, Ryan Kerr, Ryan Leach, Patricia Lynott, Karyl Martin, Amy McLaughlin, Matt Mercier, Brook Milnes, Brigid Murray, Kimberly Peaslee, Denise Petrin, Gina Powers, Joshua Robinson, Bartlomiej Sapeta, James Saucier, Jennifer Smith-Mullaney, Meredith Speranza, Kristen St. Pierre, Shannon Sullivan, Paul Susca, Stephen Walsh, Chris Wellington, and Hannah Zaitlin.

“Tonight we are excited to launch the Fellowship as a way to build the bench for boards of tomorrow. In five years our goal is to have 400 enthused and well-prepared new leaders serving on boards across our state. So much is changing within the nonprofit sector and its leadership is embracing new models of governance and new ways of doing business.” noted Mary Ellen Jackson, Executive Director of the Center.

The NH Center for Nonprofits is a statewide nonprofit association dedicated to advancing the impact and visibility of the nonprofit sector and supporting the growth of nonprofits to reach their mission. Its services included leadership development programs, organizational consultation and assessment, online resource sharing and advocacy.

For more information on the Hoffman-Haas Fellowship and details about future cohorts, contact Managing Director, Diane Raymond at the Center, (603) 225-1947, DRaymond@nhnonprofits.org

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