



Communicator

Regional news, views and information

www.lcsc.org

Government-Nonprofit
Electronic Edition

April 2018

Cooperative Purchasing Connection Partners with NJPA to Expand Contract Offerings

The Cooperative Purchasing Connection (CPC), a multi-region purchasing program of eight service cooperatives, has partnered with NJPA's national purchasing program to offer a large selection of NJPA contracts to our members. CPC and NJPA worked together to select contracts that complement and expand the CPC solicited contracts. NJPA chose CPC contracts to add to their offerings in Region 5.



The service cooperatives are excited to be combining our national and regional expertise to provide members with more buying power and more choice when purchasing. Plus, all of the contracts have been awarded through the required competitive process.

You may contact any of the CPC or NJPA vendors directly to meet your needs. When contacting the vendor, make sure to ask for the CPC contract pricing for CPC solicited contracts or the NJPA contract pricing for NJPA solicited contracts. The [CPC Contract Catalog](#) and the [supplemental list of shared NJPA contracts](#) can be found on the purchasingconnection.org website.

Using cooperatively solicited contracts has gained in popularity as government, schools and nonprofit organizations find value in the time and money saved from having to conduct their own quotes and bids. The Minnesota Service Cooperatives have been performing this service on behalf of members for 40 years.

Every time you use a service cooperative contract listed in these catalogs, your support helps build additional services for all of our members, such as the NJPA rebate program for Region 5, or the CPC online purchasing marketplace, Express. The Express site is free for members and was built specifically to provide an easy to use, single password shopping experience that meets government and nonprofit needs.

If you have questions about the partnership, or purchasing contracts, please contact the LCSC CPC staff at 888-739-3289.

INTERNSHIP

Opportunity



Lakes Country Service Cooperative is offering, through a collaboration with the MN Service Cooperatives, assistance with two internships at member cities or counties for the summer of 2018.

The goal of these internships is to support workforce recruitment and development in local government and to promote career opportunities in local

government to college students in Region IV, which is Lakes Country's service area.

If you are interested in this opportunity, your responsibilities would include the following:

- Must be a current paid member of Lakes Country Service Cooperative
- Responsible for recruiting, interviewing, selecting, hiring and supervising the intern
- The intern must be enrolled in a post-secondary institution
- Will complete all documentation necessary to carry out internship

This program will be on a first come first served basis.

For more information contact Jane Eastes at jeastes@lcsc.org or by calling 218-737-6531.

Member Spotlight is on Lake Region Arts Council

The mission of Lake Region Arts Council (LRAC) is to “encourage and support the Arts in West Central Minnesota.”



LRAC serves artists and arts organizations in West Central Minnesota and includes the counties of Becker, Clay, Douglas, Grant, Otter Tail, Pope, Stevens, Traverse and Wilkin.

The funding and services that LRAC provides increases access to arts events, increases knowledge of the arts and increases the sharing of cultural art forms to preserve our heritage.

Here are some of the programs LRAC offers:

- The Equitable Access program was designed to make sure all grants and services are accessible regardless of national origin, race, color, creed, religion, disability, gender, status with regard to public assistance, gender preference, marital status or political affiliation.
- Surviving to Thriving program helps arts organizations reach their full potential.
- Arts Resource Experts program connects artists with resources that will help them achieve their career goals.

To learn more about Lake Region Arts Council go to their website at www.lrac4.org.

Upcoming Training at LCSC

The Association of Minnesota Counties (AMC) has partnered with the Minnesota Service Cooperatives to bring a series of trainings to Greater Minnesota.

Lakes Country Service Cooperative is happy to be hosting an upcoming training titled, ***Bridging Divides: What to do When People Disagree*** on Thursday, May 10, 2018.

This workshop is for anyone wanting to learn more about how to handle difficult situations and conflict. There is no cost to attend, but you must register.

Here are the learning topics:

- De-escalation
- Managing strong emotions
- Increasing mutual understanding
- Building consensus
- Effective communication techniques for difficult situations

Presenters are:

Mariah Levison, Manager

Dave Bartholomay, Program Coordinator

Bureau of Mediation Services

Office of Collaboration and Dispute Resolution

For more information or to register go to:

www.mncounties.org/meetings_and_education/



Nonprofit Brown Bag Lunches Scheduled

Lakes Country Service Cooperative is partnering with the Minnesota Council of Nonprofits to bring a series of Brown Bag lunches to nonprofits in the region.

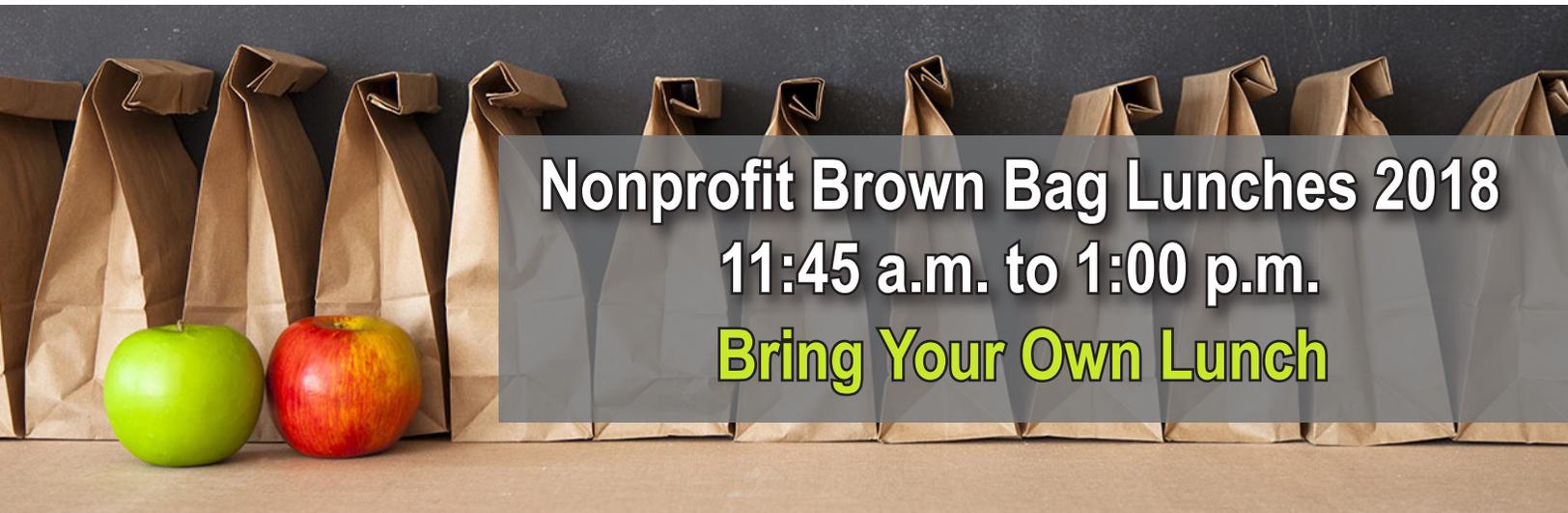
We will meet once a month from April – October from 11:45 a.m. – 1:00 p.m. Bring your own lunch and beverage. These are informal sessions that will be held in various communities in the region. No need to RSVP, just come.

The upcoming meetings include:

- Wednesday, April 18 at Concordia College in Moorhead
Presenter is Tom McSparron, Donor Services Officer at West Central Initiative
- Wednesday, May 23 at the Alexandria Technical & Community College in Alexandria

We have invited state representatives to come and hear nonprofit updates from participants and share briefly on the 2018 session.

For more information contact Holly Witt at hwitt@lsc.org, or call 218-737-6515.



Nonprofit Brown Bag Lunches 2018
11:45 a.m. to 1:00 p.m.
Bring Your Own Lunch