



# FNA Member Update

## May 5, 2023

### STATE UPDATE

#### An FNA Win! Fiscal Accountability Bill

As its final stage in the legislative process, this bill ([SB 242/HB 955](#)) passed the House unanimously on Wednesday. It was passed by the Senate in April and will now be sent to the Governor to sign.

Florida Nonprofit Alliance has worked on nonprofit transparency for three years to ensure there are fair and transparent rules for Florida's nonprofits. FNA is proud to see SB 242 pass. The bill is clear in the documentation it requires for any nonprofit that receives state funds and makes it easy for nonprofits to relay where and how state dollars will be used. This important legislation will ensure there is never another egregious misstep like the one committed by the Florida Coalition Against Domestic Violence.

#### 2023 Legislative Session

The Florida Legislature adjourned Sine Die this afternoon, marking the end of the 2023 regular Legislative Session. The Legislature also passed the 2023-2024 General Appropriations Act, otherwise known as the state budget. The Legislature's version of the budget is \$117 billion (\$46.5 billion General Revenue and \$70.5 billion Trust Funds). [Click here to see the full Budget Summary.](#) The budget now goes to the Governor, who does have line item veto power. The budget will take effect on July 1, 2023.

**For an FNA summary of this Legislative Session, plan to join us for the Policy Call on Wednesday, May 10<sup>th</sup> from 4-5PM ET. [Click here to register.](#)**

### FEDERAL UPDATE

#### Volunteer Drive Tax Appreciation Act of 2023

Rep. Pete Stauber (R-MN) and Rep. Angie Craig (D-MN) re-introduced the Volunteer Driver Tax Appreciation Act of 2023 this week, which was first introduced last year.

This legislation would increase the federal tax deduction mileage rate for volunteer drivers from its current rate, 14 cents per mile, to be equal to the IRS' business rate, currently set at 65.5 cents per mile. FNA and many other state associations have signed on their support of the bill. The press release, bill text, and list of supporting orgs can be [found here](#).

### Debt Limit Update

According to our friends at the National Council of Nonprofits, the House passage of a bill to temporarily raise the federal debt limit and impose significant spending cuts makes clear that the nation's capitol is in for a drawn-out and high-risk stalemate for the next several months. Until last week, President Biden had refused to negotiate over raising the debt limit saying both that there can be no tradeoffs for paying the bills that Congress had already authorized and that Republicans have to show their own debt-limit and spending plan. The narrowly passed Republican [Limit, Save, Grow Act](#), which multiple commentators have called "dead on arrival in the Senate," would raise the debt limit only until early spring next year, cancel some Covid-related spending, cap federal discretionary spending, repeal so-called "green energy" tax provisions, and impose stricter work requirements for some individuals participating in social support programs. President Biden and Senate Majority Leader Schumer (D-NY) must now decide whether they negotiate over some or all of the House Republican provisions or continue to demand a clean increase in the federal debt limit. As a first response, the [Senate Budget Committee will convene a hearing](#) to highlight what Democrats consider flaws in the House-passed bill.

## **GRANT OPPORTUNITIES**

### Groundswell Fund: Rapid Response Fund

The Groundswell Fund's Rapid Response Fund provides fast funding to grassroots organizations led by women of color, trans people of color, and low-income women and trans people in critical but unexpected fights to protect and advance reproductive and social justice. Support is provided throughout the United States and U.S. territories, with a focus on states and communities where women of color, transgender people of color, low-income women, and gender expansive people of color-led organizing is under-resourced. Requests must involve responses to unanticipated events or political moments, or new or unexpected critical opportunities or threats that require urgent or timely action, and should center both base building and grassroots organizing as tools to build power. Organizations led by a majority women of color or transgender or gender expansive people of color are eligible to apply. [Click here for more information](#).

### Nonprofit Tech Acceleration

Microsoft's Nonprofit Tech Acceleration (NTA) for Black and African American Communities program provides eligible 501(c)(3) nonprofits with technical software, services, consulting resources, software grants and discounts. Nonprofits can obtain products such as Microsoft 365, Azure, Power Apps, and many others, plus personalized technical consulting and ongoing learning opportunities. Eligible nonprofits are those "supporting the Black and/or African American Community," with a special focus on small to midsized organizations. [Click here for more information](#).

### Land Trust Alliance and Open Space Institute: Land and Climate Grant Program

DEADLINE: June 8<sup>th</sup>

Program provides support to land trusts, nonprofit organizations, and tribes that conserve and steward land to integrate climate science into land protection and management plans. For the 2023 funding round, \$300,000 total will be provided for the development of climate-informed land conservation, stewardship, or communications plans that address one or more of the following issues: habitat resilience, carbon mitigation, or community adaptation to climate impacts such as

stronger storms, flooding, drought, fire, or extreme heat. Grants will range from \$5,000 to \$15,000. [Click here for more information.](#)

## FNA EVENTS

### Using Data to Make Your Advocacy Case

**May 25, 2-3:30PM ET**

This new workshop from Florida Nonprofit Alliance will walk through how your organization can use data to make its advocacy case most effectively. The workshop will cover why data matters, where you can find it, how you can gather it, and how to integrate data into your storytelling.

[Click here to register.](#)

*This email is a benefit of your FNA membership.*

***Have a question about your membership? Not sure how to access your benefits?***  
*Schedule a time to virtually meet with [Veronica Inberg](#), FNA's Membership and Programs Coordinator!*

[Click here to unsubscribe](#)