Every two years we have the privilege of watching athletes from around the world participate in the Olympic Games. Several months prior to the opening ceremony, the Olympic torch begins its travel from Olympia, Greece to the host site. The individuals who carry the torch must train before running their leg of the journey. And, they must keep the flame alive.

Continuing the legacy of philanthropy and volunteerism in the Permian Basin is a lot like carrying the Olympic torch. It’s a legacy worth preserving and treating with care to ensure that the flame continues to burn. Generations...Past, Present and Future is designed to address this challenge.

Nonprofit organizations in the Permian Basin are facing a challenge in the recruitment and retention of volunteers equipped to serve at the board level. Those who volunteer often lack a working knowledge of board governance, human resource management, fundraising, mission, and program issues. This shortage of willing, skilled candidates has raised concerns regarding the adequacy of oversight in the nonprofit governance structure and loss of strategic vision by informed, committed leaders.

Generations came into being through the vision and thoughtful efforts of a group of dedicated people who want to perpetuate the high quality volunteerism that has existed in the Permian Basin. Upon completing 8 sessions over a four-month period, participants transition into service on a local nonprofit board that fits their personal preference and passion.
"Every community in America needs a program like Generations. It's of critical importance that we equip the next generation of community leaders to be good stewards of our nonprofit treasures. Generations gave me the tools to be a valuable board member and enhance the mission of the organization I serve."

~ Paul Cain, Graduate

Generations helps fill the shortfall of qualified volunteers needed to staff the boards of the nonprofit organizations in the Permian Basin. To complement the training program, a group of well-known, philanthropic individuals serve as mentors to share their thoughts, experiences and wisdom gleaned through many years of dedicated service in the nonprofit arena. In addition to attending program sessions, the mentors are available to assist graduates as they begin their nonprofit service.

Generations is made possible with funding from:
- Abell-Hanger Foundation
- Helen Greathouse Charitable Trust
- Fasken Oil & Ranch, Ltd.
- United Way of Midland
- James A. "Buddy" Yarbrough Oil & Gas L.P.
- Davidson Charitable Foundation
- Abell-Hanger Foundation
- Sparks Foundation Inc.
- Chapparal Foundation
- Beal Foundation
- Sparks Foundation Inc.
- Chapparal Foundation
- Beal Foundation

Yes, I want to preserve the nonprofit community in the Permian Basin!

I'm ready to pass the torch.

Generations....Past, Present and Future

Nomination Form

Nominee: ____________________________
Employer: ____________________________
Telephone: (cell) _______________________ (work) _______________________
Mailing Address: ____________________________
City: _______________________ Zip: ______
Nominated by: ____________________________

For more information, contact the Nonprofit Management Center, 432.570.7971