



The Lexington Nonprofit Coalition is a local alliance of KNN members that officially launched in late 2020 as a result of convenings that began in spring 2020. The Coalition's members include organizations committed to a stronger, more unified and collaborative nonprofit sector serving the Lexington community.

The work of the Coalition to date has been essential to creating a unified voice that has better educated the Mayor's office and the Urban County Council on the work and economic impact of nonprofits; helping move the Urban County Council to restore the proposed elimination of funding of the city's partnerships with nonprofits in the 2020 budget; challenging existing grant processes that create barriers and red tape for nonprofit partners; engaging in educating candidates running for Council and their view of nonprofit partnerships and the sector's impact on the economy; and proposing stronger partnerships with the city as Lexington moves toward pandemic recovery. The Coalition has led to important actions to support students and families coping with non-traditional instruction; held critical conversations to ensure our city addressed both COVID-19 and racial and social inequities; and continues to reiterate the importance of nonprofits having a seat at the table when decisions are being made that impact the Lexington community.

The LNC:

- Is a coalition of Lexington KNN members
- Provides educational/informational opportunities specifically designed for Lexington nonprofits
- Provides networking and connection opportunities for Lexington nonprofit leaders
- Assist members with priority development and advocacy strategy
- Lobbies, educates, and advocates on behalf of the collective priorities established by the Coalition

What can members expect from LNC membership:

- Regular convenings (virtual and when able, in person) to connect, learn, share, and strategize on how to advance Lexington's nonprofit sector
- Public Policy and Advocacy
 - Public policy priority development
 - Consistent monitoring of actions of the Mayor and Urban County Council with a nonprofit lens, provided for the Coalition in partnership with CivicLex
 - Grassroots advocacy development/tools to help Coalition members engage their constituents, including a social media presence unique to the Coalition and its advocacy goals
 - Guidance and support on effective advocacy and lobbying – clear messaging for members to use with officials
 - Engagement with local officials to lobby on behalf of the Coalition's priorities – Mayor, Council, city officials (i.e. advocacy for the path outlined by CM Bledsoe with regard to securing increased city funding for nonprofit partnerships)

- Facilitated engagement and lobbying on behalf of the Coalition's collective priorities with Lexington's legislators in Frankfort and sixth district representation in Congress
- Facilitated election engagement – strategy and implementation of LNC hosted candidate forums, voter guides, and/or other opportunities to elevate the role and voice of nonprofits with candidates, elected officials, and the community

What is expected of LNC members:

- Be an active participant in meetings, activities etc.
- Maintain confidentiality of information intended for/shared with and by Coalition members
- Actively solicit the participation and engagement of other nonprofits to participate in LNC and grow membership
- Be an advocate and build relationships with your elected officials
- Share information within your organization and network (action alerts etc.)
- Engage in securing external support opportunities with potential LNC funders

Membership Dues:

- Lexington Nonprofit Coalition membership is open to active KNN members and the goal is to make LNC membership as accessible as possible. As more members join the LNC and/or external funding is received, monthly dues amounts will decrease.
- Monthly dues paid via ACH payment that adjust as the number of members join the Coalition and/or external funding support is received. Because monthly payments would be made via ACH payment, KNN can adjust the dues accordingly as membership milestones and/or sponsorships are achieved or secured.