



California Association
of Nonprofits

Protecting, Strengthening & Promoting Nonprofits

California Association of Nonprofits 2007 Annual Report

CAN's mission is to protect and promote: (1) the influence, accountability, and effectiveness of California nonprofits in a manner that builds their capacity to accomplish their missions and (2) the visibility, idealism, and value of nonprofits in California.

2007 was an important year for CAN in accomplishing our mission and furthering our goals in each of our functional areas; education and strengthening capacity, public policy and advocacy, accountability, communication and information, and membership. [Click here](#) to view a copy of CAN's 2007 Form 990.

Here are just some of the year's highlights:

Education - Strengthening Capacity - Accountability

Money Matters: 2007 Nonprofit Finance Conference series, in partnership with Public Health Foundation Enterprises (PHFE), was held April through June in locations across the state including Los Angeles, San Bernardino, Concord and Sonoma. The goal of these conferences was twofold: 1) to measurably improve the accuracy, consistency and clarity of nonprofit financial accounting and reporting thus strengthening nonprofit accountability and restoring public trust; and 2) to strengthen and advance the quality of leadership, governance, and internal operations by ensuring that nonprofits throughout California will have the programs, services, and resources they need to more effectively achieve their missions.

Ensuring Nonprofit Integrity Workshops and Conferences were held in San Jose, Riverside, and Monterey. These 5 events were designed to help nonprofits understand the audiences to whom they are accountable and to voluntarily adopt a culture of accountability wherein they make those principles, practices and behaviors that best demonstrate integrity and accountability more visible and transparent to government, donors, foundations and the public. These workshops also provided practical tools to nonprofits for demonstrating their accountability through enhanced practices, behaviors, and values.

CAN's 16th Annual Conference "Building Strong Nonprofits" was held on October 24-25 at the Cathedral Plaza in Los Angeles. Keynote speakers included: Kay Sprinkel Grace, CFRE, "*The Unfolding Century: Promise or Peril?*"; Diana Aviv, President and CEO of Independent Sector, "*Opportunity and Responsibility: Reflections from the 2007 Independent Sector Annual Conference*"; and Flo Green, "*Rethinking Sustainability: Creating a New Future for California Nonprofits*".

Communication - Information

Published **CAN ALERT** newsletters with timely and sector relevant feature articles including "*Using Social Enterprise to Advance your Mission and Sustain Your Organization*", "*Surviving In-Person Meetings with Foundations*" and "*Business Interrupted – How Prepared is Your Organization?*".

Published semi-monthly **Nonprofit Neighborhood** e-newsletters, bringing relevant and timely articles, tools and resources to the nonprofit community.

Launched **CAN's Career Center**, the premier electronic recruitment resource for the industry. Here, employers and recruiters have access to a qualified talent pool with relevant work experience to fulfill staffing needs. There were over 200+ views per job in its first year.

Public Policy - Advocacy

Through the cooperative efforts of CAN's Public Policy Council, Legislative Committee, Regional Partners, Lobbyist, and CAN's Director of Public Policy, following are the top ten 2007 public policy accomplishments:

Expanded fundraising opportunities - AB 323 opened the doors for millions of dollars in wine donations for nonprofit fundraising events.

Promoted smart diversity accountability - Transforming AB 624 into a two-year bill allowed time for research to put on a sounder footing this effort to push large foundations to respond to diversity.

Set the stage for expanded nonprofit role in state government – Removing the faith-based references from legislation to create a nonprofit office in state government paved the way for the politically and constitutionally viable approach now emerging.

Built nonprofit advocacy capacity - Designed and implemented major capacity building projects and research with The California Endowment, First Five and Johnson Foundation; brought together 100 nonprofit and government leaders for state Policy Day and 500 leaders for local/regional Policy Days and advocacy trainings.

Streamlined tax-exempt status application process - AB 897 removed duplicative paperwork for state and federal exemption applications.

Worked with regulators as partners, not adversaries - Partnered with ABC and Gambling Control to create fundraising regulations and administrative practices, co-led law and ethics workshop with Attorney General staff at CAN conference.

Improved environment for nonprofit emergency/disaster responsiveness - Joined Governor's emergency advisory work group, secured stakeholder role in OES planning, aided passage of AB 903 (nonprofit disaster reimbursement).

Brought nonprofit advocates together for greater awareness and impact - Convened 5 meetings of statewide nonprofit advocates to share information and action, with as many as 30 attending and 50 on opt-in mailing list.

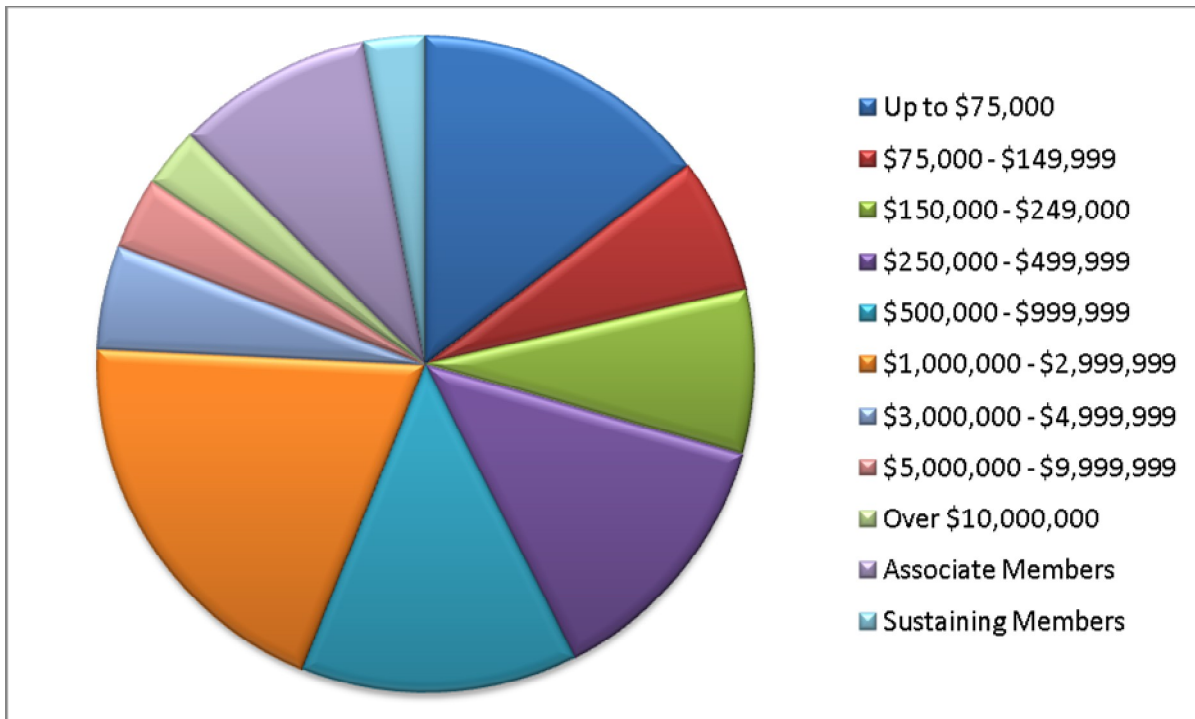
Spoke out for affordability, accessibility, comprehensive coverage and cultural competence in year-long debate over health care reform. - Convened four meetings of nonprofits with governor's chief health policy advisors.

Provided Pacific Rim nations with tools for creating healthy civil society - Met with Chinese, Korean, and Taiwanese officials and business people to learn from CAN's work in accountability, management assistance and public policy.

Membership

In 2007, we welcomed 254 new nonprofit organization members, 28 Associate Members, 7 Student members and 5 Sustaining members bringing our total membership to 1,723. Each new Association member helps to strengthen the voice and influence of the sector. The charts below provide a breakdown of CAN's membership by budget size and by membership type:

CAN Members by Budget Size



CAN Members by Type

