



[About the Alliance for Strong Families and Communities](#) – With organizational roots stretching back more than 100 years, the [Alliance for Strong Families and Communities](#) is a national organization dedicated to achieving its vision of a healthy society and strong communities for all children, adults, and families through the excellence and influence of a network of nonprofit human-serving organizations across America.

Served by a [headquarters in Washington DC](#) and a [national operations center in Milwaukee](#), the Alliance network is made up of organizations that strengthen families and build communities through their program excellence, leadership, innovations, partnerships, influence and advocacy. These organizations look to the Alliance for trend-spotting, useful knowledge, vital networking, unique cohort experiences and tested solutions.

The Alliance supports the excellence of its network with its signature Commitments of High-Impact Nonprofit Organizations, a comprehensive, evidence-based framework of values and practices that provide a pathway to organizational excellence and impact.

The Alliance’s nearly 500 member organizations represent a significant force in the nonprofit service sector. Collectively, they:

- Serve more than 4.6 million clients annually
- Operate with a combined \$6.3 billion budget
- Employ approximately 138,300 full-time employees
- Operate in 2,200 locations
- Are governed by more than 8,600 board members
- Benefit from the goodwill of roughly 200,000 volunteers
- Receive generous support from approximately 296,000 individual donors

The Alliance maintains a broad array of resources to help build the capacities and influence of its member organizations:

- **[Alliance E-News](#)** – Subscribe to our bi-weekly electronic newsletter that will help you stay up-to-date about the activities of the Alliance, our members, and our affiliated organizations. Each issue features a variety of information, including conferences, professional development & learning opportunities, public policy, webinars & teleconferences, and Alliance initiatives.
- **[Alliance Peer Exchange groups \(APEXs\)](#)** – As a key element of its value proposition, the Alliance facilitates peer-to-peer networking among staff at member organizations through Alliance Peer Exchange groups. Organized around various professional disciplines, program orientations or other areas of common interest, groups interact regularly via listserv conversations, teleconferences and in-person gatherings, and some curate topical collections of resources available on our website. Membership in most APEXs is open to any Alliance network staff member. The groups currently available are:

Civic engagement	Health and wellness	Resource & fund development
Complex organizations	Human resources	Senior & exec. leadership
Executive & admin support	Marketing and communication	Small budget org. leaders
Faith based orgs.	Performance excellence	Strategy leaders
Financial management	Residential services/Foster care	Technology

- [Aramark Building Community](#) – Since 2007, Aramark and Alliance for Strong Families and Communities have partnered to help communities and families succeed and thrive through *Aramark Building Community* (ABC). Together, we have mobilized Aramark volunteers, neighbors, community centers, and stakeholders and leveraged our expertise to make an impact in the areas of workforce readiness; nutrition and wellness; and access to safe, enriching neighborhood gathering places. The [Aramark Building Community Academy](#) is a new resource to help strengthen the impact of programs that help families and communities thrive. Visit the resource library for practical tools related to community health and wellness, and read more about the strategies for impact that community organizations can employ to achieve lasting results.
- [The Center on Leadership](#) – The Alliance for Strong Families and Communities Center on Leadership is designed to enable today’s human-serving leaders to become highly impactful change leaders who go beyond focusing on every day change management tools and processes to creating and sharing a larger vision, building an adaptive organizational culture, and guiding their organization and communities through large-scale changes. The Center helps to strengthen the cognitive, behavioral, emotional, and spiritual capacities of current and emerging leaders so that they are best equipped to lead themselves, their team, organization, and community.
Gain access to high-caliber learning and [professional development programs](#) available and discover peer leader’s views from the [Visionary Leadership Blog](#). Here are some learning opportunities provided through the Center on Leadership:
 - [Executive Leadership Institute \(ELI\)](#) – The Alliance Executive Leadership Institute is a leadership certificate program for emerging senior leaders in the nonprofit human services industry. It is co-sponsored by the University of Michigan’s School of Social Work and Ross School of Business.
 - [Complex Organizations Meeting](#) – The Alliance for Strong Families and Communities offers specialized networking opportunities to a growing group of members that are self-identified as “complex organizations.” Check out the characteristics of these organizations online.
 - [CFO Roundtable](#) – This roundtable is a premier peer exchange networking opportunity that enhances educational and professional development for finance executives in the human-serving sector. Roundtable sessions are delivered by peers and industry thought leaders who understand the unique challenges and opportunities of nonprofit organizations.
- [The Center for Engagement and Neighborhood Building](#) – A center of experience and knowledge that elevates and continually develops the proven values and approaches of the settlement house and family services movements. The Center unites a wide range of stakeholders to embrace these values and encourages the adoption of engagement practices and policies in our network and at the individual, family, community, state and federal levels. The Center partners with Aramark to offer the [Aramark Building Community Academy](#), a forum to enhance the operational and program excellence of community centers in the areas of community health and wellness and employment.
- [Civic Engagement Fellowships](#) – The Civic Engagement Fellowship program is designed to recognize and fuel the leadership of individuals who are involved in engagement and community building work at the local and regional levels. We are currently working on a new direction and scale for the civic engagement initiative, and at this time we are not accepting new Fellows. We anticipate that funding opportunities will become available with this new direction, and those opportunities will be announced via Alliance eNews. If you would like to get connected to the peer learning taking place now, or access the resources we have available, please contact [Jerica Broeckling](#), Associate Director, Center for Engagement and Neighborhood Building, (414) 359-6605.

- [COA Accreditation](#) – Going through accreditation or re-accreditation? View samples of self-studies and other information in our searchable database. Alliance members receive a 25% discount from COA.
- [The Alliance’s Commitments of High-Impact Organizations](#) – provide a framework and path for impact. Organizations that uphold the Commitments effectively focus on achieving not only immediate outcomes, but lasting impact. Further, they do not think about their work only in terms of programs and services, but rather as advancing change and supporting the vision for success defined by the children, families, and communities with whom they work. Tools are provided that will assess and benchmark your current levels of competency in each area, learning how to elevate your proficiency level in specific areas. To familiarize yourself with the Commitments of High-Impact Nonprofit Organizations:
 - Watch the [three-minute introduction video](#)
 - Review the [Commitments brochure](#)
 - [Read the full Commitments report](#)
- [Commitments Assessment Tool](#) – Alliance members implementing the Commitments Assessment Tool will receive a highly authoritative, tangible, actionable report on their organizational maturity in each of the Commitments areas. The tool is unique because it evaluates not just operational practices, but the culture and values that distinguish human-serving organizations. The results will allow organizations to benchmark against peer organizations, prioritize areas of improvement, and seamlessly access related Alliance resources.
- [Compensation Report](#) – The Alliance’s annual human services compensation reports are invaluable tools for helping members and other organizations discover how to keep their organizations strong, competitive, and high performing. Data for the report is compiled from a survey of Alliance member and other human serving organizations. Member organizations that participate in the survey each year receive complimentary access to the report.
- [Conferences and Workshops](#) – Through a variety of [annual conferences](#) and one- or two-day, intensive [workshops](#), the Alliance for Strong Families and Communities promotes learning and networking. Find the next conference, meeting, or retreat that will take your career and organization to the next level. Use the Center on Leadership’s [guide to identify Alliance events](#) to gauge what event(s) make sense for you and your team to attend.
- [Consultation Services](#) – The Alliance offers specialized consultation to members by conducting board retreats, trend presentations for staff meetings and comprehensive strategic planning. Cohort groups of network members are convened on timely topics and executives from Alliance network agencies are invited from time to time serve as peer faculty coaches. Contact [Mike Mortell](#), Director of Consultation, (414) 359-6560, for more information.
- [Contact the Alliance](#) – A full [staff directory](#) is available that provides a roster of all staff by department and contact information with each individual's areas of expertise. Not sure who to contact? Send a message [Member Relations](#), who will direct your question to the appropriate staff member or call the Alliance's National Operations Center at 414-359-1040 or 800-221-3726.

National Headquarters:	1020 19 th St. N.W., Suite 500 Washington, DC 20036 800-220-1016
National Operations Center:	11700 W. Lake Park Drive Milwaukee, WI 53224 800-221-3726

- **[Evaluation and Research](#)** – The Alliance’s Evaluation and Research promotes a culture of genuine impact and performance excellence across the human-serving sector by building organizations’ capacity to measure impact, by generating and translating knowledge to inform evidence-based practice and policy, and by exploring how emerging science can be most effectively applied to create change for families and communities.

In addition to their original research reports and involvement, Evaluation and Research is also responsible for the [Alliance Annual Nonprofit Human Services Compensation report](#). (See *Compensation Report for details*)

- **[Families in Society](#)** – Social work’s most enduring professional journal, advancing translational research and critical analysis on issues that relate to the capabilities and well-being of individuals, families, and communities, with a commitment to inform and inspire collaboration between participants, service providers and other community stakeholders. On top of print issues, Alliance members have electronic access to almost 20 years of content, including more than 2,000 articles, essays, editorials, and book reviews is available on [Families in Society Online](#).
- **[FEI Behavioral Health](#)** (FEI) – A social enterprise wholly owned by the Alliance, with more than 35 years of experience in offering flexible solutions for the full spectrum of workforce resilience goals ranging from EAP, work-life, and wellness to crisis preparedness and management services. Alliance members can get involved with FEI by:
 - Becoming a customer and purchasing EAP services from FEI at a more reasonable rate.
 - Being a provider of technical expertise enabling you to receive preferred status and earn income by providing counselors who staff FEI’s programs.
 - Being a marketing partner and introducing FEI’s services to organizations and businesses within your community. Commissions would be earned on any contracts FEI would sign as a result of your outreach.
- **[Intergenerational Initiative](#)** – Second Acts for Strong Communities is the Alliance’s new intergenerational initiative. It is geared to help network members leverage the time and experience of older adults to positively impact children, families, communities and nonprofit organizations. Contact [Emily Merritt](#), Director of Intergenerational Initiatives, (414) 359-6586 for more information.
- **[Member Network](#)** – Connect with your fellow Alliance members and peers in the network. Search our online [member directory](#) at any time.
- **[National Job Board](#)** – The Alliance for Strong Families and Communities National Job Board provides a platform for nonprofit human service organizations to nationally publicize employment opportunities. Listings remain posted for 60 days and are complimentary for all Alliance members.
- **[Publications and Specialized Reports](#)** – The Alliance commissions several specialized reports and publications that provide insight on topics that are relevant to the services you provide.
- **[Public Policy and Mobilization](#)** – The Alliance public policy office engages and mobilizes members around federal and state issues that affect the wellbeing of children, families, and communities. Through our member network, we advance policy recommendations at the national and state levels to influence the systems and sectors that can together ensure that all people have the opportunity to live safe, healthy and prosperous lives.

The [Alliance Policy blog](#), provides timely updates and information related to, i.e. child welfare, federal budget crisis, health policies (including health care reform), residential issues and nonprofit sector issues.

The [Public Policy Newsletter](#) offers regular updates on new legislative and regulatory activities, relevant research reports and advocacy resources members can use to learn more about issues and engage in policy/advocacy activities.

The Public Policy and Mobilization staff facilitates the following APEX work groups and typically meet via teleconference once a month in the following areas:

- **Child Welfare:** Currently focused on updates on child welfare federal legislation, current issues and pursues opportunities to take collective action at the federal level. The Alliance is leading efforts on child welfare finance reform and developing core principles to guide legislation.
 - **Early Education:** Focused on informing Federal efforts and building local and state level momentum around expansion of Federal funding for high quality early care and education programs.
 - **Health Policy:** Primarily focused on federal legislation/campaigns as well as state trends related to mental and behavioral health, health integration, and Affordable Care Act implementation.
- [PurchasingPoint®](#) – The PurchasingPoint® program is a benefit of Alliance membership and is designed to help reduce overhead costs. Through this program, your organization is able to receive discounts on a vast range of product and services such as car rental, office supplies, shipping, copiers, postage equipment, furniture, cleaning supplies, cell phones and more. Plus the discounts are negotiated through major vendors. Access is gained through the portal where you will set up an account. You will also find an FAQ once signed in and support is offered directly from National Business Assembly Services, Inc. Sign up today!
 - [Resource Development Solutions](#) – Alliance’s Resource Development Solutions (RDS) helps members build their fund development capacity by offering a variety of training, networking, information, and mentoring services. Sign up today for the [funds directory](#) plus stay informed of other exclusive [grant-funding opportunities](#) and tools that drive resource engines including our [Fund Development Training Manual](#).
 - [Severson National Information Center](#) – An authoritative, comprehensive and responsive knowledge resource providing our network with professional, customized and on-demand research services and 24/7 electronic access to scholarly journals, books and member-contributed materials including policies, procedures, manuals, full-text articles and more.

As a strategic partner to our network organizations, Severson provides robust accreditation support as well as knowledge solutions in the form of emerging trends and best practices that equip human serving organizations to achieve high impact. [Requests for information](#), including customized and [funding research](#) requests can be submitted online, or you may search the [Digital Collection](#) web-based repository at any time. Some examples of available information are:

Client rights policies	HIPAA-compliant policies	Job descriptions
COA Accreditation	Intake forms	Performance review forms
Customer satisfaction forms	Investment policies	Quality improvement policies
Development plans		

- **Severson's Digital Collections**

- **EBSCOhost Databases** – Alliance for Strong Families and Communities members now have access to new robust [digital collections](#) containing thousands of electronic full-text articles and book summaries through [EBSCOhost Databases](#). EBSCOhost contains high-quality, reliable materials licensed from reputable publishers and indexed by professionals. It also offers superior search features and the freedom to share materials with co-workers without violating copyright. To request login information, please contact [Severson](#) directly.
- **DocuShare** is a searchable, web-based library of policies, procedures, manuals, forms, and other documents of interest to nonprofit human service organizations. Members need to register to access DocuShare. [Register online](#) or [send](#) a request to register. Include your name, mailing address and phone number and login instructions, with password and tips for searching the database will be sent to you.

- **Social Media** – Connect with the Alliance on the following Social Media sites:



Be inspired and gain insight from Alliance CEO, [Susan Dreyfus](#):



- **Trusted Partner Program** – The Alliance, through the Trusted Partner Program, recognizes organizations that have established commitments to providing Alliance members with meaningful programs, product, content, services, and high-level solutions, such as insurance, retirement & pension products, and state unemployment tax alternatives.
 - Brown & Brown Insurance
 - Mutual of America Life Insurance Company
 - The Unemployment Services Trust (UST)
- **Webinars/Teleconferences** – These networking and knowledge development opportunities cover a wide range of hot topics such as profession specific disciplines, program orientations, health, diversity, and many additional hot topics relevant to our sector. Sign up for one today and watch for new additions in [Alliance E-News](#)!
- **Website Access** – The Alliance for Strong Families and Communities offers access to materials and resources through multiple online portals, which currently require different login information.
 - **Alliance Website – Accessing the Members Only Information**

The [Alliance website](#) has a “Members Only” section that allows members to access information. The login area is located in the upper right hand corner of the screen.

 - **First time users** must [create a new account](#). Once your temporary password is emailed directly to you, changes can be made by going to the lower left hand side of the screen using the “my account” feature.
 - **Returning users** that already have an account and have forgotten your password, you may request one by using your email address.

– [Alliance Store](#)

Please visit the [Alliance Store](#) to register for all Alliance events, workshops, webinars, and to download reports and publications. (*We suggest that you not use Internet Explorer 11 as the store doesn't work well with that browser.*) You will find the login in the upper right hand corner.

- **First time users** must [create a new profile](#), located on the right side of login area. However, the system will check to see if you already have an account. In that case, we have set up a temporary login and password for you.
Username: firstnamelastname (i.e. johnsmith)
Password: welcome1
- If you are a **returning user** and have forgotten your username or password, please follow the instructions provided online.

Updating your Interests and Contact information

Once logged into the Alliance Store (you'll know because it will say "Welcome" at the top right of the screen), we ask that you review and update your contact information and tell us about your personal interests. Please click on your name (upper right-hand corner) to edit your Profile, Interests, Username and Password.