## Planning for Growth and Change Nonprofit Financial Managers Group

#### **Presented by**

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April 28th 2022



# Nonprofit Finance Fund: Where Money Meets Mission

NFF envisions a world where capital and expertise come together to create a more just and vibrant society.

## We unlock the potential of mission-driven organizations through:

- Tailored investments
- Strategic advice
- Accessible insights





## **Learning Goals**



To understand nonprofit dynamics that impact organizations as they grow and change

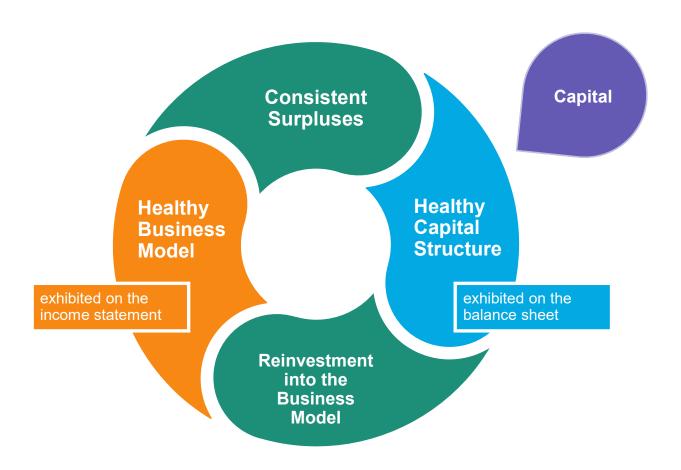


To identify tools that will aid in the process of planning for growth and change



To note key considerations while planning for growth and change

## **Revenue and Capital Work Together**





## The Truth About the Nonprofit Business Model

## Nonprofits must run two businesses: Mission & Subsidy



- Subsidy businesses take their own set of capacities to run
- When program growth or change occurs, subsidies must grow in proportion
- Cost reduction strategies can have serious consequences for the mission

## **Types of Growth**

#### **Incremental Growth**

- Small, incremental changes
- Slower, allows for realtime market-testing
- Pay-as-you-go, no or very modest deficits
- Lower risk



#### **Transformational Growth**

- Large, simultaneous changes
- Faster, built on analysis and predictions
- Upfront investment from outside source
- Higher risk





## **Management Tools Help You Plan**



#### **Day-to-Day Management**

- Budgets:
  - Financial planning/monitoring
  - Business variables
  - Revenue discounting
  - Note for Growth: Account for <u>Full Cost</u> needs

#### Cash Flow Planning:

- Estimating the timing of money
- Anticipating the need to access & repay debt
- Note for Growth: Without upfront investment of capital, cash flow can become strained even with a budgetary surplus



### **Strategic Decision Making**

- Multi-Year Projections:
  - Multi-year planning
  - Modeling change
  - Growth planning
  - Note for Growth: Be as conservative as possible on both revenue and expense. Consider balance sheet implications in your analysis.

#### Scenario Plans:

- Articulating the "what ifs"
- Quantifying contingencies
- Identifying triggers
- Note for Growth: Consider both "best case" and "worst case" scenarios for strategic decisions



## Multi-Year Projections/ Scenario Plans for Growth: Goals & Process

Multi-year projections/ scenario plans can support leadership to:

- Evaluate the financial impact of certain conditions, decisions and plans
- Gain longer-term visibility into the operations and investments required to achieve both programmatic and financial goals
- Prepare for change based on estimated future financial results
- Create a shared language for articulating financial information and resource needs to internal and external stakeholders

Understand the Current Financial Baseline

■ Financial Situation Analysis

Define the Opportunities & Impact

 Articulate and prioritize aspirations, opportunities and risks over the next 3 years Projecting the Future Business Model & Capitalization

 Identify key assumptions related to revenues, expenses (e.g. staff, infrastructure, program) and capitalization goals

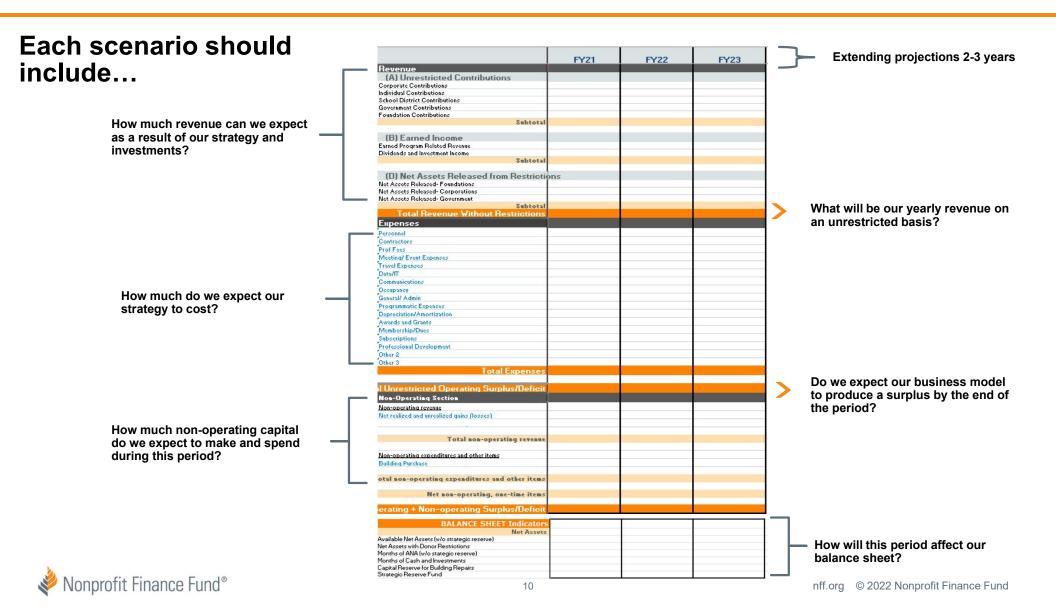
Using the Financial Model to Inform Planning & Decision-Making

■ Facilitate conversation around financial implications, priorities, and key decisions

More support on Budgeting and Scenario planning can be found here:

https://nff.org/fundamental/nonprofit-financial-management-webinars#StrategicBudgeting





# **Key Assumptions for Modeling Growth- Full Cost and Change Capital**



#### What is Full Cost?

## A better way to talk about cost in the nonprofit sector

Full cost names and claims all the financial resources it takes to run an effective organization for the long haul

- · Lifts the sector out of the false dichotomy of program vs overhead
- Captures both short- and long-term needs
- Holistic, grounded in context, allows for nuance and change over time
- A tool to advance racial equity
- Aligned with Trust-Based Philanthropy



## Three 'Must Haves' Apply to Every Organization

	Total Expenses Operating, non-operating, and unfunded expenses
O <sub>O</sub> O	Working Capital Access to cash for day-to-day needs
7	Reserves Savings, a "rainy day" fund
\$\$\$\$	Debt Principal Repayment Mortgage, line of credit, etc.
	Fixed Asset Additions  Money to purchase a new building, new computers, or new vehicles
<b>SE</b>	Change Capital Resources to adapt, grow, partner, or down-size

**Must haves** for *all* organizations

**Sometimes** needed by *some* organizations

Growing revenue must address full cost needs for growth to be sustainable



## **Defining Two Different Types of Money**

## Nonprofits need both to thrive

### Revenue (Buy)

- Reliable, repeatable, and/or replaceable
- Covers annual costs of programs and operations
- Pays for organization services
- Pays for organization overhead

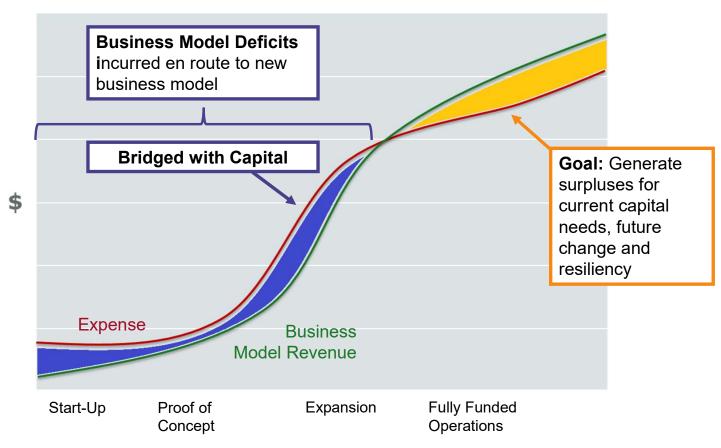


### Capital (Build)

- Episodic in nature
- Supports enterprise health
- Pays for extraordinary needs
  - liquidity
  - adaptability
  - durability



## The Path of Transformational Growth and Change Requires Capital





# **Change Capital**

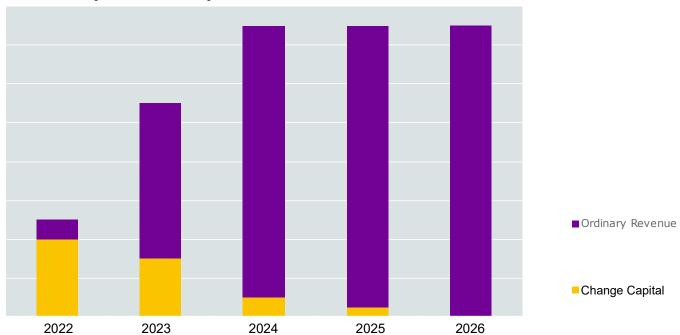


What It Is	<ul> <li>Periodic reinvestment into the organization to change its business model (i.e., the size or reach of mission and/or how to make and spend money)</li> <li>Covers up-front costs of change and deficits until new business model revenue exceeds new business model expenses</li> <li>Typically large, flexible, multi-year funding from an external source</li> </ul>			
What It Is Not	Organic growth			
How to Calculate	<ul> <li>Detailed projections for a surplus-generating business model</li> <li>planning/up-front/startup costs for revenue generating activities, programs, and other infrastructure</li> <li>Timeline to secure new revenue and revenue sources</li> </ul>			
Questions to Consider	<ul> <li>Will any program/service approach delivery require "change"?</li> <li>What sources of change capital might exist to finance this change?</li> <li>How are you planning to outgrow change capital?</li> </ul>			



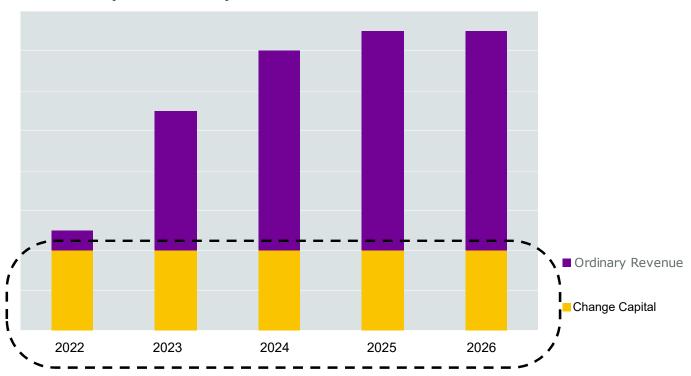
# **Change Capital Is Intended To Support Business Repositioning**

#### **Build Capital Consumption Over Time**



## When Change Capital is Mis-Applied

#### **Build Capital Consumption Over Time**



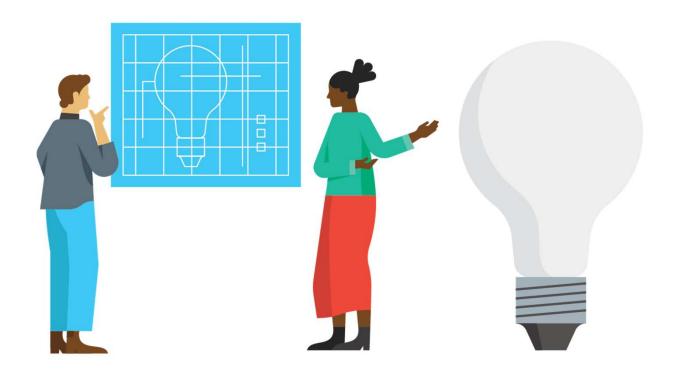


## Take Your Financial Pulse, Now and Over Time

	"Room to Breathe"	"Making It Work"	"Vulnerable to Shocks"	"Need to Take Action Now"
1. Operating Surplus/Deficit	Consistent surpluses	Smaller surpluses	Variable operating results	Regular or sizable deficits
2. Months of Cash	6+ months	2-5 months	1-2 months	<1 month
3. Months of Available Net Assets	6+ months	2-5 months	1-2 months	<1 month
Implications for managing risk & opportunity	Can tolerate risk and jump on opportunities. Are there possibilities for growth?	Limited ability to withstand risks and pursue opportunities. Can you maintain surpluses so longterm stability is not affected?	Little tolerance for risk, opportunities can be risky for stability. Focus on nimble decision-making to generate surpluses while maximizing mission impact.	No room for error, opportunities should focus on ways to avoid deficits while maximizing mission impact. Nimble decision-making is crucial.

As budgets grow, balance sheets should ideally grow proportionally. It is important to have a long-term capitalization plan for the size you expect to be in the future.

## **Questions**



# **Thank You!**

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