

AGENDA



BUILDING CAPACITY FOR THE NEXT CHAPTER

9:00 A.M. REGISTRATION OPENS

Start your Encuentro experience with a full breakfast, fresh coffee, and beverages while connecting with nonprofit leaders, community partners, funders, and friends from across Florida.

9:40 A.M. OPENING CEREMONY

We'll officially welcome everyone to Encuentro Florida 2026, share the meaning behind this year's theme, acknowledge the nonprofit leaders, partners, funders, elected officials, and community members joining us, and set the stage for a full day of learning and connection.

10:30 A.M. TWO EXPERIENCES. ONE GOAL: STRENGTHENING OUR ORGANIZATIONS

Participants will divide into two groups for simultaneous learning experiences:

GROUP 1 | FUNDING CONNECTIONS LAB

The Funding Connections Lab is a learning and relationship-building experience, NOT a grant competition. Organizations that completed the required virtual preparation workshop will have one representative participate in small-group conversations with assigned funders to share their pitch, learn, ask questions, and build relationships.

GROUP 2 | CAPACITY-BUILDING WORKSHOP

Organizations that did not participate in the virtual preparation workshop, along with additional staff members, will join the same consultant for an interactive in-person training focused on strengthening their organizational message, impact, and pitch.

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INVESTING IN CAPACITY. SUSTAINING IMPACT.

12:30 P.M. LUNCH & CONNECTIONS

Enjoy a Latin-inspired lunch with great flavors and continue connecting with nonprofit leaders, funders, elected officials, community partners, and other Encuentro participants.

1:30 P.M. FROM POLICY TO PEOPLE

Join Orlando Mayor Buddy Dyer and other elected officials and community leaders for an educational, nonpartisan conversation about policy developments at the federal, state, and local levels and what they could mean for Florida families and communities.

2:40 P.M. INTERACTIVE WORKSHOPS

Continue the afternoon with more learning, practical tools, and strategies you can take back to your organization. Participants will attend one of two workshops based on their assigned session.

COMMUNITY-BASED ASSET MAPPING

Explore strategies for identifying, leveraging, and mobilizing the strengths, resources, relationships, and opportunities that already exist within your community.

Learn practical approaches to community research, collaboration, reducing duplication of efforts, and activating existing resources.

STORYTELLING FOR SOCIAL MEDIA

Learn how to develop a short, clear, and compelling message that communicates your organization's work and motivates people to engage.

Build your story around five key elements:
Mission | Problem | Solution | Impact | Call to Action

4:20 P.M. CLOSING CELEBRATION

We'll come back together to reflect on the day, celebrate our nonprofit community, present the Friendship Award, and close Encuentro with our raffles.