

2026 Tennessee Nonprofit Conference Agenda

Tuesday, September 29, 2026

<u>TIME</u>	<u>SESSION</u>	<u>SPEAKERS</u>
12:00 pm	Registration Opens	
2:00 pm	Opening Address	Diane Yentel, NCN
2:30 pm - 5:00 pm	Action Summit	TNN Team

Wednesday, September 30, 2026

TIME	SESSION	SPEAKERS
8:00 am	Registration & Breakfast	
8:45 am	Welcome & Opening	Dr. Kevin Dean, TNN
9:15 am	Keynote Address	Tamsen Webster
10:15 am - 11:15 am	Breakout Sessions 1	
	Navigating Advocacy in Uncertain Times: A Systems Approach for Nonprofit Leaders	Rong Wang Tara Bryan
	Financial Clarity for Nonprofit Leaders	Bryan White
	Perspective Builds Worlds	Eso Tolson Grae Williams
	Evaluation that builds trust, engagement, and demonstrates impact.	Sara Borden Debbie Abrams-Cohen, LMSW
	Building AI-Powered Workflows That Give Your Team Time Back	Russell McBride
11:30 am	LUNCH & NETWORKING	
12:30 pm	Fireside Chat: State of	Natalie Jones & State Reps

	Tennessee Grant Administration	
1:30 pm - 2:30 pm	Breakout Sessions 2	
	The Top 10 Mistakes New Leaders Make (and How to Avoid Them)	Dr. Rachel Goode Dr. Matt Paden
	Designing Decision Flow in Growing Nonprofits	Ewea Pettis
	Evidence-Based Strategies for Sustaining the People Behind the Work	Patricia McMillan Dr Layla Bonner
	Building Bridges in Diverse Teams	ANGELA DENISE ELLIS
	Win More Grants Before Pressing Submit	Baylee Less
2:45 pm - 3:45 pm	Breakout Sessions 3	
	Cultivating a culture of belonging in nonprofit organizations	Feylyn Lewis
	Converting Volunteers into Lifelong Donors	Kate McKinnie
	Are Your Communications Actually Strategic?	Kelli Gauthier
	When the Ground Shifts: Practicing Grit in Fundraising	Kenda Lovecchio
	Beyond Burnout: Designing Nonprofit Roles That Actually Work	Dr. Allison Quintanilla Plattsmier
4:00 pm	Closing Speaker	Britt Mitchell