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Vision

AGA is the premier association for advancing government accountability.

Mission

AGA is a professional association advancing government accountability, transparency, and leadership by promoting education, certification, innovation, and collaboration across all levels of government and stakeholders.

Values

Service, Accountability, Integrity, Leadership

UPCOMING EVENTS

Monthly Luncheon Meeting

see page 2 for details

SPRING PDT MARCH 20, 2018

REGISTRATION IS NOW OPEN

see page 3 for details
8 hours CPE

Eye Opener



\$47.25

Cost of driving on I-66 in Northern Virginia one morning last week. The toll price – which is set by demand and traffic volumes every six minutes – was a record high.

SOURCE: The Washington Post | January 26, 2018





MONTHLY MEETING
TUESDAY
February 21, 2018
11:45
 Van Waggoner Building
 Great Lakes Room
 Lansing, Michigan

MICHIGAN'S PRISONER REENTRY PROGRAM – BUILDING A FOUNDATION FOR THE FUTURE

The Vocational Village is a first of its kind skilled training program that aims to provide a positive learning community for prisoners who are serious about completing career and technical education. The program aims to give inmates intensive, hands on job training experience that is expected to help them land jobs and there is an additional benefit of reducing recidivism. The program is aimed at skilled trades because employers are having trouble getting the people they need and provides



Plumbing



CNC Machining



Electrical



Robotics/CNC

SPEAKER:
 Robert McGeorge
 Assistant Education Manager
 Michigan Department of Corrections

REGISTRATION
 Register on-line at www.aga-lansing.org.
 Click on events.
 Register before Friday, February 16, 2018.

COST
 \$12 AGA members
 \$16 non-members

Registrants are responsible for payment unless cancellation is received by the registration deadline.

membership

NATIONAL ACADEMIC SCHOLARSHIPS

Are you or a family member pursuing undergraduate or graduate studies in disciplines such as accounting, auditing, budgeting, economics, finance, information technology or public administration? If so, considering applying for an AGA Academic Scholarship today!

This year AGA will award:

Rising College Freshman

One Full Time \$3,000
 One Part Time \$1,500

Current Undergraduates

Three Full Time \$3,000
 Two Part Time \$1,500

Graduate Students

Two Full Time \$3,000
 One Part Time \$1500

Community Service: AGA can award two \$1500 scholarships amongst the three collegiate categories above.

The deadline for applications is Monday, April 16, 2018

In addition, other opportunities to learn include:

National Collegiate Scholarship Program: Provides full-time college student opportunities to attend the National Leadership Training or Professional Development Training.

Young Professionals PDT Scholarship: The Young Professionals Focus Group annually selects five young professionals to attend the Professional Development Training.

Visit agacgfm.org to learn more about the qualifications and apply on-line.

LEARN



2018 SPRING PROFESSIONAL DEVELOPMENT TRAINING

Tuesday, March 20, 2018
8:00am to 4:55pm

Okemos Conference Center
2187 University Parkway, Okemos, Michigan
just off 96 East/West, Okemos Exit 110, free parking

REGISTRATION ENDS MARCH 14, 2018

Click Here to Register!

AGA Members
\$50

Non-Members
\$70

7:30 – 8:00	Registration. Starbucks, Panera Bagels, Fruit
8:00 – 8:05	Welcome and Opening Remarks
8:05 – 8:55	Re-Inventing the Office Speaker to be Announced 1.0 hour CPE Management/Other
9:00 – 9:50	Federal Cost Principles Stephen Blann, CPA, CGFM, CGMA, Rehmann 1.0 hour CPE Accounting and Auditing
9:50 – 10:10	Break
10:10 – 11:00	Governor’s Strategic Initiative Price WaterhouseCoopers 1.0 hour CPE Accounting and Auditing
11:05 – 11:55	Ethics Karen Corley, Michigan State University 1.0 hour CPE Ethics
11:55 – 1:00	Lunch and Awards Presentation
1:05 – 1:55	Ethics Karen Corley, Michigan State University 1.0 hour CPE Ethics
2:00 – 2:50	Data Management Price WaterhouseCooper 1.0 hour CPE Accounting and Auditing
2:50 – 3:00	Break
3:05 – 4:35	Leadership and Team Building Wendy Day 2.0 hours CPE Other

Payment

- can be made by credit card when you register on-line
- checks can be sent to AGA at PO Box 12159, Lansing, MI 48901
- checks or cash will be accepted at the conference
- SIGMA ID CV0026537-007
- Registrants are responsible for payment unless a cancellation is received by the deadline.

This event qualifies for 8 hours of CPE.

Questions?

contact
Kyle Stolicker
stolickerk@michigan.gov
517-335-1562



The Mark of Excellence
in Federal, State, and
Local Government

**Chapter Community
Service Project**

Womens Center of Greater Lansing

Accepting cash or check donations
Womens Center of Greater Lansing at (517) 372-9163

STATE CIOs WANT FEDERAL AGENCIES TO GET OUT OF THEIR WAY

Mitch Herckis, Route Fifty Senior Director of Programs



NASCIO's advocacy priorities cite duplicative and conflicting security regulations and audits a waste of time and money.

The National Association of State Chief Information Officers released its 2018 federal advocacy priorities on Thursday. In a nutshell? Let state governments innovate, optimize, save money and serve their state's residents without significant federal burdens—and let's be sure to share information efficiently and effectively along the way.

Chief among their priorities is reducing the federal burden of conflicting security regulations from various federal agencies and programs.

In releasing the organization's 2018 priorities, NASCIO President and Oklahoma CIO Bo Reese said: "State CIOs continue to seek efficiencies within state government through efforts like IT consolidation/optimization, which for my state has reaped over \$351 million in savings and IT cost avoidance. However, voluminous and conflicting federal cybersecurity regulations often pose a challenge in our ability to do so and it is our hope that our federal partners will work with state CIOs to harmonize regulations and normalize the audit process."

Reese should know. Last year alone, Oklahoma faced thirteen federal audits, creating a heavy burden on his state. According to NASCIO's factsheet on the issue, one state reported receiving five different outcomes from federal auditors who reviewed the same IT environment, while another state reported spending 4,000 hours responding to one federal audit.

"It would be good if we could do it one time—or at least less than 13," Yejin Cooke, NASCIO's director of government affairs, told *Route Fifty* in an interview.

NASCIO began working with the administration last year regarding harmonizing cybersecurity regulations that they claim are often redundant or conflicting across multiple agencies. The organization held meetings with White House Cybersecurity Coordinator Rob Joyce and

members of the Office of the Federal Chief Information Officer, among others.

In June, Reese testified before the U.S. House Homeland Security and Government Affairs Committee on the issue, stating in his testimony that compliance with federal data security regulations remained one of the "biggest hurdles" to IT consolidation in his state, explaining, "State CIOs invest an inordinate amount of time identifying duplicative regulatory mandates or their differences, participating in federal audits, and responding to inconsistent audit findings. These challenges in and of themselves are not unmanageable; the real issue is that they can and have impeded efforts of state CIOs to introduce efficiencies and generate savings for taxpayers."

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Respecting State Authority on Emerging Technology

Beyond security regulations, NASCIO is also asking Congress and the administration not to limit states' authority to allow experimentation with emerging technology.

[continued on page 11]

**COMING SOON TO SOLITARY
CONFINEMENT CELLS:
NATURE VIDEOS**

Natalie Delgadillo | January 18, 2018

Inmates held in solitary confinement live up to 23 hours of each day in a tiny cell with limited contact with other humans. The practice has been found to lead to adverse behavioral effects in inmates, including anxiety, depression, hopelessness and violent outbursts.



Most prisoners in solitary lack access to fresh air and natural light. But according to a recent study, those things can be simulated to improve their behavior and well-being.

A study published in the journal *Frontiers in Ecology and Environment* in September found that inmates who were shown nature videos for 45 minutes up to five times a week exhibited a 26 percent reduction in discipline referrals. Nearly half of the inmates reported improved moods that lasted for several hours after watching the videos, and 80 percent of them said the videos made their time in solitary easier to bear.

The study was carried out at the Snake River Correctional Institution in Oregon, a maximum security facility where inmates in solitary confinement are only let out of their cells to exercise in an indoor room once a day for about 45 minutes. Snake River reached out to the study's author, Nalini Nadkarni, after seeing her TED Talk on bringing nature and science into prisons, says co-author Tierney Thys, a research associate at the Cal Academy of Sciences.

"Both Nalini and I, our motto is put nature where it's not," Thys says. "My background is as a filmmaker [for National Geographic] and a marine biologist. I've seen that time in nature has a therapeutic aspect that is underappreciated."

Researchers gave 24 male inmates the option to view nature videos during their time in the indoor exercise room (later nicknamed the "Blue Room" for the blue glow of the projected videos). They displayed images of oceans, forests, rivers, deserts and rain. Some of the videos had ambient noise, some were accompanied by music, and some were silent. Twenty-four other male inmates did not get the same option.



The study points to the possibility that exposure to nature in an artificial sense can play a part in reducing psychological stress for nature-deprived people. It builds on research conducted in 1984 by Roger Ulrich, who showed that people healing from gallbladder surgeries needed less pain medication and healed better when their bedside window had a view of trees.

For some experts on solitary confinement, the findings aren't surprising.

"The idea that [nature videos] would be helpful makes real sense to me," says Stuart Grassian, a psychiatrist who has conducted extensive research on the psychological effects of solitary confinement. "In any situation of restricted environmental stimulation, any enhancement becomes important and helpful, if it involves the anchoring of attention."

In other words, he says taking solitary prisoners' minds off of their current situation is beneficial.

[continued on page 12]

GREATER LANSING CHAPTER SEEKING NOMINATIONS FOR AWARDS



DO YOU KNOW SOMEONE WHO DESERVES TO BE RECOGNIZED FOR THEIR CONTRIBUTIONS TO THE GOVERNMENT ACCOUNTABILITY COMMUNITY?

The Greater Lansing Chapter of the Association of Government Accountants (AGA) is seeking nominations for its annual (1) Excellence in Government Leadership Award, (2) Professional Development Award, and (3) Community Service Award. The Chapter's Awards and Nominations Committee is seeking the nominations of individuals whom you believe deserves to be recognized with these prestigious awards.

Nominations should include the name and position held by the nominee, the award for which they are being nominated, and a brief description of the person's recent accomplishments for the award category. In addition, the nominator's name and contact information must be included. You may nominate yourself. Recipients will be recognized by their peers at the Chapter's Spring Conference on March 20, 2018.

Please refer to the following criteria when submitting your nomination:

Excellence in Government Leadership Award

The Excellence in Government Leadership Award is presented to a government professional who exemplifies and promotes excellence in government accountability management, outstanding leadership, high ethical standards and innovative management procedures. The award criteria includes the following:

1. The nominee must be employed in government, holding a management position involving one or more disciplines of government financial management.
2. The nominee does not need to be a member of AGA.
3. The nominee must be personally responsible for leading extraordinary initiatives in the course of their employment throughout the last year that have made a significant and lasting contribution to the quality, efficiency, and/or effectiveness of government accountability management.

Professional Development Award

The Professional Development Award is presented to an individual, either an AGA member or nonmember, to recognize extraordinary efforts in providing and promoting continuing education and professional development leadership for government professionals and others, demonstrating the importance of a lifelong commitment to learning.

Community Service Award

The Community Service award is presented to an AGA member to recognize exceptional personal commitment to community service activities sponsored by AGA and other organizations.

Nominations must be received by Friday, February 23, 2018 to submit a nomination

send an email or write a brief letter with the information requested above
(feel free to nominate yourself)

completed nominations may be emailed to lansingaga@gmail.com
or mailed to PO Box 12159, Lansing, MI 48901
contact Sherri Troyer, Awards Chairperson
at troyers1@michigan.gov or 517-335-8202

AGA is a national professional association of 14,000 members who represent every level of government financial management. Since 1950, AGA has been dedicated to serving those who are faced with the challenge of using every government financial resource in the most effective manner possible and has been the vanguard organization addressing the issues and challenges facing government financial managers.



Larry Till

Posted
August 7, 2017



KNOWING YOUR AUDIENCE: WHY THE LEARNING CURVE BENDS BOTH WAYS

In addition to my full-time job with a large government employer, I teach part-time in a college program for university graduates who want to get into public service. I've been doing this for a long time – since 2002 – and have discovered something interesting.

As much as I think of myself as their teacher, I am also – in some respects – their student. That is to say, over the years, I've come to see that in some important ways, I have as much to learn from them as I hope they do from me.

The students I teach are in their early 20's, for the most part. That puts them pretty squarely in the much discussed millennial camp (although, apparently, not for that much longer). I spend a great deal of time coaching and mentoring them through the earliest stages of their career trajectories.

As I've conducted my own job search over the past four or five years, I've been thinking more and more about how they go about it. And while I'm loath to generalize, I do think they offer some helpful pointers. For example:

Stay current. In today's workplace, that means embracing all that is digital. Knowing your productivity suite (such as the software you use to create and manage your documents) is a good start, not a goal in and of itself.

Get with the diversity program. When I first started teaching, my course had a unit on diversity. I quickly realized that many millennials, especially in larger communities, live the reality of diversity every single day. To them, it's a fact of life. Real, meaningful diversity isn't just about counting heads or affirmative action outcomes (although those metrics are important); it's about recognizing that voices that aren't normally heard – whether it's because they're new, or they speak with a heavy accent, or they lack your experience and mine – might still have something valuable to say. It's about recognizing people as people, and not labeling them or allowing those labels to hinder their value. That process can be messy. The alternative is worse.

Manage your work-life balance. Some workplaces still restrict or outright ban access to social media. Leaving aside the ways that limits our effectiveness as employees, it represents an extra challenge for millennials, who are also known as digital natives for good reason. They tend to treat social media as a quick mental break from brain work that can be extremely taxing. As one of my favorite thinkers on this topic has said, there's no difference between someone who spends five minutes an hour on Facebook and someone who goes outside five times a day for a cigarette. And on a related note...

Work itself can be dynamic, and that's ok. Many of us boomers were raised in an era when we expected to have one job for life, and to work there for as long as humanly possible. The millennials I know have a totally different relationship with the workplace; they not only expect to move around, they see it as inevitable, at least in the beginning. Which is not to say they don't covet permanence and security; see my last post for more.

As I suggested at the outset, each group has something to learn from the other. For example, many peers of my snack bracket talk in frequently disparaging terms about the "sense of entitlement" they perceive in their younger colleagues. My view is different. After working with them directly for 15 years, I see their behavior as more developmental than generational.

When I graduated in the mid-1980s, North America was in the midst of a long, slow economic decline, not unlike what many areas are experiencing now. I can distinctly remember thinking that the generation before mine had ruined things for us – made housing unaffordable, taken (and kept) all the best jobs, poisoned the environment, and so on. Sound familiar?

On the flip side, I find myself having to remind my students that the people they're attempting to contact for work are most likely older than they are themselves. That means they have to adjust their approach accordingly.

Sometimes, they will get frustrated when a prospective employer (or information interview subject) doesn't respond quickly enough to an email. I remind them that people of my age group might prefer a phone call. Of course, the telephone isn't the only tool available to them. Neither, however, should it be neglected.

The bottom line, for me, is that the golden rule of communications also applies in these situations: know your audience.

Early Career Center

FOUR WAYS TO GO FROM MANAGER TO LEADER

By: Ashley Stahl, Contributor, Forbes.com



Perhaps you're in a leadership role but don't feel like you've earned the respect from your team. Maybe you feel like they don't even like you. As a career coach to millennials, I've had plenty of new managers come to me, desperate to win approval from their team. It's a classic case of manager versus leader: they are managing their team effectively, but they aren't *leading* them. So what separates a manager from a leader, and why does it matter?

A manager knows how to execute. He follows the rules and does everything right. He effectively delegates work, manages timelines, and meets deadlines. A manager can be counted on to get it done. Managers are a necessary part of any organization, but leaders will take things to the next level.

A leader has a vision and knows how to inspire a team to go above and beyond. A leader uses emotional intelligence to draw the best out of each teammate and empower them. Research shows that teams managed by motivators (aka leaders) perform better than those that are too heavily controlled by a designated supervisor (aka managers). In short, managers control while leaders grow.

Here are four practical steps you can take now to elevate yourself from a manager to a leader.

1. Leaders Leave Their Egos At The Door: A true leader does whatever is required to get the job done. If that means running the copier, making the midnight coffee run, or assembling folders, that's what the leader does, even if his paycheck and title suggest otherwise. This approach not only guarantees that the work gets done; it also does wonders for the energy levels on the team.

One way to implement this is to pay attention to the unique brilliance of each employee on your team. If you see that people are exceptionally good at something, offer to take some work off their plate so you can free them up to make better use of their skill set. If you're coming up blank on ideas for them, ask them what they'd like to do more of. They will respect you for getting your hands dirty, and they'll appreciate you for making them feel seen and heard.

2. Leaders Know How To Listen: Leaders listen to everyone, even those who might not have as much "experience" as other people in the room. The best leaders treat brainstorming as a

democracy of ideas. They ask "what do you think?" and get everyone involved.

One way of getting more invested participation from your employees is to introduce a weekly team meeting where new ideas are solicited from each person. This is a great way to strengthen the team mentality, showing your employees that you want and welcome their brilliance.

3. Leaders Have Emotional Fitness: Emotional intelligence—the ability to read and connect with just about anyone in the room—is great, but it doesn't sustain you in times of uncertainty and instability. It wasn't until I became a career coach that I learned the importance of emotional fitness. Emotional fitness is your ability to flexibly endure the ups and downs of business and life. The difference between managers and leaders is the way they react to and process the failed deals, the lost clients, and even the busted refrigerator in the break room. Managers freak out, sending tiny ripples of panic and chaos through the rest of the team. Leaders tap into an inner Buddha, an unwavering stillness that empowers them to take a deep breath and keep moving forward.

4. Leaders Live Outside Their Comfort Zone: Playing a big game doesn't always feel natural or comfortable, but it's a choice that true leaders make again and again. As kids, we are often conditioned to go with the grain and to avoid disrupting our environment. We often keep ourselves from really being seen, and from being different. The problem here is that this encourages us to grow into very average adults who only feel comfortable when we're playing small.

I'll never forget the moment I stepped backstage at TEDxBerkeley. As the least seasoned speaker at the time, I thought I'd definitely be the most nervous in the room....The entire group backstage was panicked. Nothing this rewarding can possibly exist in your comfort zone, and it's the leaders who are willing to wake up daily, stepping outside of theirs.

Leadership is part art, part science. A leader, like any manager, knows how to make things happen, but it's often the leader who comes up with the ideas or inspires their team to innovate in the first place. If you're truly ready to step into a leadership role, it's time to go above and beyond what is required, and empower your team to do the same.

In the end, leadership is a choice. And the choice is yours.



The Mark of Excellence in Federal, State, and Local Government

CGFM is the professional certification recognizing the unique skills and special knowledge required of today's government financial managers. It covers governmental accounting, auditing, financial reporting, internal controls, and budgeting at the federal, state, and local levels.

CPE Topics and Subjects that Qualify

The CGFM is initially responsible for determining whether a topic or subject qualifies as acceptable CPE. CPE programs include a wide variety of topics and subjects that may contribute to maintaining or enhancing the professional proficiency of some CGFMs, but not others. Determining what topics and subjects are appropriate for individual CGFMs to satisfy the CPE requirement is a matter of professional judgment. Among the considerations in exercising that judgment are CGFM's experience, the government financial management area(s) in which they work and the responsibilities they assume in performing government financial management functions.

To help one determine whether the course would qualify for CPE, the CGFM should answer "yes" to all of the following questions:

1. Is the information covered in this course applicable to government financial management?
2. Does this course contribute to my professional proficiency as a CGFM?
3. Does this course provide information that directly benefits me in my job as a government financial manager or enhance my overall knowledge of government financial management?

Some courses, such as the ones that cover individual or business taxation, may not qualify for the CGFM CPE. If the CGFMs are taking these courses to satisfy the CGFM requirement, they will need to make a connection to their job and proficiency as a government financial manager and be prepared to provide a written explanation of the applicability of such courses.

CPE that would satisfy the CGFM Program's requirement must be in government financial management topics or related technical subjects applicable to government financial management. Examples of such topics and subjects include, but are not limited to, the following:

accounting principles and standards
accounting research
accounting systems
acquisitions management
actuarial techniques and analysis
analytical procedures
assessment of internal controls
assessment and evaluation methodologies
asset management
audit methodologies
audit of contract compliance/costs
audit/evaluation of program results
audit risk and materiality
audit/evaluation standards
audit preparation, review techniques and tools
auditing research
budgeting

business law
cash management
compliance with laws and regulations
compilation and review of financial statements
computer science
computer security
contracting and procurement
cost accounting
credit management
current industry risks
data management and analysis
debt collection
economics
enterprise risk management
ethics and independence
evaluation design
financial auditing
financial management
financial management systems
financial planning or analysis
financially related fraud
financial reporting
financial statement analysis
forecasts and projections
forensic accounting
forensic auditing
government structure, organization, authority
human capital management
industrial engineering
information resources management
information systems management
information security
information technology
internal control and internal control assessment
interviewing techniques
inventory management
investigations
investment of public funds
operations research
oral and written communications
organizational change management
pension and other employee benefits accounting
performance measurement and reporting
principles of leadership and management
process reengineering
procurement management
productivity improvement
program evaluation
project management
property management
public accountability
public administration
public finance
public policy and structure
report writing
research methods
sampling methods
social and political sciences
statistics
statistical analysis and techniques
strategic planning
taxation (need to make a connection with your job)

Chapter Education Calendar



You can register for all chapter events at www.aga-lansing.org. Click on events.

Check the chapter website and upcoming newsletters for more information.

September 13, 2017

Webinar Conference

Government Communications/Leadership
Constitution Hall Arthur Iverson Conf Rm
2 hours CPE

September 19, 2017

Professional Development Seminar

A Changing World
Library of Michigan
4 hours CPE

October 17, 2017

Monthly Luncheon Meeting

East Lansing New Tax and Budget Impact
VanWagoner Building, Lakeshore Room
1 hour CPE



November 15, 2017

Webinar Conference

Ethics in Fraud
VanWagoner Building, Pictured Rocks
2 hours CPE

November 21, 2017

Monthly Luncheon Meeting

Caring for Veterans in Michigan
VanWagoner Building, Lakeshore Room
1 hour CPE

December 6, 2017

Webinar Conference

Auditing Challenges and Best Practices
Constitution Hall Arthur Iverson Conf Rm
2 hours CPE

January 10, 2018

Webinar Conference

Grants Management
VanWagoner Building, Lakeshore Room
2 hours CPE

January 16, 2018

Monthly Luncheon Meeting

Annual Tax Update
Library of Michigan
1 hour CPE

February 20, 2018

Monthly Luncheon Meeting

Prisoner Re-Entry Program
VanWagoner Building, Lakeshore Room
1 hour CPE

March 7, 2018

Webinar Conference

Infrastructure Financing
VanWagoner Building, Lakeshore Room
2 hours CPE

March 20, 2018

Professional Development Training

Training for Government Professionals
Okemos Conference Center
8 hours CPE

March 28, 2018

Webinar Conference

Cybersecurity
VanWagoner Building, Lakeshore Room
2 hours CPE

April 17, 2018

Monthly Luncheon Meeting

Topic to be Determined
VanWagoner Building, Lakeshore Room
1 hour CPE

May 15, 2018

Members Only Luncheon Meeting

Topic to be Determined
VanWagoner Building, Lakeshore Room
1 hour CPE

May 16, 2018

Webinar Conference

Fraud and Data Analytics
VanWagoner Building, Lakeshore Room
2 hours CPE

June 13, 2018

Webinar Conference

Leadership
VanWagoner Building, Lakeshore Room
2 hours CPE



MEMBER NEWS

CONGRATULATIONS!

Member Anniversaries

John Daly, CGFM	22 years
Wanda Clavon Jones	11 years
MaBlanche Quirante	11 years
John Stark	11 years
Delores Midkiff-Powell	7 years
Cora Schimanski	4 years
Deb Hallenbeck	1 year

WELCOME NEW MEMBER

Darla Ykimoff
Department of Natural Resources



CHAPTER FINANCES

Balance Sheet at December 31, 2017

Assets

Current Assets:	
Checking Account	\$ 29,243
Pay Pal Account	<u>\$ 4,083</u>
Total Assets	<u>\$ 33,326</u>

Liabilities and Net Assets

Beginning Fund Balance	
Unrestricted	\$ 28,464
Restricted	<u>\$ 4,515</u>
Income (Loss)	<u>\$ 347</u>
Ending Fund Balance	
Unrestricted	\$ 28,811
Restricted	<u>\$ 4,515</u>
Total Liabilities and Net Assets	<u>\$ 33,326</u>



[continued from page 4]

“A premature regulatory framework could stifle innovation and introduce unintended consequences. As such, NASCIO supports the ability and authority of state governments to continue to serve as laboratories of democracy as it applies to emerging technology,” according to NASCIO’s fact sheet.

NASCIO’s plan to advocate for state authorities in the area of emerging technology dovetails with the actions of other national organizations representing state and local government interests. For instance, in the fall, state and local organizations sent a flurry of letters and advocacy campaigns focused on congressional efforts to outline federal and state roles in autonomous vehicle

technologies. Nevada Gov. Brian Sandoval, who currently serves as chairman of the National Governors Association, also touted the role of states as innovators during the organization’s “State of the States” address last week.

“Governors are truly the nation’s chief innovators, fostering new technologies, creating new opportunities and laying the foundation for an innovative future,” Sandoval said in his remarks.

State CIOs, who play a key role in consulting with their governor and state agencies on applications of emerging technologies, want to be part of that discussion. “State CIOs recognize the need to address emerging technology by design rather than default and are embracing their role in these discussions,” NASCIO Executive Director Doug Robinson said in a statement.

[continued from page 5]

"I haven't read the study and I don't want to comment endorsing it or not, but I'm very skeptical about whether something so modest would be effective at overcoming negative psychological effects that are so serious," Haney says. "Whether people's mood improves is a separate question from [that] of whether they're suffering from how they're being treated. The real question ought to be why are people being confined in an environment where they have no opportunity to be in real nature?"

To Haney's point, states are slowly reducing the use of solitary confinement. Colorado ended the practice for inmates with mental health issues. Courts in Massachusetts and Pennsylvania have limited the practice. New York's changes, reached as part of a class-action settlement, include exemptions for pregnant prisoners and requirements that inmates in solitary have access to mental health treatment. Some say they could serve as a national model.

Since the study was released, the authors have been approached by a few state and

local corrections facilities that want to bring the practice to their prisons.

For its part, the Oregon Department of Corrections has expanded the Blue Room principle to other facilities. Staff created a nature channel at the women's maximum For its part, the Oregon Department of Corrections has expanded the Blue Room principle to other facilities. Staff created a nature channel at the women's maximum security institution that's available on every inmate's private television 24 hours a day, says Chad Naugle, sustainability programs manager at the Oregon Department of Corrections. The channel has also been set up on the communal TVs at the minimum security facility.

Most recently, the women's prison has designated a "crisis unit" cell that acts as a Blue Room, where inmates in psychological distress can enter to relax and soothe themselves.

"We're trying to find something for the female inmates because they have higher rates of self-harm," says Naugle. "Anything we can do to eliminate those costs and staff overtime is sustainable for the institution, and it's also a safety thing. I am [also] hoping for an increased sense of well-being generally."

OTHER EDUCATIONAL OPPORTUNITIES



National AGA

To register for events, visit www.agacgfm.org

February 27-28, 2018

National Leadership Training

Washington DC or virtual

14 hours CPE

May 2018

CFO/CIO Summit

Washington DC

4 hours CPE

July 22-25, 2018

National Professional Development Training

Orlando, Florida

24 hours CPE



West Michigan AGA

To register for events, visit www.agawestmichigan.org

February 6, 2018

2018 Governmental GAAP Update

Your Computer

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CHAPTER EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE MEETING MINUTES

December 12, 2017
Lewis Cass Building

CEC Members Present: Kim Dunbar, Cindy Osga, Julie Salman, Karen Stout, Anshu Varma, Dan Wawiernia

CEC Members Not Present: Julie Chrysler, Anthony Edwards, Kyle Stolicker, Sherri Troyer

Call to Order and Acceptance of Agenda:
The meeting was called to order at 12:01pm. A motion was made, seconded, and passed to accept the agenda.

Minutes: The November 2017 board minutes were approved via email on November 29, 2017.

Budget and Financials: The chapter had a November 2017 fund balance of \$32,979. A motion was made, seconded, and passed to approve the November 2017 financials and expenditures in the amount of \$197.22.

Membership: Cindy reported chapter membership stands at 123 members.

Education: A PDT planning meeting was held on Wednesday, November 29. The Spring PDT is will be Tuesday, March 20, 2018 at the Okemos Conference Center. Registration fees will remain the same as last year - \$35 for member and \$55 for nonmember.

Community Service: No report.

Program Luncheons: Approximately 30 attended the November 21, 2017 luncheon discussing how Michigan is taking care of its veterans. The January 16, 2018 luncheon meeting is that annual joint meeting with SAAABA. AGA is the host organization this year.

Communications – Newsletter and CCR: The November newsletter was issued and Cindy is working on the next edition.

CGFM and CPE Events: The January 10, 2017 webinar covers Grant Management.

Webmaster: No report. Anshu will contact Anthony to update the website for the spring PDT.

Awards: Sherri sent out the flyer for the 2018 awards which included the criteria for the awards and the nomination deadline. Cindy will include the flyer in the next newsletter.

Chapter Recognition Program: No report.

New Business: The SLM will be May 3-5, 2018 in Baltimore. National AGA will support the cost two CEC members.

Old Business: The membership appreciation event is scheduled for May 15, 2018 at the VanWagoner Building Lakeshore Learning Center. Anshu will confirm a speaker. The event will be a member only free event with 1 or 2 hours CPE.

Adjournment: A motion was made, seconded, and approved to adjourn at 12:56 pm.

Next Meeting:
Date: January 9, 2018
Location: Van Waggoner Building
Host: Julie Salman





Chapter Executive Committee 2017-2018

Platinum
Chapter

President

Anshu Varma, CPA
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President Elect

Vacant

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Awards

Vacant

Membership

Vacant

Newsletter

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See the Chapter's Annual Citizen Centric Report
on the website.

The Chapter's Citizen Centric Report was awarded a Certificate of Excellence by National AGA.

www.lansing-aga.org

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