NONPROFIT SUSTAINABILITY

Understanding and Changing Your Business Strategy





Jan Masaoka





Blue Avocado online magazine

- Unconventional, practical, fun
- For community nonprofits
- Finance & strategy, Ask Rita in HR, Board Café, First Person Nonprofit, 3-Minute Vacations and more
- Like public TV: free to read, but there are pledge breaks





JEANNE BELL

JAN MASAOKA
STEVE ZIMMERMAN

NONPROFIT SUSTAINABILITY

MATRIX MAP ANALYSIS

DECISION MAKING

THE SUSTAINABLE NONPROFIT

Making Strategic
Decisions FOR
Financial Viability



Agenda

- What is a business model? Strategy?
- Impact & finances; mission & money
- Charting and analyzing your current business model
- Strategic imperatives
- A sustainable portfolio/strategy





- Lower cost goods, mid- to uppermiddle consumers
- Lots of free parking
- Newsprint inserts in newspapers



- High-priced, higherincome customers
- Downtown and highincome mall locations
- Full-color catalogs mailed to high-income zip codes





All too frequently heard...

Social media

Look what THEY' RE doing! We should do that!

Walk-a-thon

Product sales

Benefit Concert

Online auction

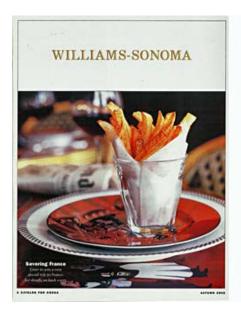


Fees-for-service



Different strategies, both successful:

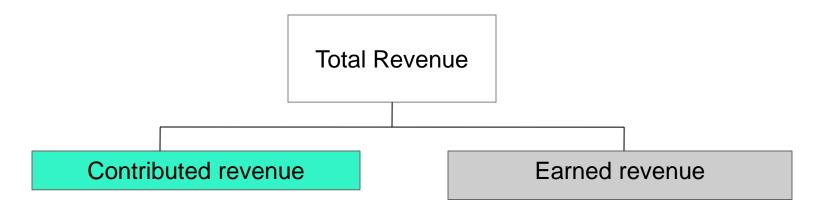








Revenue types & sources





Revenue types & sources

Total Revenue

Contributed revenue

Earned revenue

Institutions

- Churches
- Corporations
- Foundations
- Service Clubs (Rotary, Kiwanis)

Individuals: vehicles for asking

- Mail: hot and cold lists
- Phone-a-thon
- Major gifts solicitations
- Annual Gifts
- Planned Gifts
- Pledges



Revenue types & sources

Total Revenue

Contributed revenue

Earned revenue

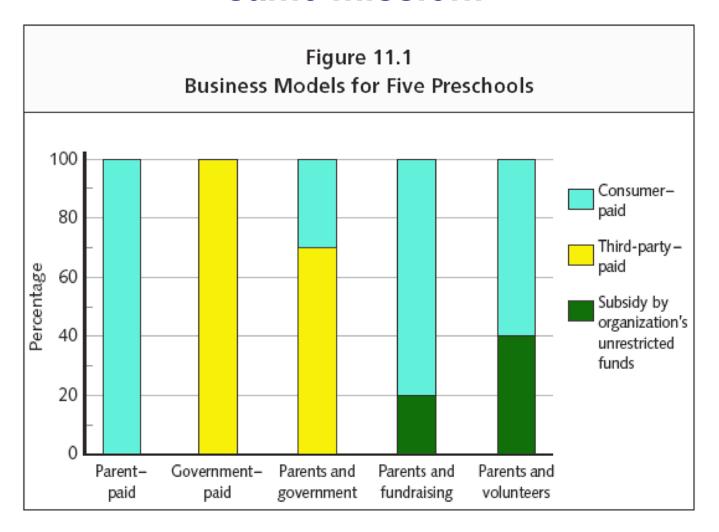
Related income

- Fees charged to consumers (clients, patrons)
- Government Contracts
- Fees charged to third-party payers

Unrelated

income

Different business models, same mission:





The Nonprofit Business Model

Every organization has one, whether you know it or not.

Explains how a nonprofit generates and allocates revenue to accomplish its mission and remain financially viable.

Nearly all nonprofits today are hybrids, combining earned income with donations.

Business models change over time.

Businesses with the same services can have different business models.



Dual-Bottom Line Strategy

Each activity has two kinds of impact:

- Mission impact (external) and
- Financial impact (internal)

So a strategy for sustainability must be a strategy that combines both kinds of impact.

Nonprofit Business Models

Instead of strategic plans that are different from a fundraising plan or business plan:

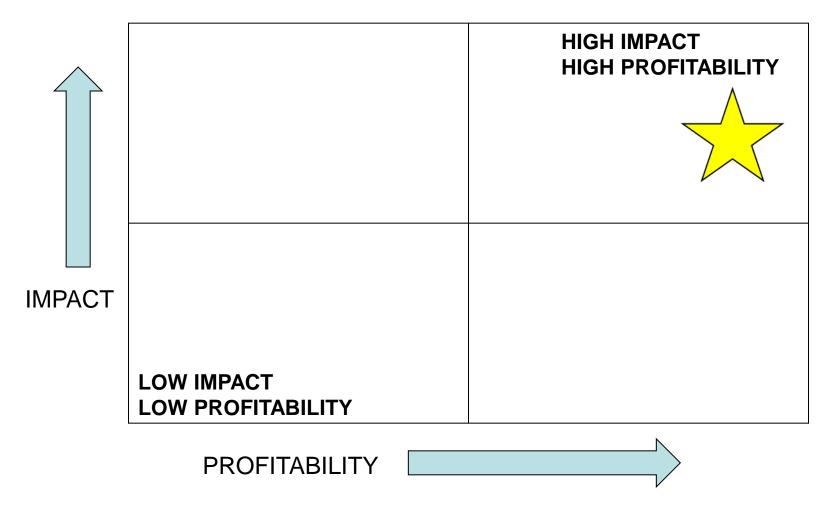
 Must consider financial viability and mission impact together

Instead of considering activities individually:

 Are about how activities fit together and leverage each other

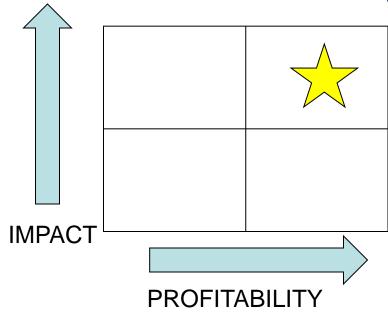


Matrix Map





Stars

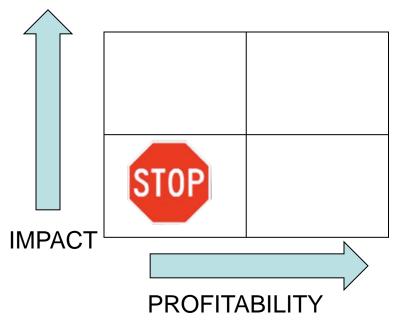


HIGH IMPACT HIGH PROFITABILITY

- Important, foundationfunded program
- Fee-for-service program that makes money
- Annual mail donations campaign
- ?



Stop Signs

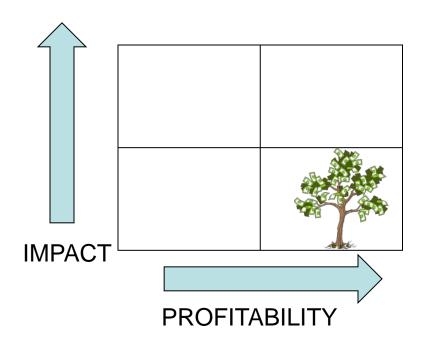


LOW IMPACT LOW PROFITABILITY

- Little-used Resource Library
- Program that used to have funding
- Stale fundraising event
- ?



Money Trees

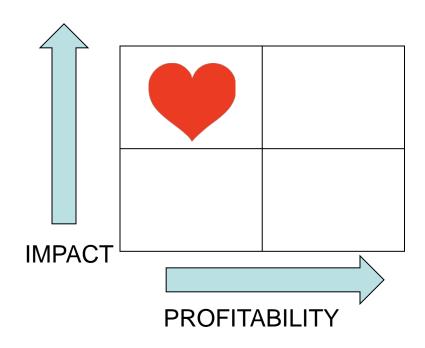


LOW IMPACT (other than money raised)
HIGH PROFITABILITY

- Martini parties
- Luncheon
- Raffle tickets
- ?



Hearts



HIGH IMPACT LOW PROFITABILITY

- Advocacy at state level
- Taking children to see parents in prison
- Show of experimental art
- ?



The Matrix Map



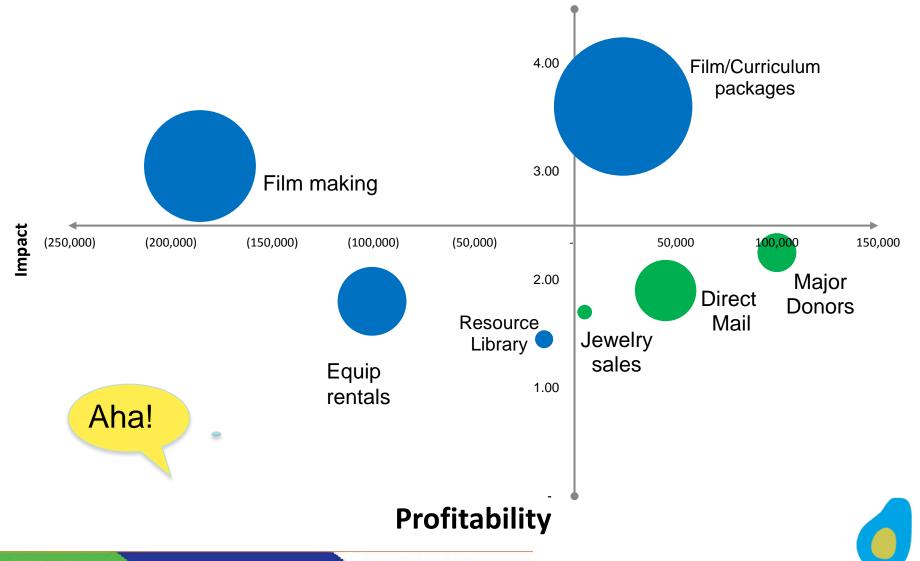








A single compelling image



Variables for Excel Sheet

Business line	Profitability	Impact Rating	Expenses
Early childhood	\$5,000	3.1	\$180,000
Facility rental	(\$12,000)	4.0	\$25,000
Citizenship	\$18,000	2.8	\$90,000
Foundations	\$80,000	1.5	\$20,000

Note: Assign restricted revenues to the business lines to which they are restricted. Assign unrestricted revenues to the vehicle that brought them in (in the above case, foundations).

Relative Impact

Examples of criteria:

- Alignment with core mission
- Excellence in execution
- Scale or volume
- Depth
- Filling an important gap
- Community building
- Leverage





Example

Criteria	1. Alignment with Core Mission: How much does the activity align with our core mission?	2. Excellence : To what degree does the activity reflect the best work we do?	3. Fills an Important Gap (FIG): To what extent is this important, and the only one of its kind available to the community?	4. Community & Constituency Building: To what degree does this build the movement in which our organization works?
Environmental Education	4	4	3	2
Restoration & Reforestation	4	3	1	4
Nursery	3	1	1	2
Resource Library	2	1	1	2
Direct Mail	2	2	1	3
Major Donors	2	3	1	3
Annual Event	1	2	1	2
Site Rentals / Birthday Parties	2	2	1	1



Determining Profitability

Revenue

 Assign restricted and generated revenues to each business line



Expenses

• Include full costs:

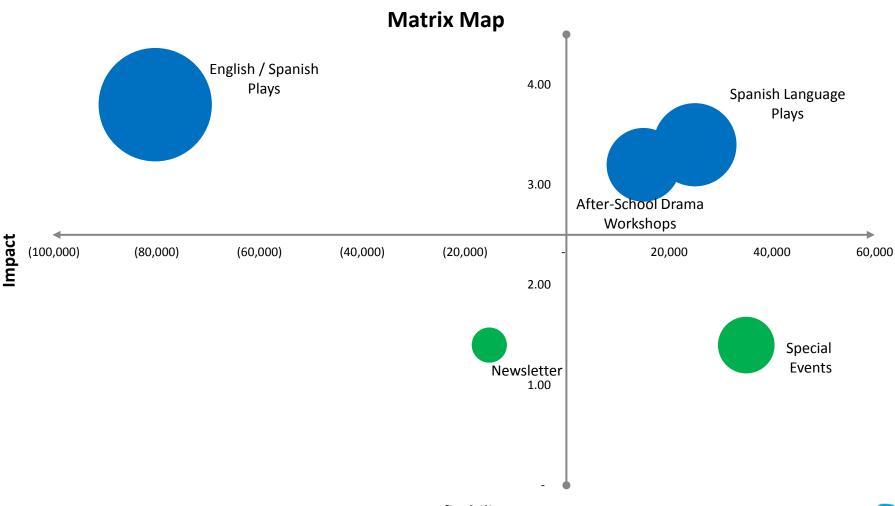
Program Costs

Shared Costs

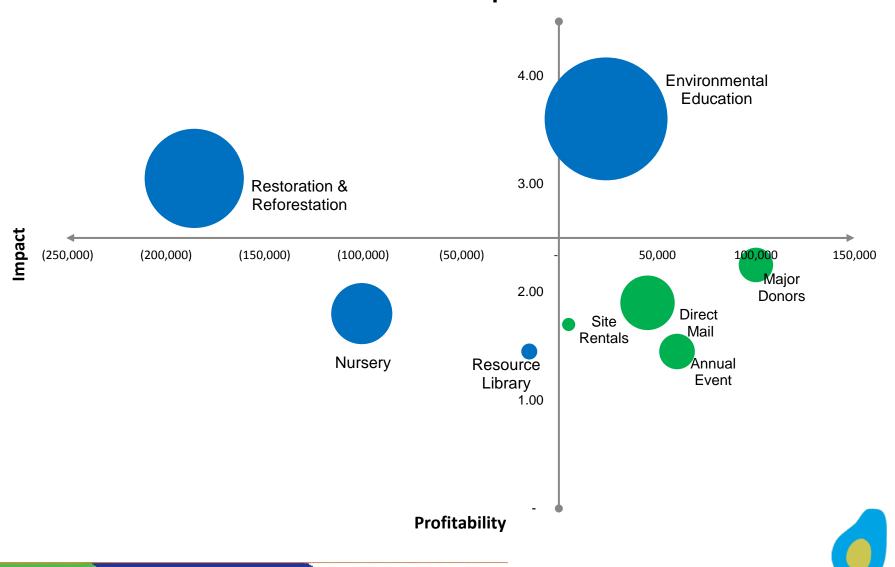
Admin Costs



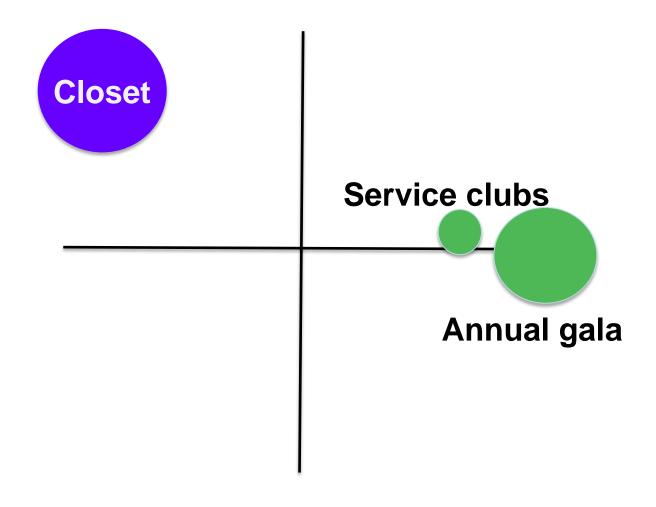
Community Theater



Everest Environmentalists Matrix Map

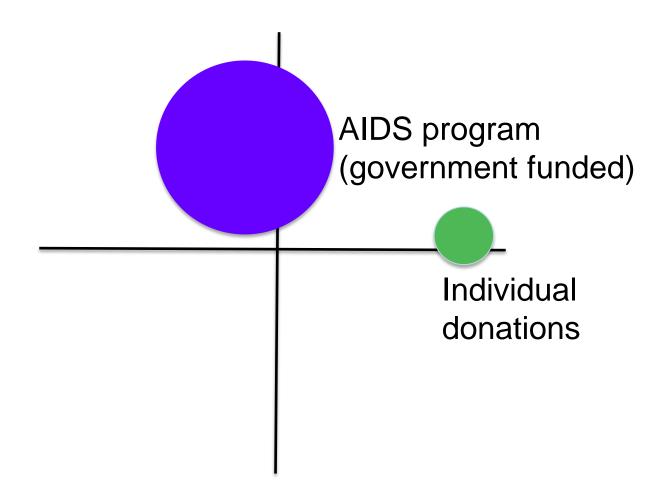


Career Closet Nonprofit



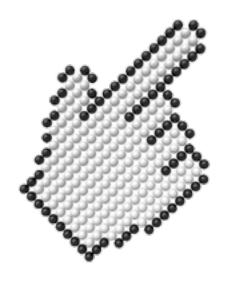


Rural AIDS Nonprofit



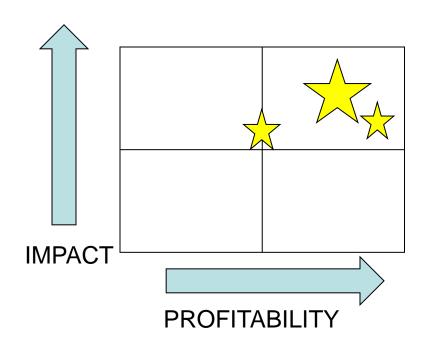


The Strategic Imperatives





Strategic Imperatives for Stars



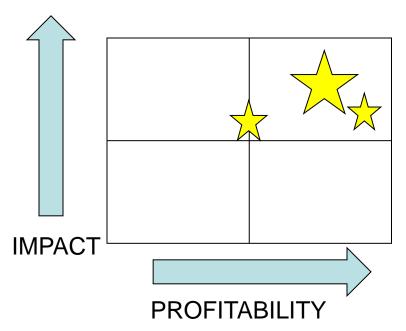
HIGH IMPACT HIGH PROFITABILITY

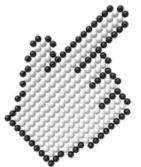
Instead of

- Taking it for granted . . .
- Not involving board . . .
- Turning your attention to problem areas . . .



Strategic Imperatives for Stars





HIGH IMPACT HIGH PROFITABILITY

Pay attention.

Keep it a star.

Make sure the board

is involved.

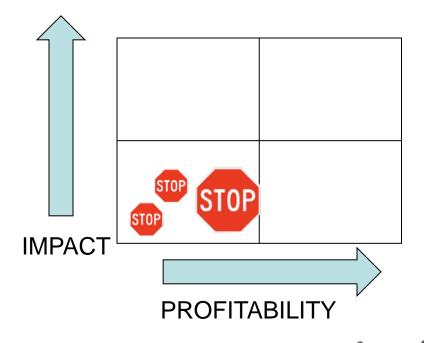
Invest time and

money.

Grow it.



Strategic Imperatives for Stop Signs



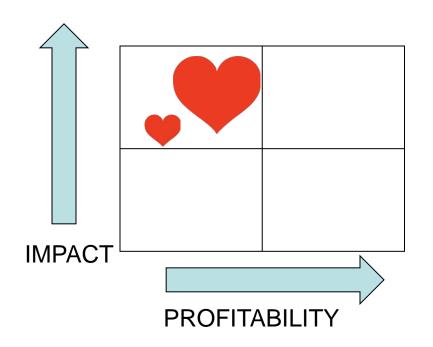
LOW IMPACT LOW PROFITABILITY

Instead of:

- Trying once again to improve it...
- Not thinking about it...
 - ✓ Spin it off to another organization
 - ✓ Close it



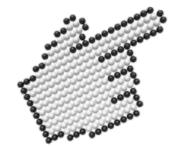
Strategic Imperatives for Hearts



HIGH IMPACT LOW PROFITABILITY

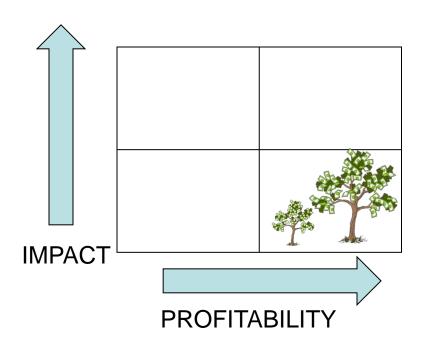
Instead of

- Closing it because it's not breaking even . . .
- Making it a Sacred Cow that can't be criticized . . .
 - ✓ Keep it. Celebrate it.
 - ✓ Contain the costs.





... for Money Trees



LOW IMPACT HIGH PROFITABILITY

Instead of

- Giving it second class status
- Keeping it separate from programs . . .
 - ✓ Water the tree.
 - ✓ Increase impact.





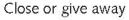


Strategic Imperatives









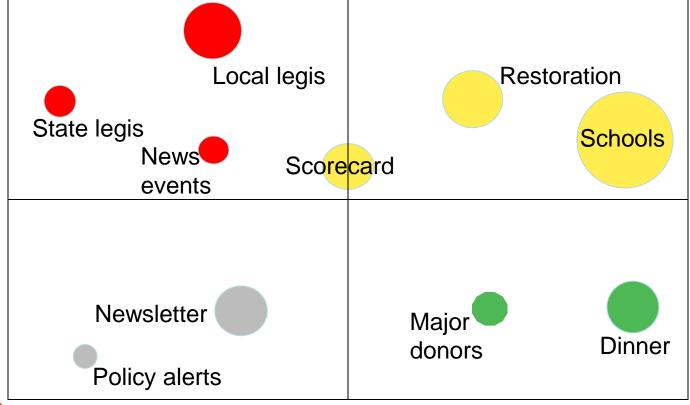


increase impact



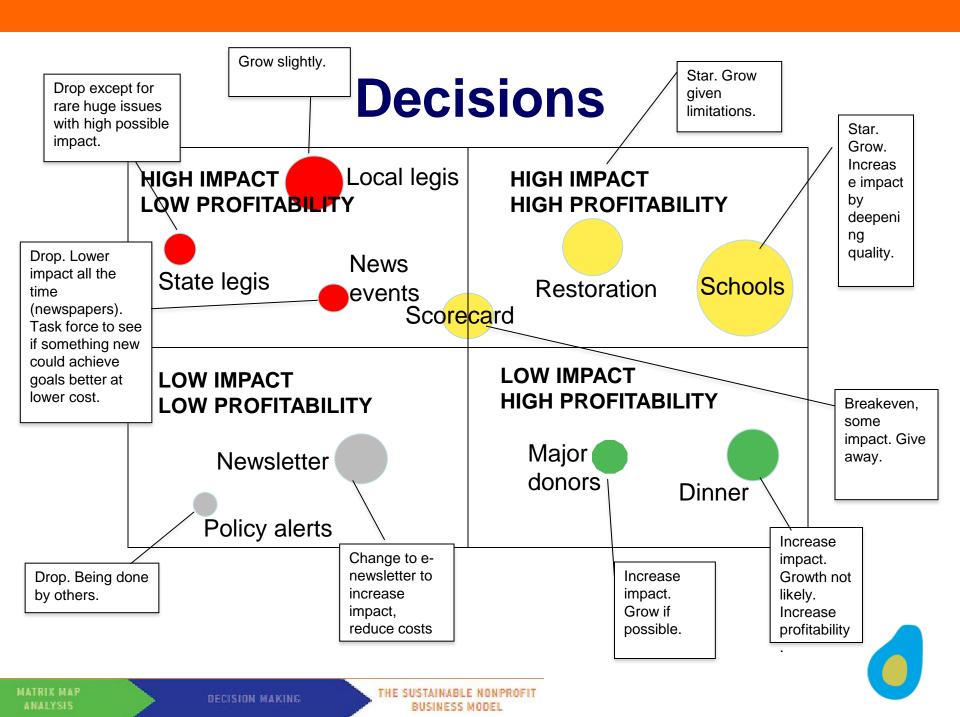
Portfolio: BEFORE



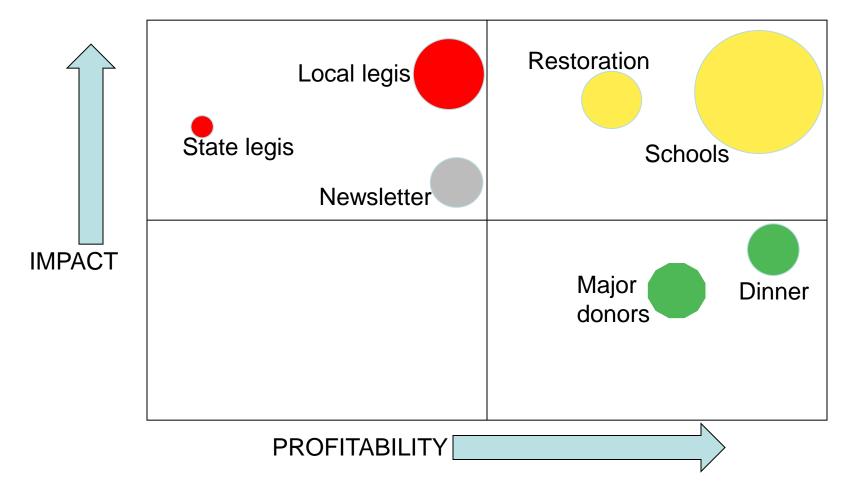








Portfolio: AFTER





The Business Model Statement

Mission Statement:

Elm Prairie
Preservationists works for
the restoration and
preservation of our
prairies so future
generations may benefit
from their unvarnished
beauty and bountiful
natural resources.

Business Model Statement:

We educate children to be stewards of our prairies, supported by government contracts and fees-forservice, and restore prairies with the support of corporations and foundations. When the generosity of individuals makes it possible, we advocate for policies that will protect and preserve our lands.

Looking at special events

Event	Impact	\$	Effort	
Senior lunch	high	low	medium	
Crab feed	medium	medium but growing	high	
New Year's mochi making	low	low	high	
Sake festival	low	high	high	
Golf Tourn.	low	high	low	



Looking at special events

Event	Impact	\$	Effort	Туре	Action
Senior lunch	high	low	medium	•	Keep. Contain costs.
Crab feed	medium	medium but growing	high		Grow. Increase impact.
New Year's mochi making	low	low	high	STOP	Give to church that also has one.
Sake festival	low	high	high		Grow. Increase impact
Golf Tourn.	low	high	low	Ť	Increase impact. Age changes?



Fast summary

Make an impact strategy that's financially viable and right for YOU.







Challenge yourself with the Strategic Imperatives. If we're not following them, why not?

Identify activities and analyze them.



4







Use the Matrix Map as an ongoing decision-making tool.



Each successful strategy is unique.

For many organizations, the most precious and scarcest resource is the time and attention of its senior leaders:

Be ruthless about investing this valuable resource in the right efforts.



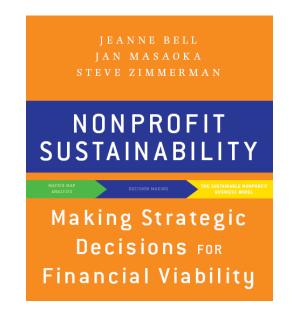




- Nonprofit Finance
- Ask Rita in HR
- Board Café
- Blue Avocado Investigates
- Take a 3-Minute Vacation Right Now

Editor: Jan Masaoka

www.blueavocado.org



Nonprofit Sustainability josseybass.com amazon.com

