

ACN November 17th Panel Speakers



Jan Boden, director of communications and marketing at the Lutheran School of Theology at Chicago (LSTC), coordinated the rebranding process and continues to roll out the new brand. She has served in her current role for 12 years. She was the assistant to the president at LSTC from 1997-2004. She has been an employee and a volunteer for a number of Chicago-area environmental and church-related nonprofit organizations for over 30 years.



Nyla Diab is the Director of Strategic Initiatives for Concordia Place is a nonprofit committed to delivering proactive solutions to the key issues facing Chicago communities through early childhood education, teen leadership development, ESL classes, and senior wellness programming. In her current role, Nyla works directly with community leaders, elected officials, Concordia Board members and executive management to define and execute the organizations'

vision for growth and increased visibility throughout Chicago. Prior to joining Concordia Place in January 2015, Nyla worked for IFF, the Midwest's leading nonprofit community financial development institution for nearly 5 years. As a Senior Project Manager in the Real Estate Services department, she worked with various nonprofits throughout the region to help evaluate financial and organizational capacity for real estate projects; including feasibility analyses, site search, property acquisition, and facility design and development.

In December 2015 Nyla joined the Board of Directors at Esperanza Health Centers, and recently assumed the role as Board Chair in September 2016. Esperanza is a Federally Qualified Health Center serving the Little Village, Pilsen, and Marquette Park communities since 2004.



Barb Thayer is the Chief Operating Officer at the Robert Crown Center for Health Education (RCC.) Barb joined RCC in November 2011 and has also held the roles of Director of Operations and Client Relations, Development Associate and Special Events Coordinator. Prior to joining RCC, Barb owned and operated a professional organizing business while raising her three children and volunteering her time to various community organizations. In her prior life, Barb enjoyed a successful career in the retail industry working as a Department Manager, Buyer and Planning Manager for Marshall Field's, Montgomery Ward and Spiegel. Barb has a Bachelor's degree in Marketing

from the University of Illinois in Urbana-Champaign.