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Nonprofits ready to hire again

Survey says 60% of charities plan to hire staffers in 2010, and more than half of respondents expect salaries to rise.

By Miriam Kreinin Souccar

Despite the lingering effects of the recession, New York charities believe the worst of the economic downturn is over and are getting ready to start hiring again, according to an annual survey conducted by staffing firm Professionals for Nonprofits.

Roughly 60% of the nonprofits said they plan to hire staffers in 2010, and more than half expected salaries to increase, according to the survey.

Most in demand are fundraising professionals and program personnel, with 61% and 59% of those respective groups reporting plans to add those staffers.

"It certainly is not a devastated marketplace," said Gayle Brandel, president of Professionals for Nonprofits. "Nonprofits are looking ahead, and there seems to be a lot of optimism and activity in the sector."

Indeed, a whopping 93% of the organizations surveyed think that the worst is over, the survey found. And 76% expect a much better year in 2010 than in 2009.

Nearly 800 nonprofits responded to the survey this year, double the usual number.