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Arts and cultural organizations have doubled their requests for guidance from the business community, according to a group that matches the two parties.

The Arts & Business Council of Greater Philadelphia says increased financial strains on small nonprofits are taking their toll.

“While funding continues to be the primary challenge for the arts community, nonprofit arts organizations are also expressing an increased need for human capital,” said Karen B. Davis, president and CEO of the Arts & Business Council of Greater Philadelphia.

In an effort to double the available force of professionals available to nonprofits, the council’s Business on Board program has added a second training session for this fall. As a result, as many as 100 people a year could be trained, up from 50.

The program trains business professionals in the legal, ethical and financial responsibilities of serving on a nonprofit board or committee. It then matches the professional with an arts, cultural or historical organization suite to his or her expertise and interests.

“It’s not about grinding out a factory of people,” Davis said. “It’s about one-on-one coaching and the right placement.”

Program fees of \$ 2,500 apiece are paid by the professional’s company. The cost of running the program – at more than \$ 150,000 a year – is shouldered in part with a \$ 35,000 sponsorship from insurer ACE Group, Davis said.