Facing enormous competition, nonprofit organizations are having to think, plan, and operate strategically in order to generate resources needed to promote their varied service missions. For practitioners, however, the key to fundraising success depends on the ability to build relationships that are possible only through interpersonal skills and leadership lessons. By drawing from his vast experience as well as his widely acclaimed book titled Million-Dollar Moments, Dr. Markoff will share the secrets of fundraising and allow participants to ask questions about the specific challenges they may be facing in their organizations.

Richard M. Markoff, Ph.D.
Founding President, Damar Foundation (Retired)
Indianapolis, IN

Richard M. Markoff retired recently as the founding President of the Damar Foundation that supports the work focusing on services children and adults challenged by intellectual, developmental, and behavioral disabilities. Dr. Markoff has held leadership positions at many foundations and nonprofit organizations including Simon Youth Foundation, Indiana University Purdue University Indianapolis, St. Vincent Medical Center Foundation, and American Red Cross of Greater Indianapolis.

As a Field Artillery officer in the United States Army, he was awarded the Bronze Star and Vietnam Cross of Gallantry with Palm. He also received Distinguished Achievement Award from The University of Toledo College of Education.

Dr. Markoff, an alum of Western Michigan University (BA), holds an MEd from the University of Missouri-Columbia and a Ph.D. from the University of Toledo. The author of Million-Dollar Moments and the Amazing Professionals Who Helped Make Them Possible (University of Toledo Press, 2018), Dr. Markoff has taught many graduate courses and spoken at more than 50 high school graduations. He was featured in Advancing Philanthropy (One on One, May-June, 2010).

Date: September 11, 2019
Place: 2720 Sangren Hall
Refreshments at 5:15 p.m. Talk from 5:30 to 6:30 p.m.

Students: Please note that attending this event counts toward WMU Signature Program (with the chosen focus areas listed on your transcript and diploma) where you attend a total of 18 events and reflect on your experience (www.wmich.edu/signature)

Upcoming talks: October 10-Geoffrey Kaituko, President’s Office of Kenya
November 13-Laura Lam, City of Kalamazoo