

PolicyWorks Fact Sheet

POLICYWORKS FOR PHILANTHROPY seeks to build the capacity of regional associations of grantmakers' staff, board and volunteer leaders to engage policymakers in support of a vibrant and effective philanthropic sector.

Our vision is that policymakers will recognize regional associations of grantmakers as among the most valued voices and expert resources on issues critical to philanthropy and society.

The PolicyWorks Community

The PolicyWorks Community consists of 28 regional associations of grantmakers committed to building their individual and collective capacity to achieve the PolicyWorks vision and goals. That commitment is based on the belief that:

- PolicyWorks is essential to achieving our missions and helping our more than 3,800 funders; and
- As a network serving foundations in 41 states, the PolicyWorks Community offers the best and only coordinated national system for building effective relationships with elected and appointed officials at all levels of government.

By "policy work" we mean **government relations**—related to legislation and regulations affecting the work of charitable foundations; and **public policy engagement**—supporting the achievement of charitable foundations' mission and goals.

Building and maintaining relationships with policymakers is essential to the philanthropic sector's ability to: **educate policymakers** about the work, value and impact of foundations; **advise policymakers** about potential legislation or regulation that could harm the sector and decrease much needed philanthropic dollars; **gain policymakers' support** for legislation that could support the growth and effectiveness of philanthropy; and **build partnerships with policymakers** to achieve policy reforms that improve the quality of life for those foundations seek to serve.

The PolicyWorks Strategy

PolicyWorks is designed as a three-stage effort involving regional association executives and senior staff with members of their board of trustees and volunteer leaders such as committee chairs.



PolicyWorks
FOR Philanthropy

Helping Regional Associations
Engage Policymakers

POLICYWORKS COMMUNITY

STEERING COMMITTEE

- Donors Forum, Co-Chair
- Grantmakers of Western Pennsylvania, Co-Chair
- Association of Baltimore Area Grantmakers
- Iowa Council of Foundations
- Ohio Grantmakers Forum
- Philanthropy Northwest

MEMBERS

- Arizona Grantmakers Forum
- Associated Grantmakers
- Association of Baltimore Area Grantmakers
- Colorado Association of Funders
- Conference of Southwest Foundations
- Connecticut Council for Philanthropy
- Council of Michigan Foundations
- Council of New Jersey Grantmakers
- Delaware Valley Grantmakers
- Donors Forum
- Donors Forum of Wisconsin
- Florida Philanthropic Network
- Gateway Center for Giving
- Grantmakers Forum of New York
- Grantmakers of Western Pennsylvania
- Indiana Grantmakers Alliance
- Iowa Council of Foundations
- Maine Philanthropy Center
- Minnesota Council on Foundations
- Northern California Grantmakers
- North Carolina Network of Grantmakers
- Ohio Grantmakers Forum
- Philanthropy New York
- Philanthropy Northwest
- San Diego Grantmakers
- Southeastern Council of Foundations
- Southern California Grantmakers
- West Virginia Grantmakers Association

PARTNERS

- Communications Network
- Philanthropy Awareness Initiative

FUNDERS

- William and Flora Hewlett Foundation
- Bill and Melinda Gates Foundation
- Charles Stewart Mott Foundation
- David and Lucile Packard Foundation

CONSULTANTS

- Erin Skene-Pratt, Project Manager
- Dawn Roberts, Evaluator

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A PROJECT OF
THE FORUM OF REGIONAL
ASSOCIATIONS OF GRANTMAKERS