



# The Philanthropic Collaborative

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## FAST FACTS ABOUT CHARITABLE GIVING

### GIVING BY AMERICANS

- ✓ In 2011, over \$298 billion was given to charities.
- ✓ In 2011, foundations gave away \$46.9 billion in grants to a wide range of causes. This was up 2.2% from the year before.
- ✓ TPC's study, *Broad Benefits: Health-Related Giving by Private and Community Foundations*, found that **68 percent** of health-related grant dollars were directed to those most in need: **the poor and other traditionally underserved populations.**

### FOUNDATION GIVING IS A SIGNIFICANT CONTRIBUTOR TO OUR ECONOMY

- ✓ **8.8 million jobs** – TPC's study, *Economic Impacts of 2010 Foundation Grantmaking*, found that when return on investment, backward linkages and multiplier effects are calculated, foundation grantmaking creates 8.8 million jobs in the US economy over a generation.
- ✓ **9 to 1 return on investment** – The same study found that each dollar of domestic grants going from a foundation to a community generates almost \$9 in economic activity
- ✓ **4 percent of GDP** – The long-term economic impacts of grantmaking represent between 5.1 and 7.0 percent of U.S. employment, and approximately 4 percent of GDP.
- ✓ *Responding in Crisis*, another TPC study, found that in the middle of the latest financial crisis, foundation grantmaking was quick, flexible and followed local needs. Even as the crisis drained foundations' funds, many stepped up their giving to states suffering the worst unemployment and highest mortgage delinquency rates.

### BROUGHT TO YOU BY AMERICA'S FOUNDATIONS:

- ✓ A coordinated fundraising effort by the Van Ameringen Foundation, the Ittleson Foundation and the Commonwealth Fund **created the first hospice program**, which evolved into the modern form of care for terminally ill patients.
- ✓ In response to a string of accidents in his hometown in upstate New York, Dr. John V.N. Dorr and his eponymous foundation **tested white lanes on a stretch of highway and the resulting decrease in accidents was dramatic.** Today, white lines can be found on well-traveled roads throughout America.
- ✓ In the mid-1960s Carnegie Foundation funded a study on the benefits of television for preschool education. Based on that study's results, **the foundation provided a two-year grant to launch Sesame Street**, which now reaches almost 20 million children a day.
- ✓ The Whitaker Foundation launched the **academic field of biomedical engineering**, which has been important in providing new limbs for the wounded veterans of Afghanistan and Iraq.
- ✓ The Doris and Donald Fisher Fund of San Francisco was the earliest large-scale supporter of **Teach for America.**

*TPC: Highlighting Philanthropy's Vital Role in the Economy*

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