

Measuring the Economic Impacts of Foundation Grantmaking

Co-sponsored by The Urban Institute and The Philanthropic Collaborative

Thursday, July 25, 2013

The Urban Institute
2100 M Street N.W., 5th Floor
Washington, D.C. 20037

Thank you for joining us for this half-day conference explaining the need to quantify, and share with policymakers, the economic impacts of foundation grantmaking. This series of roundtable discussions has brought together leading minds in the sector to foster in-depth discussions around several pressing topics.

Today's conference is sponsored by the Urban Institute's Center on Nonprofits and Philanthropy, The Urban-Brookings Tax Policy Center and The Philanthropic Collaborative. The missions of these organizations include promoting understanding through research, and today's conference will examine the need for research on the impacts of foundations, what has been done, and where we should go from here.

Agenda

8:30AM – 9:00AM: Light breakfast

9:00AM – 9:15AM:

Welcome and Introductions

Elizabeth Boris, The Urban Institute's Center on Nonprofits and Philanthropy

9:15AM – 10:15AM

Panel 1: Making the Case

Policymakers have long asked industries to justify their treatment in the tax code. Recently, that same level of scrutiny has been applied to the nonprofit sector. Recent research documents that foundation grantmaking is a huge source of economic growth and job creation, but there are signs lawmakers do not fully understand this impact.

- Michael McHugh, The Philanthropic Collaborative (Moderator)
- Sue Santa, Council on Foundations
- David Cay Johnston, Investigative Reporters and Editors; Syracuse University
- Rick Cohen, *Nonprofit Quarterly*

10:30AM – 11:45AM

Panel 2: What We Know

Foundations make important contributions to the economy, but research on the economic impacts of grantmaking are limited. As The Philanthropic Collaborative, Urban Institute and others uncover these impacts, it is important that researchers know what their colleagues are doing and understand the methods and data issues and assess the strengths and weaknesses.

- Gene Steuerle, The Urban Institute (Moderator)
- Steve Peterson, University of Idaho
- Robert Shapiro, Sonecon; Georgetown University
- Rick Clayton, U.S. Bureau of Labor Statistics

11:45AM – 12:15PM: Lunch

12:15PM – 1:45PM

Panel 3: Focusing Efforts & Moving Forward

After exploring what we already know, the next step is determining what additional research should be done. What are the gaps? What information is required to inform lawmakers and community leaders during the tax reform process? What are the best ways to ensure the information is known and used?

- John Tyler, The Philanthropic Collaborative (Moderator)
- David Hammack, Case Western Reserve University
- Michael Moody, Grand Valley State University
- Steve Smith, American Political Science Association

1:45PM – 2:00PM

Wrap-Up: The Broader Contributions of Philanthropy

John Tyler, The Philanthropic Collaborative