From the Statehouse to the Classroom: Why Funders Can’t Afford to Ignore Policy Implementation

Highlights from GFE’s Education Grantmakers Institute on Policy Implementation

February 29, 2012
10:00 AM PST/1:00 PM EST

Web Seminar presented by:

GFE’s
Education Policy Working Group
John Branam
Director of Programs
Grantmakers for Education
Our Mission

Strengthen philanthropy's capacity to improve education outcomes for all learners
**Figure 13**

Strategies for leveraging grantmaking impact

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>DO YOU FUND THIS?</th>
<th>WHAT CHANGES DO YOU ANTICIPATE TO CURRENT FUNDING LEVELS?</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Collaborating with other funders</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>91%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>58% = 35% ↓1%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Collaborating with non-funder stakeholders</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>83%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>44% = 39% 0%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Grants for general operating support</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>73%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>14% = 71% ↓4%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Grants to influence public policy or to build public will</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>for policy changes</td>
<td>61%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>34% = 48% 0%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Grants to support community organizing</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>48%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>13% = 64% ↓3%</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

**KEY:**

↑ Anticipate increasing funding  
= Anticipate maintaining funding  
↓ Anticipate decreasing funding

**Figure 1**

Type of grantmaking organization

- 31% Family foundation
- 36% Private foundation
- 12% Corporate foundation or giving program
- 10% Community foundation
- 4% Public charity with significant grantmaking efforts
- 2% Pooled grantmaking fund or venture philanthropy
- 2% Operating foundation
- 5% Other
Education Policy Working Group

- Advancing the strategic grantmaking of network members
- Building strategic partnerships among education grantmakers
- Identifying experiences and learnings in the field of public policy and philanthropy
- Contact Kimberiln@edfunders.org to learn more or join GFE’s Education Policy Working Group

Kimberlin Butler
Program & Network Manager
Grantmakers for Education
Advancing Strategic Grantmaking
Building Strategic Partnerships
Identifying Experiences & Learnings
Attendees
Send a chat to Kimberlin Butler at GFE.
Type your question here and press enter or unmute your line to pose a question.
Press *6 to mute/unmute your phone
Lower the volume on your computer speakers
Download documents
Speakers

Barbara Reisman
Executive Director
The Schumann Fund for New Jersey

James Honan
Senior Lecturer
Harvard Graduate School of Education
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Harvard Graduate School of Education
Education Policy Implementation Framework

- Identify and address capacity needs
- Develop clear milestones for success
- Maintain consistent, targeted communications
- Build and maintain public will for the policy
- Develop your implementation strategy
- Secure internal agreements
- Identify and engage key stakeholders

Implementation Strategy Elements

1. Define goals and time horizon
2. Specify your theory of change
3. Identify resources & resource growth strategy
4. Conduct needs assessment
5. Identify key leaders
6. Create communications plan
7. Develop your "political" strategy
8. Identify risks and failure points
9. Address sustainability
10. Outline your exit strategy
Barbara Reisman
Executive Director
The Schumann Fund for New Jersey
Longitudinal Study
Receptive Vocabulary at Kindergarten Entry by Years of Attendance (N=1,038)

- Mean Standardized Score without PreK (n = 284): 80.82
- Mean Standardized Score with 1-year-PreK (n = 451): 84.64
- Mean Standardized Score with 2-year-PreK (n = 303): 88.23
1. What’s the one area in which you could most immediately see your grantmaking organization making substantive progress? Could this be your “quick win” starting place?

2. What is the one question that comes to your mind that you think would position your organization well to take the next steps re: engaging more deeply in policy implementation?

3. What have been the traditional reasons as to why your organization has not engaged – or not engaged deeply – in policy implementation and what did you learn today that would challenge you to change course?
Future GFE Programs

Exploring Grantmaking Strategies for Improving Urban Education in El Paso, Newark and Oakland
- El Paso (April 3-5), Newark (May 23-24) and Oakland (Nov. 14-15)

A Renaissance of Wonder: Supporting Creativity through Digital Media and Learning
- Pittsburgh (April 24-25, 2012)

Embracing the Power of Education: Fulfilling the American Dream
- Brooklyn (Oct. 24-26)
Your thoughts improve our programs!
Thank you for participating!