Strengthening the power of education philanthropy.
Grantmakers for Education is the nation’s largest, most dynamic and most diverse member network of education philanthropists. We provide: Shared resources. Collective insights. Constructive collaboration. Together, our members collaborate, discuss and act on important issues in public education.
A powerful legacy. A clear path forward.

Over 20 years of continual evolution, Grantmakers for Education has created and elevated opportunities for education philanthropists. We’ve built a network unparalleled in size and scope, and we’ve become a trusted source for influential resources on key education issues. Our impact groups and collaborative community facilitate real change.

Now, societal forces are challenging the traditional role of philanthropy. How do grantmakers prepare and adapt? How can they maximize their impact?
Working together, we:

- Capitalize on our diverse member network, providing strength in numbers and inviting all voices to the table.
- Maintain sharp focus on upcoming trends in education philanthropy.
- Break down silos to increase cooperation across sectors.
- Bridge the gap between now and next.

We are future facing, acting with purpose to embrace a culture of change and innovation.

We are focused on impact. We act decisively and are selective in how we channel our time and energy. We use technology to increase value and strengthen connections, and we use data to drive decision-making and inform our choices.

We believe that when everyone in our diverse network has the opportunity to contribute to the conversation, and everyone puts the needs of learners above all, big things happen.

Please lend your voice to this critical conversation.

What our members say:

Grantmakers for Education programs...

“...broaden my perspective on the variety of approaches to grantmaking.”

“...allow me to think beyond the specific set of issues and concerns that frame my work to consider the larger field of education.”

“...are a place for conversations grounded in new thinking about the role of philanthropy in advancing education.”

“...make me think more about how to collaborate with other funders.”
Catalyzing Change

We help our members identify and prepare for what’s next. With our finger on the pulse of our diverse network and our eye on the broader horizon we keep our members informed of relevant and pressing issues, equipping them with the tools and knowledge required to shape the future as they adapt to the changes impacting our world.

At Grantmakers for Education, we don’t shy away from tough conversations. In fact, we encourage them. Why? Because tough conversations catalyze change. We create an informal, impartial and balanced environment for our members to ask. To challenge. To share. To take what they do well, and do it better.
Our goal:
Strengthen our members’ ability to improve outcomes and expand opportunities for all learners.
Engaging deeply, acting purposefully.

We have our finger on the pulse of education philanthropy, and we’ll keep you informed.

Annual Conference

Our annual conference brings together grantmakers from coast to coast, from organizations large and small. Focused on improving outcomes for all learners, our conferences are designed to inspire, challenge and prepare education philanthropists in light of the changing field of education philanthropy and a changing society.

“The conference had excellent material, great connections, strong sessions.”
Webinars & Convenings
Online and in-person dialog and activities aim to support grantmakers in making more impactful and intentional investments. Programs go below the surface, provoke new thinking, generate interaction and inspire action.

Impact Groups
Grantmakers for Education’s impact groups are dynamic, energizing and inspiring learning communities that leverage the network of education philanthropists within GFE. Their purpose: Bring members together for meaningful dialog and concrete action on critical current and upcoming challenges in public education.

Online Community
To ensure members stay abreast of the most up-to-date research and news in education philanthropy, we provide an online platform to share events and resources, and engage with members and the broader community on social media.

In-Depth Issue Analysis
With an eye on the broader horizon, we keep members informed of current, pressing education issues while also identifying strategies to help address future challenges. To that end, we regularly provide benchmarking reports, case studies, funders’ guides and additional co-created resources.

“In this group I have a strong voice and a real impact.”

Our members are eager to help shape the future. They’re deeply involved in education and put the needs of learners above all. They’re also busy professionals with a lot on their plates. That’s where we come in. When it comes to education philanthropy, we can see what’s coming on the horizon. That means we can make our members’ lives easier by curating information, facilitating relationships and bridging the gap between what’s now and what’s next.

Considering membership? We know you’re busy, too. But even if you devoted every spare second to research, you couldn’t begin to scratch the surface of our members’ collective insights, experience, successes and challenges. Top that off with relevant information and materials on the future of education philanthropy, and the result is a crystal-clear picture of what you can do to magnify your impact.

Join us! Together, big things happen.

Contact membership@edfunders.org or 503.595.2100. To learn more, see edfunders.org/membership.
Our Signature Event.

Centered on improving outcomes for all learners, our annual conferences are designed to challenge education philanthropists as they adapt to a rapidly evolving field that is ever more interconnected. Highly rated year after year, our conferences unite funders and experts in exploration of the deep and sometimes thorny education and philanthropic issues on the horizon.

For information on registration and sponsorship, see edfunders.org/annualconference.

Igniting Hope in a Time of Recovery

Amid continued challenges over the past few years for both learners and educators, a new day is dawning. This is a critical moment to reimagine the purpose of education, who it serves and the forms it takes. Funders are needed to catalyze innovation, support systemic change and rethink the practices that have led to inequitable outcomes both before and during the pandemic. Join us in person in Austin, Texas, October 18-20, 2022 to celebrate the bright spots that have emerged and grapple with philanthropy’s next steps in transforming a still-unjust system.

WHAT ATTENDEES SAY ABOUT OUR CONFERENCES:

"The voices were so real and honest. It challenged me as a person and a grantmaker."

"Every single session I participated in was engaging and on target with the current needs in education funding."

"It’s a great environment where you meet lots of different people who are very willing to share what they’re working on."

"It broadened my perspective on the variety of approaches to grantmaking."
OUR LEADERSHIP

Invested in You.

Every member of our board is directly associated with an actively involved Grantmakers for Education member organization. That means we’re deeply, personally invested in creating a valuable experience for members—and making a difference in the field of education. Our board and staff reflect the diversity, passion and dedication of our members.

BOARD

Richard Tagle, Chairperson
President and CEO
Denver Public Schools
Foundation
Denver, CO

Sara Seed, Vice-Chairperson
President and CEO
The NEA Foundation
Washington, DC

Elizabeth González, Secretary
Chief Program and Strategy Officer
College Futures Foundation
San Francisco, CA

Paul Herdman, Treasurer
President and CEO
Strategia Foundation
Menlo Park, CA

LaVerne Srinivasan
Vice President and Program Director
Carnegie Corporation of New York
New York, NY

STAFF

Executive Director Celine Coggins has been an educator for more than two decades, with a track record as an innovator, leader and connector. Prior to GFE, Celine founded Teach Plus, a nonprofit network of 30,000 teachers, and taught at the Harvard Graduate School of Education.

Our staff is strategically located throughout the country, bringing diverse backgrounds and a wealth of experience to our mission. The common thread: a deeply felt devotion to education and philanthropy, and to the members who drive positive change every day.
Welcoming New Voices.

**GENERAL MEMBERSHIP**

General membership to Grantmakers for Education is open to grantmaking entities that provide charitable support to causes across the education spectrum. In order to be eligible for membership, an entity must devote at least 30% of its annual budget to grantmaking or award more than $100,000 in grants annually.

GFE membership dues are calculated on the total grantmaking budget and program operation costs from the most recently filed organizational 990 form. Due to the unique structure of community foundations, membership fees are based on the discretionary budget rather than the total grantmaking or education grantmaking budgets.

This dues schedule is valid starting July 1, 2019.
Strengthening philanthropy to improve outcomes and expand opportunities for all learners.

Contact membership@edfunders.org or 503.595.2100. To learn more, see edfunders.org/membership.