

GRANTMAKERS of Oregon and Southwest Washington

AN ASSOCIATION OF GRANTMAKERS INSPIRING EFFECTIVE PHILANTHROPY

PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE: *Principles of Good Governance and Accountability for Grantmakers—Why Care?*

Two trends struck me about our field in 2005. First, the tangible increase in organized philanthropy: more foundations being endowed, more donors creating permanent advised funds at community foundations and individual charitable giving keeps going up. And the growing participation in Grantmakers tells me that there is a great interest in our field in “doing philanthropy right”.

A second trend may be a result of the first: the unprecedented attention Congress is paying to our sector. New regulations have passed the Senate and House of Representatives and a conference committee will soon be appointed to iron out the final details. If you are not up to speed on the latest developments, I recommend visiting the Independent Sector website www.independentsector.org or the Council on Foundations legislative network at www.cof.org. It's not too late to weigh in on some of the proposed changes.

Unfortunately, some of the Congressional reforms have been made in response to highly publicized

abuses and ethical lapses in the charitable sector. But, to quote Hugh Price, former vice president of the Rockefeller Foundation, “...legislators and regulators cannot ensure the viability and integrity of nonprofit organizations. That's the time honored job description of trustees, chief executives and senior managers.” Only those of us who govern and work in philanthropy can regulate ourselves to ensure that our practices are equal to the privilege conferred on philanthropic donors and the special work we do on their behalf.

This year Grantmakers will be starting a conversation with you, our members, to discover ways we can all be more effective and accountable in our work. The Good Governance Initiative will be led by board member Kandis Brewer Nunn and will take place around the region. Rather than have a



Kathleen Cornett

proscriptive set of rules imposed on us, we will talk about the face of philanthropy in Oregon and Southwest Washington and what “best practices” we all agree fit us and our region. We will explore the differences in practice for different types of giving programs—private and community foundations, family foundations and advised funds, corporate giving. By year's end we hope to have crafted a set of guiding principles and practices that can be

discussed by the board of directors of each Grantmakers' member organization. By creating our own standards of operation we can continue the flexible, entrepreneurial spirit that stands behind much of philanthropy. We look forward to talking together in 2006!

—Kathleen Cornett

Good Governance on the Web

As part of the Good Governance Initiative mentioned in the President's Message and being led by Kandis Brewer Nunn this year, Grantmakers has added a Good Governance section on our home page, www.gosw.org. This is where you will find links to resources and information designed to promote strong governance principles. As new resources become available, we'll add them to the list and will publicize opportunities for you to participate in teleconferences with national experts on a variety of subjects pertaining to good governance. If you have a particular need or find a resource you would like to share with colleagues, please contact Joyce White at jwhite@gosw.org or (503) 226-6340.

An offer from Andy Goodman

Would you like to deliver more engaging, informative, and persuasive presentations? Do you supervise colleagues who must give presentations on a regular basis? If you have wasted enough time with bad presentations—on either side of the podium—there is a new book which you can order online today, and it's free to full-time employees at nonprofits, foundations, government agencies, and educational institutions.

Based on unprecedented research across the public interest sector, and incorporating the advice of twenty highly regarded public speaking experts, ***Why Bad Presentations Happen to Good Causes***,

can help you avoid the most commonly made mistakes (“The Fatal Five”), structure your information in ways that help audiences absorb it, use PowerPoint more effectively, and deliver your talks with greater confidence.

Why Bad Presentations Happen to Good Causes was written by Andy Goodman and was designed and published by Cause Communications (the same team that created *Why Bad Ads Happen to Good Causes*.)

To order your free copy—while supplies last—visit www.agoodmanonline.com.

Thank You Members

Thank you to members providing financial or in-kind support for Grantmakers of Oregon and Southwest Washington. It is through your contributions that we can continue to offer quality programs and services to all members.

Hanna Andersson Children's Foundation
Lora L. and Martin N. Kelley Family Foundation
The Kinsman Foundation
Nike, Inc.
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Grantmaker FOCUS

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We encourage members to contribute information as short news items about new program initiatives, recent publications by their organization, personnel changes, and other items you wish to communicate to fellow members.

Please submit items to jwhite@gosw.org or by mail to Grantmakers of Oregon and Southwest Washington, P.O. Box 6381, Portland, OR 97228-6381.

New Board Members

Each year we like to spotlight our new board members, those individuals that commit their time and leadership skills to Grantmakers of Oregon and Southwest Washington. In this issue, we introduce you to two of our four new board members: Linda Traeger, Equity Foundation and Joyce Akse, The Ford Family Foundation. We asked each of them to respond to a few questions about their backgrounds and perspectives on philanthropy.

Linda Traeger, Executive Director Equity Foundation

Describe briefly the personal/professional journey that led you to the field of philanthropy.

I encountered prejudice early in my life, although at that time it was not directed personally toward me. I think I've always cared about equality and the opportunity for all to live as fully and inter-dependently as possible. Over my career, I've put my values into action, first through work with people who were differently abled, then in federally funded job training programs designed to lift people out of poverty through education, training and employment. Working for a social policy research organization I learned the value of scientifically informed analysis—what difference are specific large-scale programs really making? I returned to direct service in the early 90s to guide program offerings at a large non-profit organization and soon after was invited to join the Board of Chicago Foundation for Women. As a lesbian, the Foundation provided me with an opportunity to evaluate and participate in funding programs for women and sexual minorities. After moving to Oregon to be with family, I was pleased to have found Equity Foundation, dedicated donors and a strong board—where my personal and professional beliefs have merged with others' to build communities that embrace the dignity and worth of all people.

What excites you most about your membership on the Board of Grantmakers?

Several things that I think of right now. I look forward to learning more about people and programs throughout Oregon and southwest Washington from the vantage point of other foundations that have been working in our communities over the years. I know I'll learn more about other foundations' priorities and processes—all organizations go through stages of growth so our needs change over time—I see Grantmakers members as providing a very large toolkit from which we can all draw. The possibilities for foundations to work together to invite proposals that are intended to evoke responses to specific issues is exciting. And I look forward to getting to know other Grantmakers better—it's a dedicated and knowledgeable group.

What do you think are the greatest challenges facing the philanthropic sector in the next couple of years?

First, with continuing cutbacks of social programs and services, the sector will be challenged to fill in the gaps—something it cannot do with resources far more limited than a broad tax base. How do we maximize the impact effect of the sector's limited resources to produce sustained change? Second, how do we balance our interest in funding for new and exciting projects, with commitments to support ongoing operations and good work being done by organizations of all sizes. And third, the issue of standards—how should foundations monitor themselves, both to meet legal operational requirements, and to be responsible and responsive stewards of philanthropy.

What are your most urgent hopes/fears about Oregon and Washington and the communities served by Grantmakers members? How can funders most effectively leverage the opportunities and ameliorate the challenges?

I think employment issues, with wage challenges from outside the U.S., are enormous. Families already struggling are further challenged by health care and education costs which also put pressure on public budgets. Foundations can help raise the policy issues through pilot and demonstration projects that provide examples of strategies that work. We can utilize roundtables, forums and electronic communications to convene others, raise the issues, and develop viable solutions.

From the vantage point of one among many minority groups, I worry about prejudice and discrimination continuing to diminish the dignity and worth of whole groups of people, and hate crimes increasing, in our schools and communities, even as some groups are kept from enjoying the same rights and benefits as others. According to a report by Funders for Lesbian and Gay Issues, total dollars granted to LGBT issues in 2003 by US foundations was once again 0.1%; and most of this came from the 10 largest foundations, by dollars granted, reflecting relatively low participation by other foundations. Local organizations received only 36% of all grant dollars—a 6% decrease from 2002. I hope that funders will utilize a “minority lens” to analyze the reach of their grantmaking to all communities in Oregon and southwest Washington.

Joyce Akse, Program Officer The Ford Family Foundation

Describe briefly the personal/professional journey that led you to the field of philanthropy.

My career began as a registered nurse and has evolved through a series of healthcare leadership positions including Intensive Care/Trauma Unit Director, Hospital Chief Operations Officer and Hospital Chief Executive Officer. The past 10 years I have provided consulting to organizations in the area of leadership assessment and development. Most recently I found myself increasingly compelled to personally contribute to the positive development of rural Oregon communities. The Ford Family Foundation's mission spoke directly to mine and I am very appreciative of the opportunity to blend my talents and skills with the rest of team here.

What excites you most about your membership on the Board of Grantmakers?

So many great opportunities to network, to contribute to the collective development of philanthropy in the Northwest, and to learn!

What do you think are the greatest challenges facing the philanthropic sector in the next couple of years?

1. Leveraging between foundations
2. Evaluating our work
3. Truly making a difference

What are your most urgent hopes/fears about Oregon and Washington and the communities served by Grantmakers members?

The gap between those who have, those who don't, and how this gap affects our families and our communities. Our most precious resource, our children, are being left behind.

How can funders most effectively leverage the opportunities and ameliorate the challenges?

- Pursue more initiatives as funder collaboratives.
- Move into to the “influence public policy” arena
- Simplify processes
- Engage more openly in community dialog

National CALENDAR

Grantmakers for Effective Organizations, 2006 National Conference—Powerful Partnerships: Grantmaker Practices that Improve Grantee Performance

March 8–10, 2006

Sheraton Atlanta Hotel
Atlanta, GA

Contact: info@geofunders.org

Council on Foundations—Forum of Regional Associations of Grantmakers

Foundations on the Hill

March 14–15, 2006

Hamilton Crowne Plaza
Washington, DC

Contact: flahb@cof.org

Grants Managers Network—2006 Annual Conference

March 2–4, 2006

Roosevelt Hotel
New York, NY

Contact: info@gmnetwork.org

Native Americans in Philanthropy—Native Philanthropy Institute & Annual Meeting

April 10–11, 2006

Mystic Lake Casino Hotel
Prior Lake, MN

Contact: nsnyder@nativephilanthropy.org

Grantmakers CALENDAR

Grantmakers Monthly Program—Collaboration among Early Childhood Philanthropies

Thursday, February 16, 2006

11:45 am–1:30 pm

YWCA, Third Floor Conference Room
1111 SW 10th
Portland, OR

Grantmakers Monthly Program—The Jackson County Response to Meth

Thursday, March 16, 2006

11:45 am–1:30 pm

Portland, OR
YWCA, Third Floor Conference Room
1111 SW 10th
Portland, OR

Grantmaking 101

Tuesday, April 4, 2006

8:00 am–4:00 pm

Tiger Wood Center, Nike Campus
One Bowerman Drive
Beaverton, OR

Corporate Funders Learning Exchange

Thursday, April 6, 2006

7:30 am–9:00 am

US Bank Tower
555 SW Oak
Portland

Resource Center

Chapin Hall Center for Children at the University of Chicago, in partnership with the National Conference of State Legislatures, is pleased to announce a new monthly web conference on child and family policy. The series will be moderated by Martha Shirk, a veteran reporter on child and family issues and co-author of *On Their Own: What Happens to Kids When the Age Out of the Foster Care System*. The conferences will take place on the first Wednesday of each month, starting on Wednesday, March 1, with “Keeping Kids in the Chile Welfare System after 18.” Other topics to be discussed in the series include child welfare finance reform, the stability and educational status of children in foster care, and new parent support programs.

Chapin Hall’s website holds a wealth of information on children and families. For more information, visit: www.about.chapinhall.org.

The Center for Effective Philanthropy has published *Beyond Compliance: The Trustee Viewpoint on Effective Foundation Governance*. This report is based on the largest-scale study ever undertaken of governance at a broad set of this country’s major foundations. It includes analysis of data from completed surveys of nearly 550 trustees of 53 foundations as well as detailed data on board structure and practices collected from the CEOs of these foundations. Available in hard copy in the Grantmakers’ library.

Grantmakers in the Arts and The Foundation Center has published the first in-depth study on

foundation funding for arts education. It finds that giving in this area grew faster than arts giving overall between 1999 and 2003. In the latter year, programs serving children and youth received over 40 percent of the \$208.8 million given for arts education by the largest U.S. Foundations. Foundation Funding for Arts Education can be accessed at no charge from the “Researching Philanthropy” area of the Foundation Center’s website, www.fdncenter.org/research.

Funders Network for Smart Growth and Livable Communities has published a second edition of its Translation Paper series on *Workforce Development and Smart Growth: Opportunities for Linking Movements*. This paper describes the implications of sprawling patterns of development from the perspective of workforce development and articulates why funders who seek to help workers gain family-supporting skills and jobs should also consider becoming involved in the emerging movement calling for better decisions that would implement smarter growth policies and practices. It can be downloaded as a PDF file at www.fundersnetwork.org.

The Greenlining Institute has released a report on a study to quantify foundation giving to minority-led nonprofit organizations. The findings are presented in a two-part report entitled *Fairness in Philanthropy*. A copy of the report is available in the Grantmakers’ library.

New Staff Member

Grantmakers of Oregon and Southwest Washington is pleased to welcome new staff member Megan Wentworth. Megan comes to Grantmakers from Young Audiences where she served as liaison between local schools, teaching artists and arts community leaders. While at Young Audiences, Megan also worked as an independent contractor with the James F. and Marion L. Miller Foundation, managing the grants database and information systems. In her spare time, she volunteers at Friendly House and is on the board of Backline. Megan will begin her work at Grantmakers overseeing a project to integrate the organization’s database and website to improve the flow of information to members. As the year progresses, you’ll see Megan take on additional responsibilities for programs and committee work. Please welcome Megan to Grantmakers. You can reach her at megan@gosw.org or (503) 226-6340.

Grantmaking 101

It’s not too early to reserve a spot for this year’s Grantmaking 101 workshop. The workshop is being held Tuesday, April 4, 2006 at the Tiger Woods Center on the Nike Campus. Our thanks to Nike, Inc. and Nike Foundation for hosting the workshop.

This year, we have a great line-up of trainers. Back by popular demand is Charline McDonald, who recently retired from Meyer Memorial Trust. Joining Charline as speakers are: Norm Smith, The Ford Family Foundation; Cynthia

Addams, The Collins Foundation; Kit Gillem, M.J. Murdock Charitable Trust; and Gary McGee, Gary McGee and Associates. This all-star team guarantees a day packed with information, a chance to practice some skills and even some time to network with other funders from around the region.

The workshop is limited to the first twenty-five individuals to register. Cost is \$150 for members, \$195 for non-members. You may register by contacting jwhite@gosw.org or calling (503) 226-6340.

What's Happening

Grantmakers of Oregon and Southwest Washington welcome new member **Portland Children's Investment Fund** and program director, **Lisa Pellegrino**. The Fund was created in 2002 through a property tax measure that generates about \$8.5 million annually to support programs for children and youth. Programs applying for funding must have a track record of success and demonstrated that they are cost effective and achieve positive results for children.

Melissa K. Hansen has been named Program Associate for Grants and Scholarships at **The Oregon Community Foundation**.

Meyer Memorial Trust has hired two new program officers, **Kim Thomas** and **Sally Yee**. Kim was formerly the Director of Advocacy and Agency Relations for the Oregon Food Bank located in Portland. Kim was responsible for strategic planning, and oversight of the organization's advocacy and public policy work. Kim has B.A. in Sociology from Miami University and a Master of Fine Arts from the University of Alabama. Sally's background is in women's health, community development and public education. Most recently Sally has been a Program Officer and Director of Parent and Community Leadership for the Portland Schools Foundation. Prior to that, she was at Western State Center. Sally has a B.S. from the New Hampshire School of Human Services. Kim and Sally begin work at Meyer in mid-February.

Ellen Marie Hannan joined **The Lemelson Foundation** in October, 2005 as Administrative Coordinator. She had previously worked with several Portland-area non-profits, including Green Empowerment, the Interstate Firehouse Cultural Center, and The Neighborhood Partnership Fund. Ellen Marie earned a B.S. in Graphic Design from Portland State University, and an A.A.S in Television and Photography from Monroe Community College, Rochester, NY.

Jill Tucker, Senior Program Officer, joined **The Lemelson Foundation** in January 2006. Jill is the former Director of Reebok International's Asia Human Rights Programs, and previously worked for the Asia Foundation in Indonesia, Bangladesh, and Nepal. She earned a master of education degree from the Center for International Education at the University of Massachusetts, a bachelor of arts degree from Stanford University, and was a Fulbright Scholar at Gadjah Mada University in Indonesia.

Tracy Dannen has been named Grants and Donations Coordinator for **Kaiser Permanente Northwest**.

Equity Foundation's annual Investments in Dignity Awards is being held at the Governor Hotel on Thursday, February 16, 2006. Each year Equity Foundation honors two members of the community who have championed its mission. This year the Foundation honors two members of Grantmakers of Oregon and Southwest Washington: **Thomas D. Aschenbrener**, president of **Northwest Health Foundation** and **Sho Dozono**, trustee of the **Spirit Mountain Community Fund**.

Danielle Killpack was named Senior Manager, Corporate Responsibility at **Nike, Inc.** Danielle was formerly the Communications and Public Affairs Director for Albertsons, Inc. At Albertsons, she was responsible for charitable giving, media relations, and internal communications for 17 western states. Prior to Albertsons, was communications and public outreach lead for the Oregon Senate Majority Office and worked in public relations and marketing communications for small to mid-size technology companies in Seattle, WA. Danielle graduated from Boise State University in English and Technical Communication.

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