



March Newsletter



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Hi,

I hope you are well, either vaccinated or in a queue, and I know from my continued scrolling that your organization is finding its way through the challenges of this unprecedented time.

Let me highlight a few important things:

- Welcome to our newest affiliate—the Giving Circle of the Philadelphia Chapter of The Transition Network.
- A very big thank you to those of you who have completed the Philanthropy Together (PhT) profile survey which includes a specific section for Philanos.
- This Philanos survey information will be added to your Philanos profile, saving you updating time and help the Philanos board better prepare its content for the full-field virtual conference collaboration being coordinated by PhT in May.
- For those that haven't yet had a chance to complete [this survey](#) we strongly ask that you do so. It will help PhT and Philanos aggregate data, and demonstrate the heft of our network and of the movement. It will draw members to affiliates that are looking for new members.
- Registration is now open for the [We Give Summit](#). The virtual conference is open to ALL MEMBERS of collective giving groups, not just leadership. Please consider registering at the top level (3 levels will be offered) and use the registration code PHILANOS to receive a discount. PhT is paying speakers (as we did in Seattle). The technology to enable this is expensive and attracting sponsors for a new initiative is always tricky. As the most established and experienced network in the

field, Philanos can lead the way in demonstrating that this content is worthwhile and worth paying for.

I was privileged to hear a young spoken word artist, Niveah Glover, recite a work called Hope this week. One snippet:

Hope is your mother's eyes and your father's voice
Hope is love
Hope is a choice

This sentiment, and her performance, has buoyed me through the week. You just might hear more from her in May. Stay tuned!

PHILANOS 2021 AWARD ANNOUNCEMENTS

The Willoughby Award – Honoring a Visionary Woman Leader

Philanos announces the opening of nominations for the first inaugural Willoughby Award, honoring Colleen S. Willoughby's legacy as a visionary leader in philanthropy and women's collective giving. This award will be given to one woman in the Philanos network whose experience and affiliation with her collective giving organization has inspired her to take her philanthropy efforts outside the organization to directly change her community. She will also be recognized for taking women's leadership in new directions, challenging the status quo – as Colleen did in 1995 – to inspire more women to find and amplify their voices today, tomorrow and in the foreseeable future.

Nominations open today for the 2021 Willoughby Award and will close on June 15, 2021. The award will be presented at a Philanos virtual celebration in September and includes a \$1,000 donation made to a nonprofit of the recipient's choice. Click for more [information/criteria](#) and the [application](#), available on the Philanos website.

Spotlight Awards – Celebrating Community Transformation

Philanos also announces the opening of nominations of our 2021 Spotlight Awards celebrating affiliates who are changing the face of philanthropy by practicing high impact, transformational grantmaking

This recognition highlights affiliate grants that have transformed a grantee, their community, and/or their membership. The 2021 Spotlight Awards will focus special consideration this year on grantmaking in two areas:

1. Grantmaking through a DEI lens
2. COVID response grants

All affiliates are invited to nominate one of their own grants. Nominations open **today** and close June 15th. These award winners will also be announced at Philanos' virtual celebration in September. Each winning affiliate will receive \$500 which may be passed on to their grantee. Click for further [information/criteria](#) and the [application](#) (all on our website).

Network News

DEI from Theory to Practice

This month, Sandy Cook, chair of Philanos' Affiliate Engagement and Expansion Committee, and her team will launch a pilot project for online affinity group engagement among interested affiliates. The purpose of the test groups is to provide peer-to-peer sharing for affiliates involved in adopting DEI-related initiatives for their respective giving circles.

Several Philanos affiliates are participating, including Impact 100 Cincinnati (OH), San Diego Women's Foundation (CA), Women's Giving Circle of Howard County (MD), Impact 100 Essex (NJ), Baltimore Women's Giving Circle (MD), Women's Giving Alliance of Jacksonville (FL), Many Hands (DC), Women's Impact Fund of Charlotte (NC), Idaho Women's Charitable Foundation (ID) and The Philanthropy Connection (MA).

These affiliates are assigned to one of the following two tracks and will meet for at least two sessions. Then they will determine how they want to stay connected as they proceed.

Track 1: "Grant Making with an Equity Lens"

For organizations that are exploring, testing and doing early-stage implementation of changes in grant making processes that further equity and trust-based philanthropy.

Facilitated by Laura Midgley, WA Women's Foundation member; Philanos Board Member, Past Chair of WCGN (now Philanos)

Track 2: "Organizational/Membership DEI Strategies"

For organizations that are implementing DEI learning resources for members, outreach to BIPOC women as members, and enhancing leadership diversity.

Facilitated by Deepika Andavarapu, VP, Impact 100 Cincinnati; Chair of Diversity, Equity, and Inclusion Committee

Other ongoing work by Sandy's team includes case studies of affiliates who have made multiple and significant changes in their grant making over time. Additionally, they have begun baseline interviews with any affiliate doing DEI work, capturing who they are, a description of where they are in the process, lessons learned, and further contact information. This information will be collated and shared in the Member Portal to assist affiliates as they move from theory to practice. We will let you know when this vital information is online!

Announcing: We Give Summit



Join us at the We Give Summit! In place of our canceled in-person conference, Philanos is joining with Philanthropy Together for their inaugural virtual We Give Summit for the month of May 2021.

It will be the largest convening of everyday givers in the world. Throughout May, you'll hear from dozens of speakers on everything from connecting with the next generation of givers to embedding racial equity into your giving circle to growing our movement.

Week 1 of the We Give Summit is completely free to attend! You can choose to purchase an All-Access Pass to gain access to all four weeks of content AND if you **purchase your pass by April 8, you'll receive a Swag Box** in the mail. We Give Summit is open to ALL giving circle members and

supporters. Register today using code PHILANOS at the top of the page for a discount - wegivesummit.org.

Webinars

March Webinar

Are You Maximizing The Impact of Your Website?

When: March 9

Register by: March 7

Register

April Webinar

Philanos Annual Meeting and
Taking The Collective Giving Model to School

When: April 13

Register by: April 11

Affiliate Spotlight

WOMEN  ADE
BOSTON

IMPACT 
RICHMOND

In Large and Small Ways, Philanthropy is Helping Our Communities

Diane Perlmutter, member of Philanos Communications Committee and Co-Chair, Greenville Women Giving, interviewed two of our affiliates, Womenade in Boston, MA and Impact 100 Richmond in Richmond, VA about the impact of "smaller grants".

[Read More](#)

News You Can Use

Good Reads

- It's rare that a single piece of information can profoundly alter your mindset. [Why Foundations Benefit When They Focus on What Nonprofits Need Most](#). Lowell Weiss, Feb. 16, 2021. Opinion. The Chronicle for Philanthropy.
- Giving circles make their influence felt! [Can Giving Circles Democratize Philanthropy?](#) Rob Meiksins, Feb. 16, 2021. Nonprofit Quarterly.
- Giving more of what little they have... [Where Are Young Women in Philanthropy?](#) Maggie May, Feb. 15, 2021. Philanthropy Women.
- This is the time to “hold the line” on your grant practice changes! [Building a Movement for Courageous Practice Change in Philanthropy](#), Melissa Sines, Feb. 9, 2021. Blog Post for the Center for Effective Philanthropy

New Affiliate

- Giving Circle of the Philadelphia Chapter of The Transition Network, PA. [Read More](#)

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