



COLLECTIVE IMPACT FORUM



Webinar: The What, Why, and How of Advancing Funder Openness

June 12, 2018



Welcome from the Collective Impact Forum

- Today's webinar is 90 minutes
- We want to hear from you! Keep close to your computer to answer polls and ask questions
- This webinar is being recording and the slides will be available after the event. Stay tuned for an email announcement letting you know when the webinar is up in the Forum library
- Send technical questions to tracy.timmons-gray@collectiveimpactforum.org



Robert Albright

**Director of
Programs,
Collective Impact
Forum, FSG**

Finding Other Implementation-Oriented Webinars

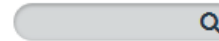


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WHAT IS COLLECTIVE IMPACT

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Introduction to Collective Impact

Collective Impact Article

The scale and complexity of the U.S. public education system has thwarted attempted reforms for decades. Major funders, such as the Annenberg Foundation, Ford Foundation, and Pew Charitable...

Collective Impact Principles of Practice

What does it take for a collective impact initiative to succeed and reach population-level change? The field is familiar with the five conditions of collective impact, but what are the...

When Collective Impact has an Impact: A Cross-Site Study of 25 Collective Impact Initiatives

The research study "When Collective Impact Has an Impact: A Cross-Site Study of 25 Collective Impact Initiatives," conducted by a research team from the organizations ORS Impact and the...

Channeling Change: Making Collective Impact Work Article

Update: The Spanish-language version of this article, "Encauzamiento del cambio: cómo lograr que el impacto colectivo funcione," is now added to this page for download. An in-depth look at...

The Value of Backbone Organizations in Collective Impact

This article is adapted from its original publication in July 2012 as a four-part blog series in the Stanford Social Innovation Review, www.ssireview.org/blog. Effective backbone support is...



Live Poll #1

Your Primary Role(s) in Collective Impact? *(select all that apply)*

- Backbone team member
- Community member
- Funder
- Partner
- Other



Live Poll #2

Your Stage of Involvement in Collective Impact? *(select one)*

- **Not Yet Initiated:** Beginning to explore the collective impact concept, but not yet formally part of a collective impact effort
- **Early Stages:** In the process of initiating our collective impact initiative (e.g., getting agreement on a common agenda)
- **Mid Stages:** Implementing our collective impact initiative (e.g., developed common goals and shared measures)
- **Late Stages:** Well into the implementation of our collective impact initiative
- Don't Know / Not Applicable



What Do We Mean When We Say “Funder Openness”?

Funder openness is the process by which funders...

- Share their goals and strategies
- Share how they make decisions and measure progress
- Listen and engage in dialogue with others
- Make space for co-creation that builds greater buy-in in the community
- Act on feedback they hear from grantees and from the community
- Share what they themselves have learned
- Promote sharing between funders and grantees (funder-to-funder, grantee-to-grantee, funder-to-grantee)

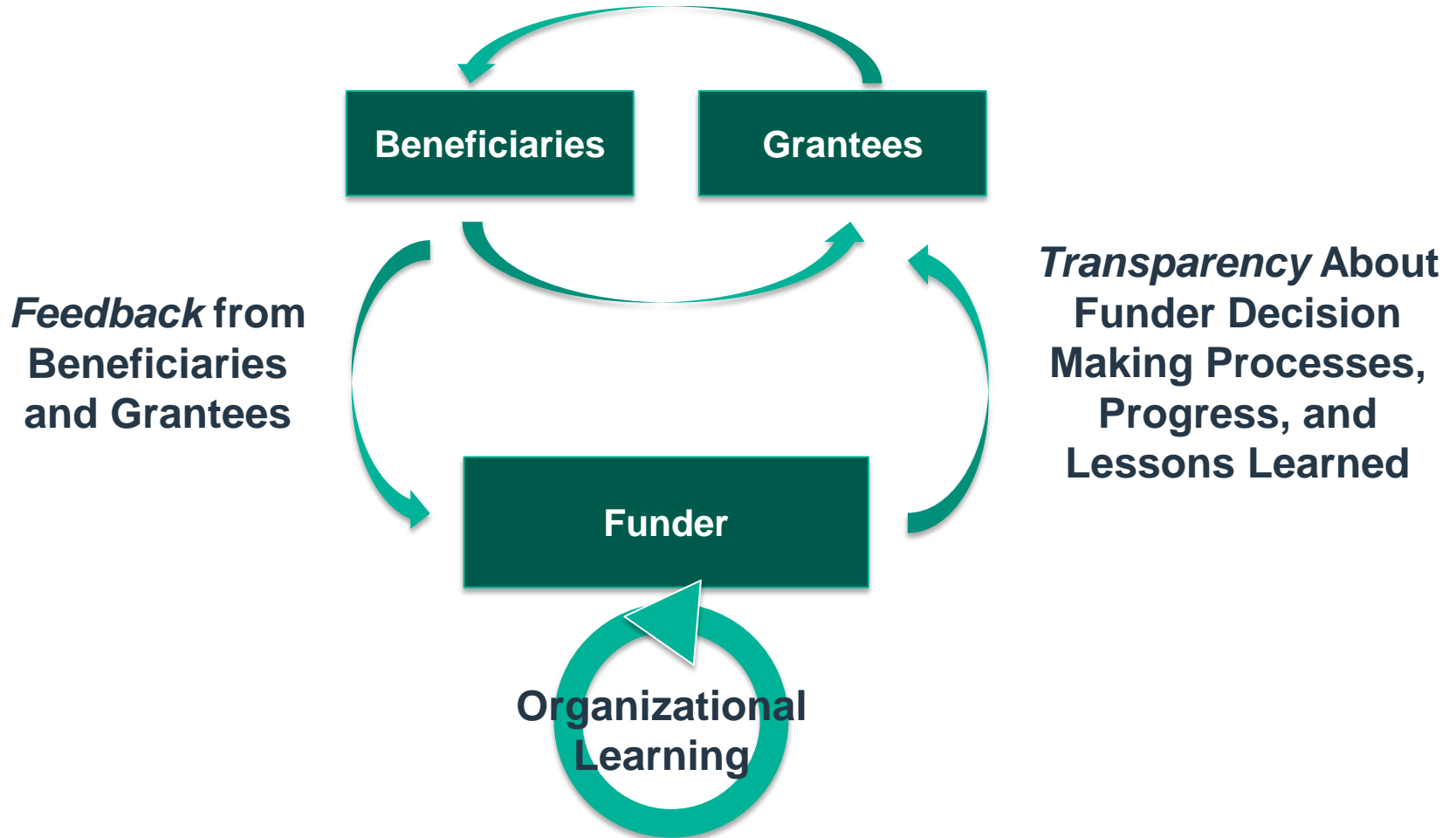
Funder openness is focused both externally and internally: sharing externally what funders are learning from engaging in dialogue with others, and changing actions and culture internally through continuous learning

Source: Adapted from the Fund for Shared Insight’s “Increasing Foundation Openness” RFP



A Framework for Putting Funder Openness in the Context of Collective Impact

Openness in the context of collective impact is proactively engaging in all parts of the openness “loop” identified below:



About the Fund for Shared Insight and Openness Grantees

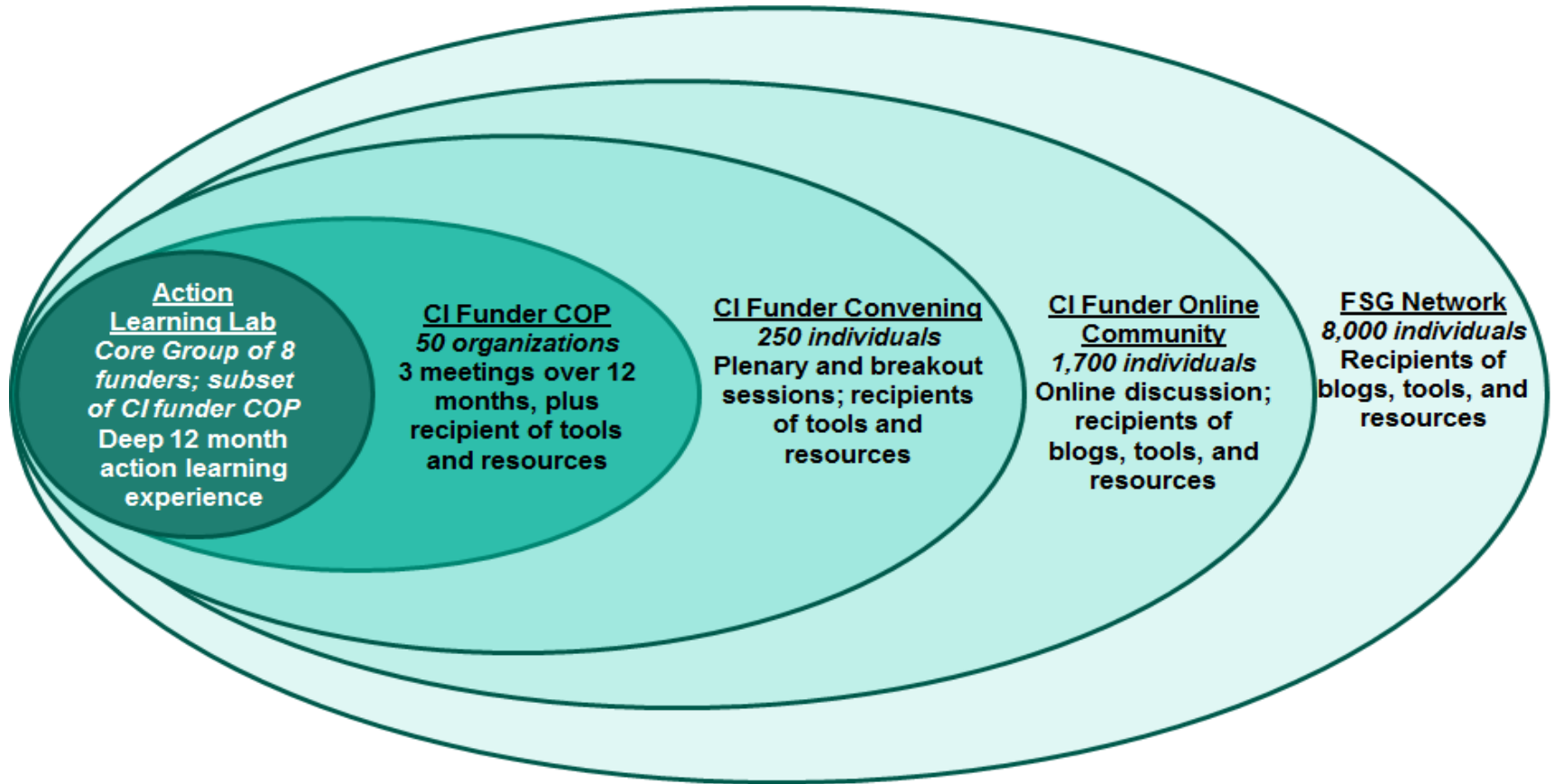
Fund for *Shared* Insight

- Collaborative effort among funders that pools financial and other resources to make grants to improve philanthropy
- Emerged from a belief that foundations will be more effective and make an even bigger difference in the world if they are more open – if they share what they are learning and are open to what others want to share with them, including grantees and the people they seek to help
- In July 2016, Shared Insight provided grant funding to 10 national organizations to increase funder openness. FSG is among the Shared Insight grantees, as part of its field-building partnership with the Aspen Institute on the Collective Impact Forum





The Collective Impact Forum's Funder Openness Project Includes an "Action Learning Lab" and Knowledge Sharing with Other Funders in Our Network



We have shared learning from the Action Learning core group with a broad audience of funders

Four Private Foundations, Three United Ways, and One Community Foundation Participated in the Action Learning Lab





Key Activities of the Action Learning Lab

- **Full-day meetings:** Sept. 2016, Feb. 2017, Sept. 2017, and Feb. 2018
- **Five group calls** to provide peer support and go deeper on openness topics (e.g., transparency, building trust)
- **Survey of grantees and partners (November 2016)** asking about importance and effectiveness each funder's openness practices
- **Pursue an “action learning project”** in their community
 - Opportunity to **experiment with new practices (or changes to existing practices)** that address one or two funder openness practices
 - Develop an action learning project that is **ideally within the context of collective impact investment(s)**
 - **Find ways to incorporate the action learning project into ongoing work** (i.e., not limited to a one-time community meeting)



We Released the Final Report in March, and Shared Findings During the 2018 Collective Impact Convening in April



Advancing Funders' Openness Practices:

Lessons for the Field from the
Collective Impact Funder Action Learning Lab

IN COLLABORATION WITH

Fund for
SharedInsight



Several Themes Emerged from the Action Learning Projects

- **Building Trust:** Effective communication requires building (or strengthening) relationships and trust among funders, grantees, and community members
- **Listening Before Acting:** Before changing openness practices, funders must first *listen* to what grantees and community members need the most
- **Increasing Transparency:** Increasing transparency requires time and effort, comfort with risk-taking, and a genuine sense of responsibility by funders
- **Building the Capacity for Community Engagement:** Funders recognize the need for authentic community engagement, but different approaches require intentional capacity building for funders, grantees, and community members
- **Sustaining Openness Practices:** Funders should embed their openness practices into what they do on an ongoing basis to avoid “snapping back” to old habits



Reflecting on Lessons Learned with Openness



Kimberly Bash
*Findlay-Hancock County
Community Foundation*



Perry Gunn
Teamwork Englewood



Ron McClain
Institute of Mental Hygiene



Bill Koll
Robert R. McCormick Foundation



Live Poll #3

What openness theme(s) have you found most challenging to address in your collective impact initiative? *(select all that apply)*

- Building Trust
- Listening Before Acting
- Increasing Transparency
- Building the Capacity for Community Engagement
- Sustaining Openness Practices



Take a Few Minutes to Reflect on These Questions (Individually...or Collectively if You're Watching with a Group)

- **Why have these openness theme(s) been particularly challenging in your work?**
 - Building Trust
 - Listening Before Acting
 - Increasing Transparency
 - Building the Capacity for Community Engagement
 - Sustaining Openness Practices
- **What has worked well in addressing those openness challenges?**
- **What are the similarities and differences with openness based on your role (e.g., funder, backbone leader, other role)?**

After 3 minutes of self-reflection, we will come back as a group to continue the discussion with our webinar speakers



Moderated Discussion with Webinar Presenters



Kimberly Bash
*Findlay-Hancock County
Community Foundation*



Perry Gunn
Teamwork Englewood



Ron McClain
Institute of Mental Hygiene



Bill Koll
Robert R. McCormick Foundation



Take a Few Minutes to Reflect on These Questions *(Individually...or Collectively if You're Watching with a Group)*

- What topics have **resonated most** with you about this webinar on openness?
- How will you **apply what you learned about openness** to your work moving forward?
- Do you have any **unanswered questions about openness**? If so, add them to the Q&A box.

After 3 minutes of self-reflection, we will come back as a group for final Q&A with our webinar speakers



Final Q&A with Webinar Presenters



Kimberly Bash
*Findlay-Hancock County
Community Foundation*



Perry Gunn
Teamwork Englewood



Ron McClain
Institute of Mental Hygiene



Bill Koll
Robert R. McCormick Foundation



Join the Collective Impact Forum – A Free Online Community for Collective Impact Practitioners, Partners, and Funders



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Welcome to the **COLLECTIVE IMPACT FORUM**

This is the place for those practicing collective impact to find the tools, resources, and advice they need. It's a network of individuals coming together to share experience and knowledge to accelerate the effectiveness and adoption of collective impact.

[LEARN ABOUT THE COMMUNITY](#)

Visit Our Community

Select your role to visit the collective impact community most relevant to you.



FUNDER OF INITIATIVES



BACKBONE ORGANIZATION



PARTNER ORGANIZATION

Sign up at

www.collectiveimpactforum.org



Upcoming Learning Opportunities

- **Virtual Coffee Chats: *When Collective Impact Has an Impact***
 - Building Leadership Capacity in Collective Impact: July 17 from 3-4pm EST
 - *Other virtual coffees will announced soon*
- **Champions for Change: Leading a Backbone Organization for Collective Impact**
 - October 16-18, 2018
 - Los Angeles, California
- **2019 Collective Impact Convening**
 - May 14-16, 2018
 - Chicago, Illinois



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