



Forum of Regional Associations of Grantmakers Fact Sheet

Who We Are

The Forum of Regional Associations of Grantmakers (the Forum) is the national network of 32 geographic associations serving philanthropy. These regions can range from metropolitan areas to states and multi-state regions. Together these associations represent over 4,000 community, corporate, independent and family foundations, as well as corporate giving programs.

- Founded in 1998, the Forum mobilizes philanthropy across the country and works to strengthen, connect and expand philanthropy in all areas.
- The Forum works in partnership with a number of organizations that support philanthropy, including our key partner, the Council on Foundations (COF), the national membership association of foundations.

What We Do

Our major projects include the following:

- **Grantmaker Education:** The goal of the Forum's educational initiatives is to generate a series of standard, high quality educational tools and programs, resulting in a more consistent system of educational support for grantmakers across the country. Our major projects include the new *Essential Skills & Strategies for New Grantmakers* curriculum (developed with COF), and a national initiative to build the capacity of regional associations to provide grantmaker education.
- **Effectiveness and Accountability:** The Building Grantmaker Effectiveness and Accountability initiative seeks to increase philanthropic effectiveness and fulfillment of the public trust. The Forum provides resources, tools and grants to help regional associations educate their members on key accountability topics, develop and implement guiding principles for grantmakers, build relationships with state regulators and policymakers, and increase their communications capacity.
- **Knowledge Management:** In order to mobilize philanthropic knowledge across the country and build an interactive peer-learning community, the Forum and its regional association partners developed a Web-based Knowledge Management system that consists of a robust content management system, a centralized Knowledgebase of resources on philanthropy, and an integrated association management system.
- **New Ventures in Philanthropy:** New Ventures provides communities (and the people, organizations, and networks within them) with tools and resources to increase the money available to address pressing community needs. It creates and shares knowledge to attract new donors and to promote and grow new giving. Main focuses include: racial, ethnic and tribal philanthropy; giving circles; and rural philanthropy.

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