

O'Neill Foundation

William J. & Dorothy K.



April 2021

Front Cover Image: ONF's 2Gen/DIG grantee partner: Mercy Center and its project, Familia Adelante (NY).

Leadership

Trustees

Bob Donahey, Chair
Laura Bower
Linda France Clifford
David Donahey, Treasurer
Tim O'Neill, Secretary
Brian Sweeney
Mary France Walker
William J. O'Neill, Jr., Emeritus
Leslie Perkul, President & CEO

Committee 1

Cindy O'Neill, Chair
David Donahey
Kevin McShane
Kelly Sweeney McShane
John O'Neill
Maureen O'Neill
Tim O'Neill
Brian Sweeney
Molly Sweeney

Committee 3

Laura Bower, Chair
Linda Clifford
Bob Donahey
Will Donahey
Connie Bowen
George Korzensky
Katy Marcus
Kim Polo
Meg Sweeney
Molly Sweeney

Investment Committee

David Donahey, Chair
Bob Donahey
Tim O'Neill
Will Donahey, Observer

NextGen/Youth Grantmaking Committees

There are no structured committees. Involvement is open to those that are interested.

2Gen/DIG Committee

David Donahey, Chair
Connie Bowen
Laura Bower
Linda Clifford
Bob Donahey
Will Donahey
George J. Korzensky
Kelly McShane
Katy Marcus
Bill O'Neill
Cindy O'Neill
Kathy O'Neill
John O'Neill
Maureen O'Neill
Tim O'Neill
Sara Sullivan
Brian Sweeney
Molly Sweeney

NextGen Advisory Committee

Brian Sweeney, Chair
Sara Sullivan
Maureen O'Neill

Staff

Marlene Corrado, Program Officer, Communications & NextGen Engagement
Marci Lu, Senior Program Officer
Kara McCullough, Grants Manager
Leslie Perkul, President & CEO
Lisytte Stallworth, Office Operations Coordinator

Our Mission: To partner with nonprofits to improve the quality of life for families and communities, in places where O'Neill family members live.

Our Vision: Strong communities where families thrive.

Letter from the Chair



I'm still so proud of our family for all that we accomplished last year.

Participation in the Family Directed Giving Program had never been higher. This year, I'm hoping that we can hit that 100% participation score – I know we can do it!

As we reflect on where we were a year ago, we are reminded that there is tremendous need in our communities.

With the Family Directed Giving Program, your funds can really make a difference – and you don't need to wait until our November 30th deadline.

[Make your Family Directed Gift Today >](#)

Just as the Family Directed Giving Program is an “easy point of entry” and way to engage with the Foundation, we hope that 2021 presents opportunities for deepened Foundation engagement.

Earlier this year, a small committee consisting of myself, Brian Sweeney, and Mary France began working with President & CEO, Leslie Perkul to select the right group of consultants to work with our family and help us navigate conversations around values, grantmaking, and strategy.

I'm excited to share that we will be working with 21/64 – who we've worked with before on other projects (e.g., our ONF family gatherings and NextGen/Youth work).

You'll soon receive a survey that seeks your feedback, and we hope that you all will participate. As we think about how we'll shape the future of ONF, your voice matters.

Strategic Planning is important work, and we want everyone in our family (all generations) to have a seat at the table when making these decisions.

Lastly, for those that are interested, Anne Mosle of Ascend at the Aspen Institute joined our most recent board meeting. You can listen to [Anne's recording](#) and access her latest letter to the 2Gen field on page 7 of this newsletter.

If you have questions, please don't hesitate to contact me, your family representative, or the Foundation's staff.

Bob Donahey, Chair



Letter from the CEO

It's been 10 years since the Foundation engaged the O'Neill family in discussion of the values, mission and vision. **This Spring, we'll embark on a new strategic planning process.**

We want to hear from all of you, across all generations. We hope the process we have developed with our consultants from 21/64 will provide you with multiple opportunities to share your thoughts and ideas.

Our process begins with a discussion on values. Values should underpin everything that we do as a foundation, so we want to know what values you feel should be reflected in the work of the Foundation – not only in grantmaking but also in our operations and governance.

We will begin with a survey coming to you via email in early May. The survey is just the beginning. We will also conduct a sampling of individual interviews and then a series of small, clustered group meetings where you can discuss values with other members of your family.

We will also survey a group of Foundation grantees and stakeholders whom we work with in the communities we serve. This will provide additional information to assist us in affirming or revising our grantmaking strategies.

The time is right for these discussions. As the O'Neill family continues to expand, we are seeing high levels of participation in the Foundation. The world around us has changed, and the field of philanthropy has changed as well. **The strategic planning process will provide a new way to align the best practices in philanthropy with the values of the O'Neill family to make the highest impact with our resources.**

Please join us!

Leslie Perkul, President & CEO

New Mailing Address

In February 2021, staff received notification from the Beauty Shoppe (ONF's co-working office space in Cleveland) that they were permanently shutting down the office at the end of February. Our team moved quickly and identified a new co-working space that is scheduled for completion in May 2021.

In the meantime, here's our new mailing address:

Attn: William J. and Dorothy K. O'Neill Foundation
PO Box 44040
Cleveland, OH 44144



Nonprofit Partners in Development Foundation recently received a \$27,027 grant from ONF for the Piha Me Ka Pono program to provide educational support and resources to enhance their school experience, which has been drastically altered due to the COVID-19 pandemic. (Photo courtesy of Hawaii Today)

Funding Helps Support North Kohala Students and their Families



We first started funding PIDF back in 2018. Since then, it's been implementing a range of programs that support and strengthen our community's most at-risk families – many which have been affected by the highest rates of high school drop-outs, poverty, homelessness, substance abuse, and incarceration.

PIDF's Piha Me Ka Pono project is a local collaboration that brings in resources and supports to address the needs not just for the school but for the whole community. Given this important work, we were all excited to see ONF featured in the local news.

- Linda Clifford

[Read the article featured in West Hawaii Today >](#)



The Rutland County Parent-Child Center is working alongside other VT-based organizations, including BROCC Community Action, the Sunrise Family Resource Center, and the State's Reach Up jobs program, with support from an ONF 2Gen DIG planning/demonstration grant. (Photo courtesy of the VTDigger)

Breaking Down Barriers to Social Services

[An Excerpt] Published in the VTDigger on February 7, 2021

VERMONT – With a \$100,000 grant [from the William J. and Dorothy K. O’Neill Foundation], a team of social workers in southwestern Vermont will soon begin a pilot project that aims to make a complex web of social services more accessible and easier to navigate to the people who need them most.

Representatives from these organizations have participated in a New England-wide initiative, called the Whole Family Approach to Jobs, that explores and attempts to expand 2Gen-centered social work. The goal, according to the organization’s website, is to “improve family well-being while also increasing economic security through employment.”

[Read the full article >](#)

“

It’s great to see that our 2Gen work is gaining the attention of others. You can read more about the \$1.5 million that was recently awarded to the Rutland County Parent-Child Center – one of our 2Gen partners.

- David Donahey

[Check out: Rutland Parent Child Center wins \\$1.5 million to Renovate ‘2Gen’ Center >](#)



Two Generations, One Future – The Right Approach, For the Right Reason

Written by Anne Mosle, Executive Director of Ascend at the Aspen Institute
(ONF's 2Gen grantee partner)

[An Excerpt] Published on The Hill on March 4, 2021

As the Biden Administration and other policy leaders seek our counsel about the best way to build back better for children post-pandemic, let's back what we know works: 2Gen approaches that support children TOGETHER with their parents and caregivers...

To make a difference now, when American families need it most, we don't have to search for what works to strengthen families and put all family members on a path to mobility. We've had 2Gen programs at the local, state, and federal levels proving their efficacy for the last decade. The 2Gen approaches are well informed by those most impacted and rooted in the community.

This approach works and it is also popular with the public and with policymakers. 76 percent of all voters, across both parties, support a 2Gen approach. These numbers have increased by five percentage points in recent years, making it one of a few policy ideas that holds such a high level of bipartisan support.

[Read Anne's Full Letter to the Ascend Network >](#)



Familia Adelante's "Whole Family Approach" provides integrated services and supports for families seeking to improve their economic stability, educational achievement, family functioning, and adult and child well-being. | [Watch Familia Adelante's Video >](#)

An Update from ONF's 2Gen Partners

Mercy Center | Bronx, NY

Familia Adelante is a group of agencies and individuals who work to strengthen New York City families. Mercy Center is the lead agency.

[Watch Familia Adelante's presentation delivered to the 2Gen/DIG Committee on March 9th >](#)

ONF's 2Gen Learning Community

Staff convened the 2Gen Grantee Learning Community over two sessions (March 8 & 12) for cross-project peer sharing. More than 50 leaders representing 30 organizations participated.

On the first day, we were joined by Sarah Haight, Associate Director for Network and Outreach at Ascend at the Aspen Institute. [Listen to Sarah's update >](#)

Anonymous feedback from the convening participants:



I thought [the convening] was very well facilitated and instructions were clear. We were well matched for our peer-to-peer session and had much to discuss!

The advance materials and agenda coupled with your engagement style is refreshing and deeply appreciated.



Another Grantee Featured in the News

[An Excerpt] Published on News 5 Cleveland on March 23, 2021

One year ago, our world changed when Ohio's stay-at-home order took effect.

The way we worked, learned and lived wasn't the same. And, for too many of us, neither was our ability to put food on the table.

Without the support of local food pantries, so many Northeast Ohioans would go hungry. Like the May Dugan Center [one of ONF's past Responsive Grantmaking grantee partners and a current applicant] on Cleveland's west side. It has been a comfort to a record number of people during the pandemic.

May Dugan has the second-largest food distribution in our region, outside of the Greater Cleveland Food Bank's event at the city's Muni lot... The center marks 500,000 meals served since the stay-at-home order took effect in Ohio one year ago. It is a stunning 200% increase from pre-pandemic times.

Rick Kemm, CEO of May Dugan, says they wouldn't be able to sustain this pace without the support of the Greater Cleveland Food Bank. He says May Dugan's food distribution has transformed from what was a one-day event, once a month to now a three-day event, twice a month serving upwards of 800 families every time.

[View the news coverage >](#)



Platform of Hope's Story of Resiliency

Founded in 2017, the Platform of Hope (POH) pilot initiative engages with cohorts of economically-vulnerable families based in the Adams Morgan, Washington, DC neighborhood.

With the support of its strategic alliance partners, POH utilizes a cross-disciplinary approach to address family success that spans affordable housing, asset building, child development, arts, education, health and wellness.

POH recently released their [2019-2020 Annual Report](#) which outlines the loss of their Family Care director, Sylvia Stokes, who passed away from COVID-19 at the beginning of the pandemic. Marci Lu & Cindy O'Neill met Sylvia previously and were extremely impressed with her commitment to families.

According to POH's Vice President, Judy Estey, "it was a very challenging year for our organization and for our families and yet, we are inspired forward with the continued resolve and resilience of our community – including our wonderful philanthropic leaders".

NextGen Call with Peer Funders



In early April, NextGen were joined by a few of Molly McShane's friends from [Resource Generation](#): Susannah Bien-Gund of [The George Gund Foundation](#), Leo Farberman of the [Kolibri Foundation](#), and Hanna Mahon of the [Pink House Foundation](#).

Together, we learned how other young funders are navigating vulnerable, and at times, difficult conversations with their families; how they're applying racial justice lenses to their grantmaking; and how they're partnering with nonprofits and community members.

ICYMI: You can Follow us on Instagram

For those that would like to follow us on social media, ONF has a private Instagram account – @oneill_foundation – intended for O’Neill family members and Foundation staff.

2021 IMPORTANT DATES

April

April 22, 5pm ET

Responsive Grantmaking
Committee 1 Call

April 22, 6pm ET

Responsive Grantmaking
Committee 3 Call

May

May 17, 3pm ET

Investment Committee Meeting

May 25, 4pm ET

2Gen/DIG Committee Meeting

June

June 14, 12:30pm ET

Trustee Meeting

August

August 16, 3pm ET

Investment Committee Meeting

September

September 13, 12:30pm ET

Trustee Meeting



June 7 – 8, 2pm – 5pm ET

Aspen Forum on Children and Families

Ascend's biannual convening, which is being held virtually this year, will bring together leaders from across the country – parents, policymakers, practitioners, researchers, and philanthropists – to share big ideas, innovations, and inspirations for investing in the full potential of children and families, two generations at a time.

[Register now >](#)