

O'Neill Foundation

William J. & Dorothy K.



January 2021

Front Cover Image: Elizabeth and her son, Santiago, who benefit from services provided by ONF's 2Gen/DIG grantee partner: Literacy Partners (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

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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
Lisytt 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 think we all can agree that 2020 was a year like none other. **There were many moments that left us feeling all sorts of emotions. For me, one moment stands out.**

Just before the end of the year, the Trustees met and learned some exceptional news about the Family Directed Giving Program.

- In 2020, our family designated \$416,372. In comparison to 2019, overall giving increased by 12%!
- We also saw an increase in family participation. We even celebrated our family's first 5th Gen gift. Way to go, Penelope! Just like I've said before, Family Directed Giving really is for everyone in our family: cradle to grave.

What's New?

The Trustees also approved a minor change to the Birthday Card Program:

- The Birthday Card Program will now be for kids ages 0-12 (instead of 0-20). For kids 13 – 20, don't worry... You can still participate in the Family Directed Giving Program!

As we already started the New Year and begin to look ahead, please join me in taking a moment to celebrate the fact that 2020 was the year that our family stepped up – Great job, everyone!

Feeling grateful and proud to be doing this work with all of you,

Bob Donahey, Chair

We Want the Process to be Easy for Everyone!

We have a Family Directed Giving form available [HERE](#) and on the family portal, but did you know that submitting the form is just one way to provide the information needed to process your request?

Last year, some family members submitted their Family Directed Giving forms via email. Some submitted through the family portal. Others called, texted, or sent emails (perhaps with a few sentences and no form) to let Kara know how to process their requests.

When it comes to Family Directed Giving, there shouldn't be any barriers. If you would rather text/call or send an email with a spreadsheet that outlines the necessary information (that's outlined in the form) – any way works for us!

If you ever need help, don't hesitate to contact our Grants Manager, Kara McCullough:

Kara's email: kmccullough@oneill-foundation.org

Kara's phone number: 216-831-4134 x 102



Letter from the CEO

We are almost a full year into the pandemic that has seen so many changes affecting every aspect of our daily lives, and philanthropy is no exception. While we don't know what to expect of 2021, we know that the field of philanthropy will continue to respond to its challenges.

We've provided links to two documents (below) that were shared with the Board of Trustees at our December meeting. Both resources outline what is happening in the world of philanthropy in response to the events of 2020.

Like many of our colleague funders, the William J. and Dorothy K. O'Neill Foundation changed some of its long-standing practices. We expedited our Responsive Grantmaking cycles and collaborated with other funders to support COVID-19/rapid response funds, while also staying committed to our strategic (DIG) work with 2Gen/whole-family approaches.

In 2021, we invite you to continue engaging with your family members and the Foundation's staff to make a difference for the families in your communities.

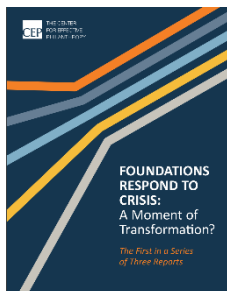
In addition to Family Directed Giving, you can actively participate in the Responsive Grantmaking Program and the DIG Committee. If you are between the ages of 21 – 31, we invite you to be involved with NextGen grantmaking, and for those under 21, there are grantmaking programs for you as well. This is an exciting time to be involved with philanthropy!

Leslie Perkul
President & CEO

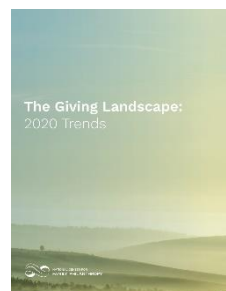
Resources from the Field

The Foundation's staff typically provide resources for the Trustees to read prior to each quarterly board meeting.

Click on the images below to join us in our learnings from December 2020:



The Center for Effective Philanthropy's report – *Foundations Respond to Crisis: A Moment of Transformation?* – examines the extent to which staffed foundations have changed their practices in response to calls for change to meet the unprecedented challenges of 2020.



The National Center for Family Philanthropy's *2020 Giving Landscape* outlines 10 significant trends in donor behavior and contextualizes these trends against a philanthropic sector that has evolved in the wake of COVID, racial injustice, partisan tension, and economic challenges.



Pictured above: A short video from a new documentary featuring ONF's grantee partner, MetroHealth Foundation, and its program, Nurse-Family Partnership.

Trustees Approved Funding for 2Gen/DIG Grantees: \$1,125,000 to be Allocated over 3 years

Just as we saw many of ONF's Responsive Grantmaking partners step up to serve families in 2020, so too did our 2Gen/DIG Grantees. This past quarter, three organizations shared their progress and presented plans for implementation. To view their updates, click below.

- [Enterprise Community Partners, Inc \(NY\) >](#)
- [The Centers for Families and Children \(OH\) >](#)
- [Literacy Partners \(NY\) >](#)

Our 2Gen/DIG Partner Featured in a Documentary

CLEVELAND – Right before Thanksgiving in 2018, a camera crew followed Maria Cody for three days to capture her work with MetroHealth's Nurse-Family Partnership (NFP) program.

Maria, a MetroHealth nurse for more than six years, is featured in a short story following the documentary "[The Antidote](#)," which debuted in October 2020 – and is now streaming on Amazon Prime Video. Through more than a dozen stories, the film aims to drive a national conversation about the roles of kindness, decency, and the power of community in America.

MetroHealth's NFP program, which serves low-income women who are pregnant with their first child, is highlighted. Early in her pregnancy (before the 28th week) the mom-to-be is partnered with a registered nurse who provides them with information on preventive care and connects them with local health and educational resources until the child's second birthday.

[Read MetroHealth's coverage >](#)



NFP offers to new mothers – women who have never had this experience before – a partner to help them through a transition that's the most important one in their lives... These women will impact a whole generation, and we're giving them the tools and support to do that successfully.

– Maria Cody, MetroHealth's Nurse

Trustees Approve over \$1M in Responsive Grants

The Responsive Grantmaking Committees expedited their second cycle in 2020.

[View the list of the approved grants from Cycle 2, 2020 >](#)

Housing Plus Celebrates the Grand Opening of Linwood Park Apartments

NEW YORK – Back in October 2020, Linwood Park Apartments, a new affordable rental building in Brooklyn’s East New York neighborhood, officially opened to residents. The building is one of the first affordable buildings to open in New York City since the onset of the COVID-19 pandemic and is the first affordable building to be completed following the large-scale rezoning of East New York in 2016.

With space to accommodate 30 families, ONF’s grantee partner Housing Plus is helping families get a fresh start. Families are coming from shelters and from Housing Plus’ transitional housing program, which moves women from Rikers Island into supportive housing in the community. In addition to housing, families receive access to education guidance, job preparedness, financial management, mental health support, addiction counseling, and trauma services – all provided on-site.

[Watch the video >](#)

Pictured below: Veteran and tenant Ms. H. and her daughter, new residents at Linwood Park Apartments.



Now on Display at the Museum of the City of NY

In December 2020, the Museum of the City of New York opened an exhibit entitled [New York Responds: The First Six Months](#) which documents the events of 2020 through the eyes of over 100 New Yorkers.

This crowd-sourced exhibition presents artworks selected by a jury of a dozen New Yorkers representing many walks of life. From among tens of thousands of submissions received, few entries were selected – one being from ONF’s grantee partner [Graham Windham](#).

During the pandemic, millions of meals have been distributed to New Yorkers by nonprofits as well as by the government, funded by a combination of public and philanthropic dollars. One of these nonprofits is Graham Windham, which operates youth development and family support programs at 11 community-based sites in Harlem, Brooklyn, and the Bronx, serving close to 5,000 children and their families each year.

“During the spring and summer of 2020, food insecurity was one of the most often cited and most stressful challenges facing the families Graham serves. Consequently, we and our partner organizations moved quickly to make sure that the kids and families in our community could get groceries. Thanks to a partnership with the Food Bank for NYC, and funding from The Price Family Foundation, Columbia University Neighbors Food Relief Fund, the Tiger Foundation as well as individual donors, we were able to facilitate weekly food distributions—even doing some doorstep or curbside delivery for those who were quarantined or in high-risk populations.”

[Explore the Exhibit Online >](#)



Pictured above: Graham Windham’s Family Advocate, Denise Carr, hands a free box of food to a community member at a food distribution event, a joint effort between the FEC and Graham Windham’s Beacon afterschool program in Hunts Point. During this particular event, over 100 families picked up food, which was provided by the Food Bank for NYC.

ONF's COVID-19 Rapid Response Funds

In April 2020, the Trustees approved an immediate, \$1 million COVID-19 response that directed resources to support [the rapid response funds across our communities](#).

[Learn about the resources that have been raised and allocated by the funds >](#)

Occasionally, ONF staff receive formal updates from the funds, such as the Urban Institute report, [Balancing Speed, Equity, and Impact during a Crisis](#), about the Greater Washington Community Foundation's COVID-19 Emergency Response Fund. This report details the scope and impact of the fund, which mobilized \$10 million in critical support for over 200 local nonprofits providing food, shelter, educational supports, legal aid, and other vital services to those facing hardships due to COVID-19.



Supporting Farmers & Feeding Families

BIG ISLAND, HI – The COVID-19 pandemic highlighted the already present challenge of food insecurity facing much of North Kohala's community. With a large number of lay-offs in the resort, restaurant, and retail sectors, many individuals and families found themselves in vulnerable financial situations.

Since April 2020, the Feed Kohala Initiative's food assistance efforts (operated by the [North Kohala Community Resource Center](#)) have been supporting local farmers, ranchers, and value added producers facing a loss in markets.

Feed Kohala's monthly support of the Sacred Heart Food Basket, a local food pantry, has met an increasing need for bread, milk, and fresh produce.

Other families are benefiting from Feed Kohala's Family Food Box program which provides local produce, proteins, and other products. There's even a 20-person waitlist since their current resources only allow for 300 families to participate in the program!



Pictured above: The Greater Cleveland Food Bank, one of the largest hunger-relief organizations in Northeast Ohio serving people in Cuyahoga, Ashtabula, Geauga, Lake, Ashland, and Richland counties.

In the Field: Giving Billions Fast

Back in December, you might have heard about the sizeable donations made by MacKenzie Scott, author, philanthropist and ex-wife of Amazon founder Jeff Bezos.

"This pandemic has been a wrecking ball in the lives of Americans already struggling," Scott wrote in a post on Medium announcing her \$4.2 billion burst of donations. The gifts were made to 384 organizations in all 50 states, Washington, DC, and Puerto Rico – all were unrestricted gifts with no strings attached.

Read Scott's full announcement – [384 Ways to Help](#) >

While some organizations are filling basic needs (e.g., food banks, emergency relief funds, and support services for those most vulnerable), others are addressing long-term systemic inequities that have been deepened by the crisis.

Of the 384 organizations that received funds, five are also known to be ONF grantees. Click below to read an assortment of press releases and news articles.

- **Enterprise Community Partners** (NY): [An Equitable Path Forward: New \\$3.5B Initiative](#) >
- **United Way of Central Maryland** Receives Transformational Gift from MacKenzie Scott >
- **YWCA of Greater Cleveland** and the **Cleveland Food Bank** (OH): [MacKenzie Scott donates to eight Ohio non-profits](#) >
- **Billionaire MacKenzie Scott** gifts **Vermont Foodbank** \$9 million, largest donation in its history >

First of all, kids are just naturally better at technology. Kids will reset the router and the parents will think that they performed some amazing feat.

Have fun

Look at things with an open mind

Accept that people have bad days

Not worrying

Creative things.

Having a good time

Imagine. Laugh. Enjoy. Envision the future.

Work together Listen More Open minded Accept being wrong

Understanding that opportunity is limitless

Kids are more creative and openminded

Being creative and having new ideas

Pictured above: As an icebreaker during their most recent grantmaking call, the Youth and NextGen (under 21) answered the question, "What do kids do better than grown-ups?".

Youth & NextGen Direct \$34K in Grants

A group of youth and NextGen (under 21) convened in late October. Their call started with discussions about what they do better than grown-ups and transitioned into a conversation about how to apply their unique skills when reviewing grant requests.

In December 2020, the Trustees approved funding for the three organizations – [Family Promise of Greater Orlando](#), [Gazelle Foundation](#), and [Project Morry](#) – recommended by the youth and NextGen (under 21).

I like how we worked together and voted on organizations that we all liked.

— Anonymous NextGen Participant

NextGen Begin Planning for 2021



Just before the end of the year, nine NextGen (ages: 21 – 30) hopped on a call to reconnect and begin planning for 2021.

For those that would like to review the 2020 EOY NextGen survey responses or watch the December NextGen meeting video replay, please contact Marlene Corrado.

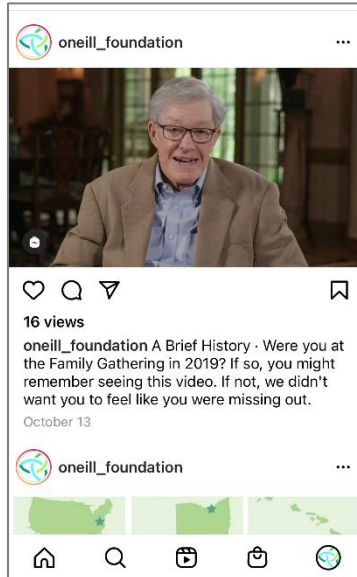
Follow us on Instagram!

Scan this QR code with your phone.



ONEILL.FOUNDATION

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



2021 IMPORTANT DATES

February

February 22 | Investment Committee Meeting

March

March 22 | Quarterly Trustee Meeting

May

May 17 | Investment Committee Meeting

June

June 14 | Quarterly Trustee Meeting