

WILLIAM J. AND DOROTHY K.



FOUNDATION IN FOCUS OCTOBER 2018



It is the mission of the Foundation to partner with nonprofits to improve the quality of life for families and communities, in places where O'Neill family members live.

[Front Cover Images]

2018 NextGen Convening Attendees: Top row from left to right: Mary France, Molly McShane, Megan Donahey, AJ Clifford, Michael McShane, Maureen O'Neill, Shane O'Neill, Alissa Bowen, and Peter Casazza; Bottom row from left to right: Grace France and Memuna McShane

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Race & Place Matter



By Kelly Sweeney McShane and Molly McShane

Over the past few years, both of us have come to understand that Race and Place matter very strongly in determining a person's future. For example, according to the CDC, black mothers in the U.S. die at three to four times the rate of white mothers – regardless of their income. A recent example is Serena Williams, one of the world's top athletes with access to the best medical care, who almost died in childbirth. **In Washington, DC, families who live in the southeast portion of the city have much higher rates of poverty and a higher likelihood of dying early from various diseases. Why is that?**

We were pleased to participate in a training on September 16 for Board members and interested family members provided by Susan Taylor Batten from the [Association of Black Foundation Executives](#) (ABFE) to help get some answers to that question. Philanthropists and service providers are starting to dig deeper into why ongoing social services are not closing the gaps in racial disparities and social determinants of health and well-being. **What people are finding is that there are huge inequities based on race that arise from historically developed racist structures, policies, and sometimes, individual attitudes.**

One striking example that we learned about on September 16 was the impact of the GI Bill after World War II, where white veterans were subsidized to buy their own homes, but black veterans were not. As a result, white families developed equity in their homes and were able to start building wealth in their communities, while people of color remained as renters in segregated neighborhoods. There have been persistent examples of discrimination and exploitation of people of color from the time of American slavery to today in schools, the workplace, housing, and healthcare which have led the US to where we are today.

So, what do we do about it? First, we – as funders, partners, and people who have benefitted from these policies – are working to educate ourselves, including looking at data to see how people of color have disparate outcomes from white people. Secondly, funders and service providers are starting to use a racial equity lens to better understand our work. Mobilizing our racial equity education allows us to have a fuller context for what people's needs are and why, as well as the historical trauma that might inform decision-making. Finally, **we will look at ways as a foundation to better address structural racism as a root cause of poverty. This may include assessing the number of people of color in leadership positions in organizations we fund and if they also share a racial equity lens in their work.**

Interested in learning more? Kelly really enjoyed the novels [Small Great Things](#) by Jodi Picoult and [All American Boys](#) by Jason Reynolds. Molly would recommend [Killing the Black Body](#) by Dorothy Roberts (on race and reproduction) and [The New Jim Crow](#) by Michelle Alexander (on mass incarceration), both of which offer an analysis of the effect of racist policies in the US over the course of its history.

If you are interested in learning more about racial equity, feel free to contact Kelly at ks_mcshane@hotmail.com, Molly at mollymcshane80@gmail.com or an ONF staff member. Please join us as we continue on this learning journey.

Letter from the CEO



As you will read in this newsletter, the Trustees approved the first five grants for our new deep impact grantmaking strategy using a 2Gen approach to serving families. Before we embarked on this new strategy, in 2016 we made the first of the Deep Impact Grants (known as R-DIGs). One of these early grants was made to [Enterprise Community Partners](#) (Enterprise) in Cleveland who received a \$330,000, 3-year grant **to lead the collaborative efforts to increase housing stability and income for homeless families.**

During the September Trustees meeting, Enterprise and its many partners including the [Cuyahoga County Department of Human Services](#) Director joined us to provide an update of this work. After two years of funding, much progress has been made not only for the individuals and families who benefitted from direct services and housing supports but for the larger systems that serve families. Trustees learned how a systems change approach completely transformed the way homeless families are prioritized for service by the larger public systems.

With our newly approved DIGs, our hope is that our partners will achieve similar successes having a positive impact on outcomes for 2 (or more) generations of family.

Here is just one story we learned about that was a direct result of our grant:

Front Line's Client Story:

Partnership with a dedicated case manager at Cuyahoga Jobs & Family Services

Kimberly is a 28-year-old African-American, female, single mother of three young children, who has been a victim of domestic violence. In 2016, when she decided to leave her abusive partner, she found herself with nowhere to go and entered the homeless system. Kimberly and her children stayed in a domestic violence shelter before transitioning to a family shelter where she received assistance in obtaining a permanent housing voucher through [EDEN](#).

Kimberly received food stamps, cash assistance, and medical insurance through [Cuyahoga Job and Family Services](#) (JFS). She often missed follow up appointments with JFS because she did not have a stable address or a working phone via which she would have been notified of the appointments (prior to receiving the EDEN voucher). She also struggled with daily tasks and responsibilities due to ongoing mental health problems and past trauma from the domestic violence. Unfortunately, this led to her being sanctioned by JFS multiple times. JFS sanctions are penalties for noncompliance that result in the loss of benefits for periods of time that increase as sanctions accumulate.

By 2018, Kimberly was on her fourth sanction and she and her children had been uninsured for months. She often struggled to make contact with someone at JFS to determine what was needed in order to have her benefits reinstated. Kimberly had mostly been concerned about the loss of the medical coverage for her three young children.

Once the concerns were discovered, Kimberly's therapist from [FrontLine Service](#) reached out to the JFS liaison assigned to the homeless families, to inquire about what steps were needed to reinstate her benefits. The liaison promptly responded, indicating that she was able to get medical benefits reinstated immediately for the children. In addition, the liaison

sent two documents for Kimberly to complete and explained what she was required to do for her remaining benefits to be reinstated. Within the next couple of weeks, Kimberly completed a certain number of training hours that were required in order to have the sanction officially removed.

At this time, Kimberly and her children have medical coverage, and the benefits are fully reinstated, allowing her to better meet the needs of herself and her children as she continues to work towards becoming more self-sufficient and a successful single mother.

We hope to share more grantee stories with you as we continue to explore the impact of our 2Gen work.

Happy Fall!



Leslie Perkul, President & CEO

Trustees Approve \$1,101,065 in Deep Impact Grants

While not necessarily a new concept, 2Gen approaches today are deliberately combining services in new ways to support both child development and parental economic security. Coordinating and aligning services, however, is difficult work, and not something most nonprofits can implement without flexible foundation support.

It typically requires substantial investments to modernize information technology, operations, personnel, and quality improvement skills, including time to bring partners together to build relationships and create shared protocols and vehicles for data sharing. In addition, nonprofit funding streams have not incentivized such integrated services, but that is starting to change.

This is where the William J. and Dorothy K. O'Neill Foundation can play a role, along with other funders, in helping to demonstrate the promise of multi-generational programming and contributing to the knowledge base about what works. Our intention is to meet and support organizations where they are along the 2Gen continuum and, over time, help get them to 2Gen accountability, which is when systems are aligned to track outcomes for the entire family.

To learn more about the Deep Impact Grantmaking Program, contact Marci Lu, Senior Program Officer.

APPROVED PLANNING & DEMONSTRATION GRANTS



APPROVED IMPLEMENTATION GRANTS





In early October, George Korzensky (pictured above wearing sunglasses) participated in an orchard planting event at Kohala High School among The Fruit Tree Planting Foundation's staff and local leadership in Puna, Hawaii.

How a \$5K Grant can Yield Big Rewards

In 2017, a grant was made to The Fruit Tree Planting Foundation (TFPF) to support their "Fruit Tree 101" program that strategically donates orchards to places such as city parks, community gardens, public schools, and elsewhere – where the harvest will provide families with healthy food and a clean environment for generations to come.

Through TFPF's program, students, teachers, and families joined on Tuesday (10/2) to plant tropical fruit trees at Kohala High School. Varieties planted in Kohala ranged from citrus to avocado, breadfruit, starfruit, jaboticaba and mountain apple – and reflect the wants/needs of families as well as the knowledge of what will produce best for the region.

At events such as these, participants also discuss the importance of the trees for individual, community, and planetary health.

[TFTP & ONF IN THE NEWS >](#)

What's Next for the Logo?

WILLIAM J. AND DOROTHY K.



All family members are invited to participate in the Foundation's logo redesign process. Email mcorrado@oneill-foundation.org to request more information.



Youth Direct \$22,343 in Grants

The Foundation's Trustees met in September and approved the youth recommendations. The following organizations received funding:



Cleveland Botanical Garden

The Cleveland Botanical Gardens brings inspiration and enrichment to the community through its fabulous gardens, an exotic Glasshouse and enchanting events. Its Hershey Children's Garden offers a mix of mini ecological areas for guests of all ages to explore, learn and find adventure.



Cleveland Museum of Natural History

The Museum created a special event called Sensory Friendly Day so the whole family with a child with Autism Spectrum Disorder can have fun learning together about nature and how to keep people, plants, animals, and our planet healthy.

NextGen Voices

[Foundation Center Midwest](#) was able to catch up with Michael McShane and Shane O'Neill between their busy college schedules to get their insights on philanthropy and community.

Let's start at the beginning. How old are you? How did you get involved with your family's foundation?



[Michael] I am 21, but have been involved since I was an early teen. I remember hearing about it after my mom did her foundation phone calls and at our family reunions.



[Shane] I am 21 years old. I became involved with the foundation when I was 9 years old when my cousins and I were first instructed with making a tough decision: what do we fund at the Cleveland Zoo with \$500?

What advice do you have for adults in power?

[Michael] Learn to accept the opinions and values of younger generations. If a generation is enthusiastic and willing to help change societal flaws, stay open.

[Shane] Listen to others and be more open-minded. Just because someone is in a position of power does not always mean that their decisions are the right ones.

[READ THE FULL ARTICLE >](#)



NextGen Convening

The 2018 NextGen Convening provided an opportunity for NextGen family members to focus on the work of the Foundation while building connections among one another. The weekend (August 17 – 19) was filled with activities including facilitated exercises, a historical walking tour, unstructured time, and an intimate conversation with Board Chair Kelly Sweeney McShane.

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It was great to reconnect with my cousins and see that they all are genuinely interested in working together to keep ONF going.

Anonymous

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I love connecting with my cousins and showing them that we all can work together to make a difference (even if our interests vary).

Anonymous

2018 IMPORTANT DATES

NOVEMBER 30 | Family Directed Deadline

It's time to begin thinking about your family-directed gifts for 2018! In an effort to simplify the process and help us (and you) keep better track of your gifts, please submit your requests to Kara McCullough, Grants Manager at kmccullough@oneill-foundation.org.

[DOWNLOAD THE FORM >](#)

DECEMBER 10 | Trustee Meeting

2018 | Youth Birthdays

Due to the ONF's staff transitions, youth birthday cards will be sent electronically in the coming weeks. Please turn in your designation before the end of the year so that we can expedite the processing of your request.