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O'Neill Foundation

William J. & Dorothy K.



Foundation in Focus
October 2019

Leadership

Trustees

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

Committee 1

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

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/Deep Impact Grantmaking Committee

Connie Bowen
Laura Bower
Linda Clifford
Bob Donahey
David 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
Molly Sweeney

Foundation Staff

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

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 President & CEO



In this ONF family newsletter, we've highlighted some of the changes that the Trustees approved for our Responsive Grantmaking program in 2020.

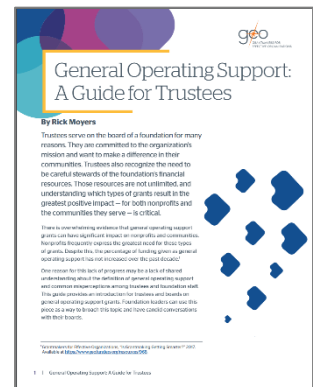
One of the most significant changes to our Responsive Grantmaking program is a shift towards general operating (GenOp) grants. For our grantee partners, this means that we no longer will require them to restrictively use ONF grant funds for program or capacity building costs. With GenOp support, they can apply funding to the items they need most (e.g., operating costs for the organization, technology, finance, talent, communications, etc.).

Our grantee partners can still allocate funding towards a specific program or capacity building need, but we will no longer ask applicants for a budget report (as part of their end-of-term grant report) that details how funds were spent. Instead, we might ask grantee partners to submit their year-end operating budget.

What does this mean for us, in terms of how we evaluate the responsive grant requests? We can focus our site visit questions on understanding how organizations plan to serve the families in ONF's communities, instead of focusing on what our grant funds are "buying". By providing GenOp support, ONF is stating that we have confidence in the grantee partner's expertise and ability to carry out work that aligns with ONF's mission.

As outlined in an article published by Grantmakers for Effective Organizations, "few organizations have sufficient working capital or operating reserves to weather a sudden shift in government funding (or even a delayed payment), to take advantage of unanticipated opportunities, or to respond to changes in the environment or community needs. General operating support offers nonprofits greater flexibility in addressing such challenges. This increases the likelihood that nonprofits can be strong partners in achieving the impact sought by grantmakers and other stakeholders."

Read more in GEO's article, [General Operating Support: A Guide for Trustees](#) >



Our shift to GenOp support will also likely result in a decline of grant extension requests and improve ONF efficiencies associated with our grant close-out process.

ONF's decision complements shifts that are taking place in the field.

In an unusual move, five of America's wealthiest foundations recently joined forces to do more to help grantees pay for rent, decent wages, technology, and other overhead.

Read more in The Chronicle of Philanthropy's article, [Five CEOs of Wealthy Foundations Pledge to Do More to Help Charities Pay Overhead](#) >



There will be more to come! ONF staff will host a grantseeker webinar in early 2020 to explain the new changes to the Responsive Grantmaking program.

As always, if you have any questions, thoughts, or ideas, please do not hesitate to reach out to me or any member of our team.

Happy Fall!



Leslie Perkul
President & CEO

An Update: Family Directed Giving

Thank you to those who have allocated funds this year! We're steadily making progress towards our goal of 100% family participation.

If you haven't already directed your gift(s), please download the form and email it to Kara OR submit an e-form online from within the ONF's family portal.

[DOWNLOAD THE FORM](#)

New Responsive Grant Guidelines

After reviewing recommendations from the Responsive Grantmaking Committees, the Foundation's Trustees approved the following changes to the 2020 Responsive Grantmaking program.

The Committees also agreed to revisit the guidelines on an annual basis.

Eligibility Requirement	<p>Applicants must be either a tax-exempt 501(c)(3) organization or sponsored by an eligible fiscal agent.</p> <p>Past ONF grantees will be eligible to reapply once both: 1) a final report is submitted; AND 2) the previous grant term is closed.</p>
Geography Eligibility (NEW FOR 2020)	<p>MD, OH, DC, & NY: ONF will only accept proposals from past grantees* in Anne Arundel County and Baltimore City, MD; Cuyahoga County, OH; DC; and New York City, NY.</p> <p><i>To ensure that ONF has the flexibility to respond to a promising organization or a timely community need, family members may coordinate with staff to recommend that the Foundation invite a new organization to submit a proposal that meets ONF funding priorities.</i></p> <p>HI, TX, FL, & VT: ONF will accept proposals from new applicants and past grantees* in the Big Island, HI; Houston; TX; Greater Orlando, FL; and VT.</p> <p><i>*A past grantee is defined as an organization that has received a Responsive grant dating back to 2013, the year the Foundation shifted its funding priority to strengthening families.</i></p>
Grant Focus	<p>Family-Focused: Applicants must serve families, with preference given to applications with whole-family approaches.</p>
Grant Focus Area	<p>Health & Well-Being, Educational Success, and Homelessness</p>
Types of Grants (NEW FOR 2020)	<p>General Operating</p>
Grant Size (NEW FOR 2020)	<p>Organizations may request no more than 10% of their total operating budget (up to \$50,000)</p>
Grant Term	<p>One year</p>

Introducing Our Newest 2Gen Grantee Partners

In September 2019, the Foundation's Trustees approved the following 2Gen/DIG grants:

- \$100,000 to Towards Employment for a fifteen-month planning/demonstration grant to support the *2Gen Family Bridge to Workforce Services* project
- \$375,000 to Sisters of Charity Foundation of Cleveland/Cleveland Central Promise Neighborhood for a three-year implementation grant to support *Family Partners*.
- \$375,000 to United Way of Central Maryland for a three-year implementation grant to support the *North County 2Gen Initiative*, a family-centered approach to address multigenerational family poverty in North Anne Arundel County
- \$100,000 to Literacy Partners for a one-year planning/demonstration grant to support *English for Parents Classes Embedded in a Family Health Center in Sunset Park, Brooklyn*

[Download the Full List of 2Gen/DIG Grantee Partners & Projects >](#)

A Bold Vision: Strengthening Children's Primary Care Across the State of NY

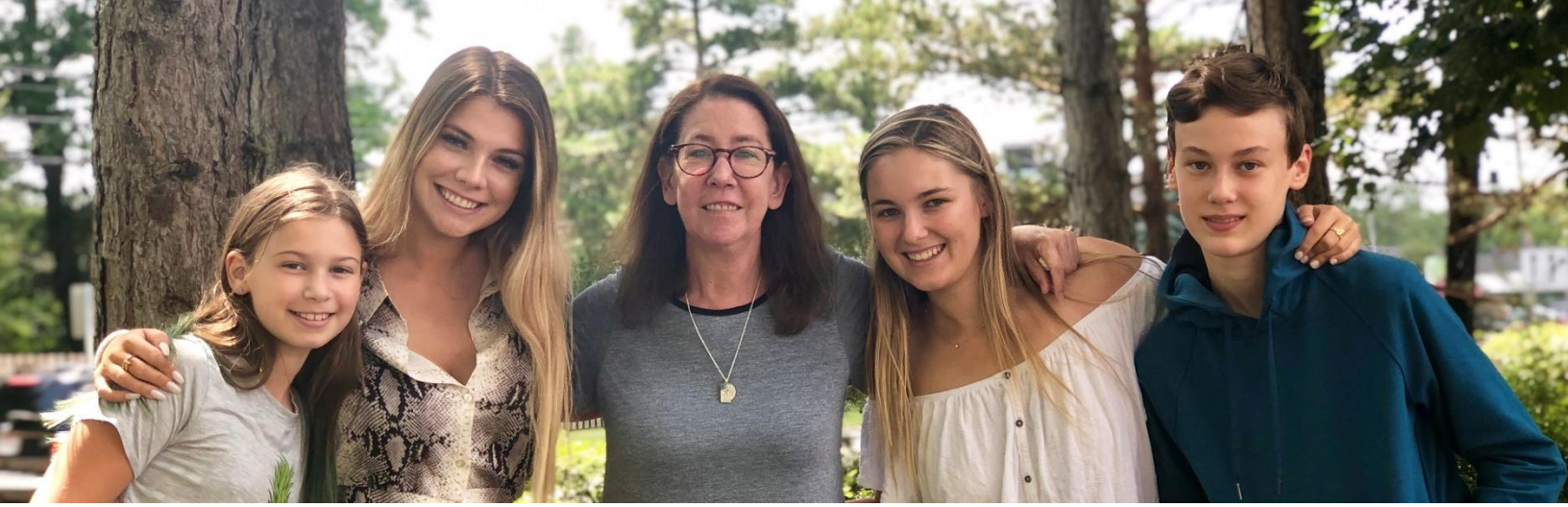


Our 2Gen/DIG grantee partner, United Hospital Fund (UHF), has been partnering closely with the New York State Department of Health (NYSDOH) in leading both the advisory group and First 1,000 Days on Medicaid initiative.

In October, NYSDOH released a report that envisions a two-generational pediatric healthcare model that incorporates behavioral health, addresses social determinants of health, and promotes health equity among all children and families. As far as we know, this is the most explicit reference to 2Gen care by a Medicaid program to date.

As part of their ONF grant, UHF's work is contributing to the long-term, collaborative success of developing policy and payment mechanisms that will support evidence-based 2Gen approaches.

[Read the Full Report >](#)



[Pictured above: Maeve Bower, Anna Sullivan, Allison O’Neill, Bess Sullivan, and Hugh Bower (Cleveland, OH)]

Youth Direct 60K in Grants

This year, 4 youth participated in the Youth Grantmaking Program and recommended Plan – an OH-based organization that supports adults affected by mental illnesses, cognitive disabilities, and autism – in memory of Al O’Neill.

Al had been a close Plan supporter, having interned between 2008-2010; assisted with the Family Advocacy, Cognitive Enhancement Therapy, and Holistic Recovery programs; and even ran some of Plan’s counseling programs.

The Foundation’s Trustees approved the recommendations in September 2019.



I’m so pleased that the Foundation approved this request! Plan meant a lot to Alec in many ways. I was so touched when Laura Bower called me and said, "The kids want to donate ONF funds to a mental health organization in Al’s memory."

I think that George’s testimonial [at the site visit] was an eye opener for the kids, especially Hugh and Maeve. I think he showed them that admitting you suffer from a chronic mental illness is nothing to be ashamed of... and with the right help and treatment, you can manage.

With Plan’s holistic therapy programs, clients can "get out of their own head" and concentrate on something else.

The creative writing class was another experience for the "kids". The given topic of the day was music. To see this random group of people – of all ages and genders, seemingly normal but knowing they suffered from mental illness – write about their experiences and memories of music so eloquently was wonderful to hear as they each eagerly volunteered to read their essay out loud to a group of strangers.

Alec always encouraged alternative therapy, which is why the generous funding for the reinstatement of Plan’s Music Therapy program in his memory is greatly appreciated.

-- Allison O’Neill

In Case You Missed It...



A Conversation with Cindy O'Neill [37:48 minutes]

In this audio clip, Cindy O'Neill answers questions from NextGen and ONF staff and shares lessons learned from the Foundation, Responsive Grantmaking Program, and the nonprofit sector.

[Listen to the Audio Clip >](#)

Want to Learn More about Family Philanthropy?

NOVEMBER

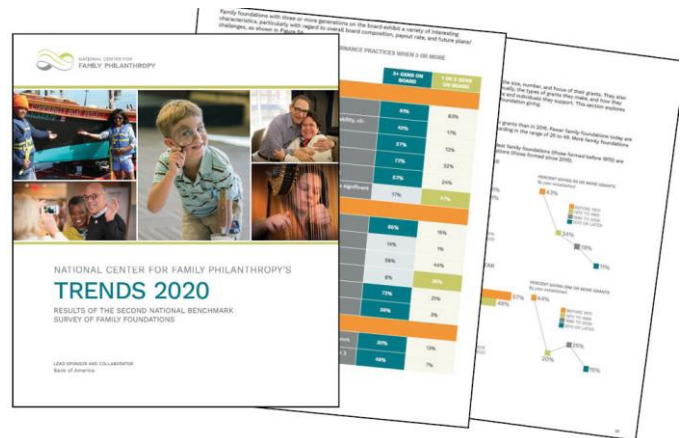
November 14 | NCFP Webinar @ 12:30 pm – 1:30 pm ET

This webinar, *Research Findings from NCFP's Second Family Philanthropy Study*, will share the results of research findings from the National Center for Family Philanthropy's Trends in Family Philanthropy study.

While it's important to remember that every family foundation is different and that the data presented will be reflective of NCFP's surveyed population, all family members are welcome and encouraged to learn about the trends affecting our field.

Contact Marlene if you'd like to be registered for the webinar.

[Download the Report >](#)



IMPORTANT DATES

NOVEMBER

November 11 | Investment Committee Call @ 3:00 pm – 5:00 pm ET

November 18 | 2Gen/DIG Committee Call @ 4:00 – 6:00 pm ET

November 21 | Responsive Grantmaking, (Cmte 3) Call @ 5pm ET

November 25 | Responsive Grantmaking, (Cmte 1) Call @ 6pm ET

DECEMBER

December 9 | Trustee Meeting* @ 12:30 pm ET

**This meeting will be open to all family members and will feature a brief 15 – 20 minute presentation by our 2Gen thought partner, Ascend's Anne Mosle.*