ROLE of FOUNDATIONS

FUNDING PROGRAMS FOR MITIGATION OF CLIMATE CHANGE

SOFT AND HARD INFRASTRUCTURE
2 Examples of Strong Partnerships:
- Robert Wood Johnson Foundation
- Kresge Foundation

Roles & Challenges in Foundation Granting

Problems to Solve and Barriers to Lift

What can Foundations Fund and Provide?

Is there a role for COGS?

What Role for the State?

Thank You!
MISSION: Helping Everyone in America to have Equal Opportunity to Pursue Healthier Life

- $11B Assets – Granting $500M/yr
- Focus on Health Equity: largest in US
- Healthy Communities
- Change Local Conditions
- Address Social Determinants of Health
- “Good health begins in places where we live, learn, work and play”

Therefore:

Promote and Support Access to Good Jobs with Fair Pay and Benefits
St. VINCENT de PAUL of Lane County, OR

- 84,000 clients
- $51M Revenues: $25M from Social Impact Ventures
- Wide ranging programs: Housing, Services for Homeless, Emergency Services
- Focus on Creation of Social Impact Ventures: Triple Bottom Line
- Recycling Programs: diverted in 2018: 44.1 million pounds of materials were diverted from landfills.
- Retail Thrift Stores: 15 retail stores with donation centers and a donation car lot generate revenue for charitable programs.
- Self-Sufficiency Services: helps about 1,100 people with job training and placement each year.
The Cascade Alliance helps nonprofits turn discarded items into a stable revenue stream and source of quality jobs for people with barriers.
KRESGE FOUNDATION

Mission: Dedicated to helping cities implement comprehensive climate resilience approaches grounded in equity

- $3.6B Endowment; $294M annual grants & investments
- Environmental Focus Areas: Building Capacity & Commitment; Strengthening Evidence Base & Developing Tools; Transforming Key Urban Systems like Energy, Water
- Initiatives:
  - Climate Change: Health & Equity
  - Climate Resilience and Urban Opportunity
  - Climate Resiliency & Equitable Water
Funding Infrastructure: Patchwork & Leverage

Climate Resilience & Equitable Water Systems

**SOUTHEAST MICHIGAN RESILIENCE FUND**
2019-2020 grant awards

- **GREEN STORMWATER INFRASTRUCTURE:**
  - awarded $462,257
  - match $344,584

- **HABITAT RESTORATION:**
  - awarded $991,900
  - match $1,502,321

**TOTAL IMPACT:**
- awarded $1,454,157
- match $1,846,905
- \[= \$3,301,062\]
PARTNERSHIP OBJECTIVES

- Kresge Foundation: $250,000
- Add 1.35 million gallons of stormwater storage
- Restore and enhance 100 acres of wildlife habitat
- Plant 380 trees for increased stormwater storage and habitat
- Help restore the quality and connectivity of the region’s unique habitats
- Improve quality of life for residents by increasing public access to natural areas and parks for communities through 6 new access points
- Reach more than 22,000 people through direct engagement or education
In 2019 dedicated $29M to prioritizing work led by advocates and organizers in urban communities facing disproportionate environmental burdens.

Grants range from $15K for a punctual program in an inner city to multi-year programs of $100K, 500K and $1M.

Strong, Durable Partnerships, collaboratives and support of local foundations and organizations.

Example: Urban Sustainability Director’s Network, Port Washington, WI

$1M over 2 years

Alliance of 22 cities collaborating on innovations to aid transitions from fossil fuels to clean energy while increasing social equity & enhance preparedness.

To incentivize and support innovation of and accelerate adoption of High Impact Sustainability Practices.
Roles & Challenges

SCOPE: What Do We Need at State, Regional, Municipal & Community Levels?

- State: Finance Major Infrastructure Projects & intervene in assisting creation and realization of projects across the state
- Regional: Develop & Finance Projects that Affect Group of Municipalities
- Municipalities: Finance Projects that Impact Local Life, coordinate with neighboring municipalities
- Communities: Ensure well-being of neighborhood through projects that prepare for and prevent effects of climate change
Problems to Solve & Barriers to Lift at Municipal Level

- Qualifications for funding
- Capacity
- Changing Technology
- Competition
- Narrowness of Granting Scope
- Changing Priorities: Flavor of the Month
- Funding limitations and restrictions
- Funding shortfalls
Problems to Solve & Barriers to Lift: Solutions

- Recognize Fluidity & Change – Define problems, stakeholders & remedies
  - Coordination across entities, administrations & organizations

- Look for Unique Ways to Meet Program Goals
  - Perpetuity, Sustainability, Working Together
  - Continuity
  - Handling Complexity

- Broaden Focus

- Identify Room for Program/Project Growth

- Form Collaborations:
  - Geographical
  - Subject Matter

- Identify Today’s Need?
  - Deliver on your mission/program in different ways
WHAT CAN FOUNDATIONS FUND & PROVIDE?

- Active Partnership in Long-Term Program Goals
- Guidance on Best Practices and State of Innovation in Programming
- Specific Project Financing: Attention to Scope and Fit
- Financing for Program Design, Plans, Consultants
- Financing Technical Assistance & Training
- Matching Funds to Leverage Federal Funding
- Funding “Sustainable CT” Tasks: Assessments, Outreach, Reports
IS THERE A ROLE FOR COGS?

- Can assist in development of programs & projects & solicit funds on behalf of municipalities
- Manage projects that cross municipal boundaries
- Have direct access to Mayors and First Selectmen important to decision-making on cross-jurisdictional projects
- Well situated to administer and manage complex (patchwork) funding
- Technical Assistance in Grant Selection, Writing, Administration
- Platform for Pass-through funding
WHAT ROLE FOR THE STATE?

- Identify and Define Projects and Programs
- Identify Funding Objectives
- Aggregate funding from foundation and federal sources
- Redirect funds to COGS, municipalities, communities and organizations
THANK YOU

Susmith Attota, Town Planner
Town of Stratford
2725 Main Street
Stratford, CT 06615
(203) 385-4017
sattota@townofstratford.com

Rina Bakalar, Dir. Economic & Community Development
Town of Trumbull
5866 Main St. Trumbull, CT 06611
(203)452-5043
rbakalar@trumbull-ct.gov

Matt Fulda, Executive Director
CT Metropolitan Council of Governments
1000 Lafayette Blvd. Suite 925
Bridgeport, CT 06604
(203) 366-5405 x28
mfulda@ctmetro.org

Town of Trumbull, Sustainable CT Committee