# **Philanthropy Network Greater Philadelphia** 2017-2020 Strategic Direction

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Greater Philadelphia occupies a unique place in American history—a place with a heritage that calls us to a future bigger than any one entity can create alone.

While our region enjoys an abundance of assets, we are also confronted by a variety of complex challenges, and philanthropies committed to the vitality and prosperity of this remarkable region have an especially important role to play in navigating them.

Greater Philadelphia's philanthropic sector is compelled to help our region achieve its great promise. Now, more than ever, we must activate our connections, resources, and expertise to break down silos, bring the right people to the table, explore ways to expand what's working, and learn from what's not.

Elevating Greater Philadelphia to the peak of its potential requires the input of all the region's stakeholders, the contributions of all of its champions, and the mobilization of assets. It also demands the voice and courage of regional philanthropic leadership–leadership that is agile, open, and equitable–that

Philanthropy Network Greater Philadelphia and its members are uniquely positioned to provide.

### THE EVOLUTION OF SPARKING SOLUTIONS

In 2013 Philanthropy Network launched Sparking Solutions, a strategy that promoted a simple yet powerful idea: Funders must work together and across sectors to address the critical challenges facing our region.

As Sparking Solutions' ethos of collaboration took hold among our members, a desire to advance its approach to the next level emerged. Our 2016-17 strategic visioning effort revealed that our members want Philanthropy Network to take an even bolder leadership role in tackling the region's complex issues and forging partnerships beyond philanthropy that can drive real change.

# STRATEGIC DIRECTION

We envision a more prosperous and equitable future for Greater Philadelphia, championed by a philanthropic community renowned for its investments, impact, and leadership in sparking solutions to the region's challenges.

To achieve this vision, Philanthropy Network connects, convenes, and leads the region's funders to serve as a catalyst for positive action, innovation, and effective giving in the Greater Philadelphia region. Together, we can advance Greater Philadelphia's legacy as a hub for invention and innovation. Infused by a deep commitment to diversity, equity and inclusion, Philanthropy Network will:

## EMBRACE A STRONG LEADERSHIP VOICE

Engage in thought leadership that not only addresses funders, but civic leaders, nonprofits, government, and others to challenge the region forward toward sustainable change.

# ELEVATE THE ROLE OF PHILANTHROPY

Position and elevate philanthropy's role in cross-sector leadership to influence the design, implementation, and scaling of promising regional initiatives.

## RETHINK REGIONAL PHILANTHROPY

Work with members to incubate bold new ideas and approaches to social impact that reflect the true breadth and dynamism of the charitable giving sector to strengthen our region.

#### GROW A CULTURE OF INCLUSION

Advance a culture of inclusion that informs our work and empowers our members to dismantle systemic injustice.

# PRESENT HIGH-QUALITY LEARNING AND ENGAGEMENT OPPORTUNITIES

Deliver relevant, high-quality learning and engagement opportunities that inform and empower more effective grantmaking.

# ADVANCE CAPACITY FOR DATA INFORMED DECISIONS

Build the regional philanthropic sector's capacity to embrace efficient, data-driven decision-making.

In today's unpredictable landscape, Greater Philadelphia needs a strong philanthropic sector more than ever. Philanthropy Network stands at a crossroads, poised to redefine our role in the region as we embrace a new vision.

# WE INVITE YOU TO JOIN US

# ABOUT PHILANTHROPY NETWORK

Philanthropy Network Greater Philadelphia is the region's association for organizations and individuals who want to achieve greater impact with their philanthropic investments. With nearly 150 members located in Greater Philadelphia and beyond who reflect the dynamism and diversity of philanthropy, we connect and convene funders together and with civic, government and community leaders to spark solutions that help foster a more prosperous, innovative and equitable region. We proudly champion philanthropy as a force for creating meaningful community change and strive to help members succeed in the pursuit of smarter giving for greater good.



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