

KEYSTONE POLICY SERIES

How They Do It: Pennsylvania Funders on Engaging the Public Sector

Offered by Grantmakers of Western PA and Philanthropy Network Greater Philadelphia

EDUCATION ADVOCACY

Tuesday, January 31, 2017

2:00 – 3:00 PM

Speakers:

[Joan Benso](#), Executive Director, PA Partnerships for Children

[Kristen Burns](#), Associate Director, Grable Foundation

[Michelle Figlar](#), Vice President of Learning, The Heinz Endowments

[Melinda Fine](#), Director of Philanthropy & Strategic Partnerships, TCC Group

[Barbara Sieck Taylor](#), Executive Director, Grantmakers of Western Pennsylvania (Moderator)

[Stan Thompson](#), Education Program Director, The Heinz Endowments

[Elliot Weinbaum](#), Great Learning Program Director, William Penn Foundation

Meeting Agenda:

2:00 – 2:05 PM	Welcome and Introductions: Moderator, Barbara Sieck Taylor
2:05 – 2:20 PM	Background information: The why and the how Melinda Fine and Joan Benso
2:20 – 2:50 PM	Discussion with funders engaged in education advocacy efforts Elliot Weinbaum, Michelle Figlar, Stan Thompson, and Kristen Burns
2:50 – 3:00 PM	Q & A - see instructions below
3:00 PM	Meeting Concludes

To Participate in the Q & A

All lines, except for those speaking, will be on mute for this meeting in order to prevent interruptions from ambient noise.

During the Q & A session, please click “raise your hand” on the lower left of your screen, the moderator will identify names of those hands raised. When your name is called, please unmute your line by pressing *7. After asking your question, please press *6 to re-mute your line.

If you prefer to type your question, you can do so at any time by typing in the “chat with presenter” box in the lower left-hand side of your screen. Your question will be queued and presented by the moderator during the Q & A session.

Reminder: This meeting is being recorded. The recording will be available as a resource only to members of Philanthropy Network Greater Philadelphia and Grantmakers of Western PA on our websites following the call.

About the Education Advocacy Efforts:

(Please click the links for further information.)

[Pre-K for PA](#), an initiative of Early Learning PA established in 2014 with the goal of making pre-k a priority issue in the gubernatorial and legislative elections and advocating increased access to high-quality pre-k for all Pennsylvania's 3- and 4-year olds.

[The Campaign for Fair Education Funding](#), a non-partisan coalition of 50+ statewide organizations whose mission is to ensure that Pennsylvania adopts and maintains an adequate and equitable system of funding public education. Funders will hear about the implications of House Bill 1552, signed by Governor Wolf in June 2016, which establishes a funding formula and provides emergency funds for two of the commonwealth's financially distressed school districts, as well as his call for new funding to help restore equity to Pennsylvania public school districts.

[The Pennsylvania Early Learning Investment Commission](#) (ELIC), which was created in September 2008 through Executive Order. Funders will hear about how the Commission works to secure public investment in early learning by focusing on practices that are educationally, economically, and scientifically sound by increasing business, civic, and public awareness of the importance of early childhood education.

Important Definitions:

As TCC outlines in *Effective Strategies to Support Advocacy Campaigns*:

Advocacy: As broadly defined here, a set of activities potentially encompassing activities such as lobbying, community organizing, public education, policy analysis, communications, and policymaker engagement.

Campaign: A group of actors (organizations, associations, communities, individuals) working in an organized and active way toward a particular policy goal.

For more information, **see also** Bolder Advocacy's "***What is Advocacy, Definitions and Examples***", attached to meeting confirmation email.

Save the Date: Thursday, February 23, 2017 - 2:00 – 3:00 PM
Health Policy Advocacy

The Pennsylvania Health Funders Collaborative (PHFC), an active statewide funders' network, strives to improve the effectiveness of health funders' initiatives by promoting collaboration, sharing best practices, and creating a unified voice among funders working in communities across Pennsylvania. Join us as Ann Torregrossa, Executive Director of PHFC, provides an update on state health policy issues on the horizon that all funders should be aware of, such as how proposals to change the Affordable Care Act and reform Medicare and Medicaid would affect Pennsylvania. She will also share PHFC's priorities and initiatives for the coming year.