



MINNESOTA COUNCIL
ON FOUNDATIONS

Maximizing Your MCF Membership

October 28, 2010

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Minnesota Council on Foundations



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Introduction to MCF

Introducing MCF

■ Who we are:

- ◆ Our Mission: To strengthen and expand philanthropy.
- ◆ Our Vision: MCF inspires an ever-expanding community of grantmakers to achieve, both individually and collectively, the highest standards of purpose and action.
- ◆ Our Core Values:
 - ❖ Integrity
 - ❖ Respect
 - ❖ Inclusivity
 - ❖ Excellence
 - ❖ Collaboration
 - ❖ Global View

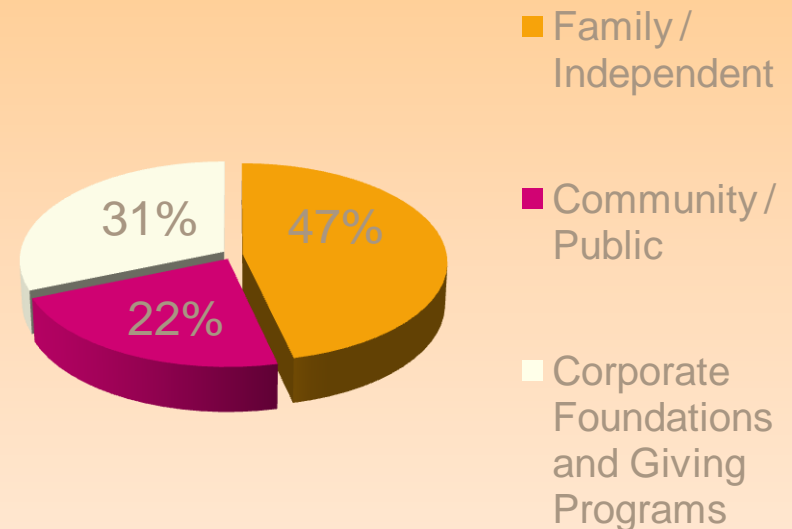
Introducing MCF

■ Our Members

◆ 183 Grantmaking Organizations

- ▶ Family/Independent
- ▶ Community/Public
- ▶ Corporate Foundations and Giving Programs

MCF Membership by Foundation Type





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Getting To Know You

Networking

- How did you get started in the field of philanthropy?
- What do you enjoy most about working in philanthropy?
- What do you find challenging about working in the field?
- MCF provides numerous opportunities for networking, skill building, knowledge and leadership. How do you see yourself engaging with each other and MCF in the coming year?



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MCF Services and Benefits

MCF Trivia!

- Get into 3 teams
- 4 rounds of trivia, one question for each team
- Questions will be on MCF's services:
 - ◆ Programs and Networks
 - ◆ Communications
 - ◆ Research
 - ◆ Leadership Initiatives
- The team with the most correct answers wins!



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Round 1: Programs and Networks

Programs and Networks

***MCF has 12 networks that meet regularly.
Name 5 of them.***

- Arts and Culture Funders Network
- ComMotion Network
- Corporate Network
- Early Childhood Funders Network
- Education Funders Network
- EPIP-MN
- Global Funders Network
- Grants Managers Network
- LGBT Funders Network
- Non-Family Foundation Professionals Network
- Program Officers Network
- SCAP



Programs and Networks

Every year, MCF provides a series of programs for new members called the Effective Grantmaking Series. Which of the follow topics was NOT offered in 2010?

- A. Being Grounded in Philanthropy
- B. Making Sound Funding Decisions
- C. Beyond the Basics of Grant Evaluation
- D. Grantee Financial Review with the IRS 990

Answer: C – Beyond the Basics of Grant Evaluation

Programs and Networks

Member-Initiated Briefings offer members the opportunity to place issues important to them on MCF's program calendar, accessing the Council's network of members. Members can use Briefings for all the following reasons EXCEPT to:

- A. Enhance discussion and interest on a variety of topics.
- B. Highlight or raise funds for a particular organization.
- C. Utilize the expertise members have developed in their grantmaking.
- D. Utilize scholars and other experts who work with members as resources or consultants.

Answer: B – As a forum to highlight or raise funds for a particular organization.

Programs and Networks

You can find out about MCF Programs and Networks:

- On the MCF website, www.mcf.org
- In the bi-weekly e-newsletter, MCF Notes
- Through network listserv emails
- From print and online promotions about particular events
- Word of mouth

If you have any questions about programs and networks, contact:

Stephanie Jacobs, Director of Member Services at 612.335.3556 or sjacobs@mcf.org

Aaron Jefferson, Member Services Manager at 612.465.0718 or ajefferon@mcf.org

Chantel Karney, Administrative Assistant at 612.465.0715 or ckarney@mcf.org

Chuck Peterson, Vice President of Member Relations at 612.335.3558 or cpeterson@mcf.org



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Round 2: Communications

Communications

MCF publishes a free, quarterly newspaper with a wide range of news and information on Minnesota grantmaking. Our original in-depth articles explore current giving issues, educate readers on philanthropy, and report on the latest grantmaking research. What is the name of this publication?

- A. Giving News
- B. Giving Forum
- C. Giving Gazette
- D. Giving Memo

Answer- B: Giving Forum

Communications

MCF connects with its members in print and online. Which of the following online tools does MCF use?

- A. Website
- B. E-newsletters
- C. Twitter
- D. YouTube
- E. Blog
- F. A, B, and E
- G. MCF uses all of these tools

Communications

MCF connects with MCF members in print and online. Which of the following online tools does MCF use?

- A. Website www.mcf.org
- B. E-newsletters [Bi-weekly MCF Notes](#)
- C. Twitter [@FollowMCF](#)
- D. YouTube www.youtube.com/mnfoundations
- E. Blog Philanthropy Potluck- blog.mcf.org
- F. A, B, and E
- G. MCF uses all of these tools

Answer- G: MCF uses all of these tools

Look for our NEW website coming soon!

Communications

MCF collects and disseminates news about our members. We also represent Minnesota philanthropy in the media. What was MCF's latest news item?

- A. MinnPost story about the Minnesota Annual Grantmaker Rankings.
- B. StarTribune article on Target's focus on education.
- C. Pioneer Press article on the Governor's race related to education funding.
- D. StarTribune article on the report commissioned by Blue Cross and Blue Shield of Minnesota Foundation on the links between poverty and health disparities.

Answer- A: MinnPost story on the Minnesota Grantmaker Rankings

Communications

Not only does MCF share news and up to date information about our members, we also welcome your contributions to our blog and ideas for our Giving Forum articles.

If you have ideas or questions about any MCF communications, contact:

Christine Murakami Noonan, Communications Associate at 612.465.0716 or cnoonan@mcf.org

Cary Walski, Web Communications Associate at 612.455.6212 or cwalski@mcf.org

Wendy Wehr, Vice President of Communications and Information Services at 612.335.3597 or wwehr@mcf.org



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Round 3: Research

Research

MCF is one of the few regional philanthropy associations to have its own research staff. Each year, the MCF research team releases several reports on grantmaking in Minnesota. Which of the following reports does MCF NOT produce annually?

- A. Giving in Minnesota
- B. Minnesota Annual Grantmaker Rankings
- C. Working Towards Diversity
- D. Outlook Report

Answer- C: Working Towards Diversity

Research

According to the 2009 Edition of Giving in Minnesota (MCF's definitive report on charitable giving in Minnesota with the latest figures on giving by individuals and grantmakers), what percentage of total charitable giving in Minnesota came from foundations and corporate giving programs?

- A. 23%
- B. 25%
- C. 28%
- D. 30%

Answer- A: 23%

Research

Minnesota Grantmakers Online (MGO) is MCF's online searchable database of more than 1,300 foundations and corporate giving programs and 100,000 grants of \$2,000 or more awarded by Minnesota's largest grantmakers. While used by grantseekers to search for potential funders, grantmakers can use MGO to:

- A. Find other grantmakers in an interest or geographic area.
- B. See which nonprofits received grants from some of the largest grantmakers.
- C. Look up grantmakers in North and South Dakota.
- D. A and B
- E. All of the above

Answer- D: A and B

Research

MCF also provides technical assistance on certain research questions.

If you have any questions about our reports or other research needs, contact:

Anne Graham, Information Services and Database Assistant at 612.465.0717 or agraham@mcf.org

Wendy Wehr, Vice President of Communications and Information Services at 612.335.3597 or wwehr@mcf.org



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Round 4: Leadership Initiatives

Leadership Initiatives

MCF's Principles and Practices work is an essential part of MCF's commitment to public trust and accountability. Subscribing to the updated eight Principles for Grantmakers is a condition of MCF membership. In what year did MCF's Board of Directors adopt the original Principles?

- A. 1990
- B. 1996
- C. 2000
- D. 2004

Answer- B: 1996

Leadership Initiatives

Principles for Grantmakers

- Ethics and Law
- Effective Governance
- Mission and Goals
- Engaged Learning
- Respectful Relationships
- Transparency
- Diversity
- Self-Assessment & Commitment



Leadership Initiatives

As an early leader in diversity in philanthropy initiatives, a result of the first diversity survey in 1995, MCF developed a Diversity Framework to guide grantmakers in their work. It continues to frame diversity and inclusive practices around four roles that grantmaking organizations play in a civil society. Which is not one of these roles?

- A. Grantmakers as funders
- B. Grantmakers as leaders
- C. Grantmakers as employers
- D. Grantmakers as economic entities
- E. Grantmakers as community citizens

Answer- B: Grantmakers as leaders

Leadership Initiatives

MCF has recently focused on building understanding and developing tools that support foundation engagement in systems change and public policy. While many people associate public policy only with lobbying, there are a wide range of public policy activities. Name 3 of the 17 other possible ways grantmakers can engage in public policy.

- Electronic Outreach/Social Media
- Earned Media
- Paid Media
- Media Partnerships
- Coalition and Network Building
- Grassroots Organizations and Mobilization
- Rallies and Marches
- Voter Education
- Briefings/Presentations
- Public Service Announcements
- Polling
- Demonstration Projects or Pilots
- Issue/Policy Analysis and Research
- Policy Proposal Development
- Policymaker and Candidate Education
- Relationship Building with Decision Makers
- Litigation or Legal Advocacy



Leadership Initiatives

MCF is also pursuing initiatives to promote and expand philanthropy throughout Minnesota.

If you have any questions about our leadership initiatives, contact:

Bill King, President, at bking@mcf.org or 612.335.3557

Chuck Peterson, Vice President of Member Relations at 612.335.3558 or cpeterson@mcf.org

Wendy Wehr, Vice President of Communications and Information Services at 612.335.3597 or wwehr@mcf.org

Get involved!

- **Volunteer** for an MCF committee or task force. This is a great way to shape the direction of the Council's member services and to connect with your peers.
- **Join** an MCF member network.
- **Sign up** for MCF's bi-weekly e-newsletter, MCF Notes. E-mail your request to cwalski@mcf.org.
- **Read** Giving Forum.
- **Attend** an MCF program. You can learn about upcoming programs at www.mcf.org and in MCF Notes.
- **Plan** a member-initiated briefing to meet your specific needs and interests.
- **Visit** the Trends & Analysis page on our website.
- **Use** Minnesota Grantmakers Online: www.mcf.org/mngrants. Contact agraham@mcf.org for a password.
- **Contact us** with questions or ideas:
 - ◆ Phone: 612/338-1989
 - ◆ E-mail: info@mcf.org





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Thank you