What does philanthropy need to know to prioritize racial justice?

Despite changing demographics and increased awareness of the impact of structural racism, there has been no progress on expanding funding for people of color.

$2 Billion of total giving in 2014, only 7.4% was for people of color.

Annual foundation funding focused on reaching people of color never exceeded 8.5%.

Of total giving in 2014, only 7.4% was for people of color.

Of annual giving money for African Americans is decreasing.

There have been spikes in interest for funding that focused on racial groups AND gender or LGBTQ identities, but few grants explicitly focused on the intersection of identities.

Critical Questions for Philanthropy

Is philanthropic investment matching the growing capacities of racial justice organizations to transform society?

Any attempt to answer this question is stymied by the fact that no standard metric for investment in racial justice exists, and data tracking is inconsistent. What would we measure if we were measuring grantmaking for racial justice? PRE is tackling this question, examining existing data and identifying data collection needs. Here, drawing from the data we have, we offer some insights - and raise some important questions for philanthropy.

1. What level of agreement is there among practitioners and activists to define "racial justice grantmaking?"
2. How can racial justice grantmaking be distinguished from funding that is simply reaching communities of color without a systemic or social change focus?
3. How can we recognize the importance of self-determination and place greater emphasis on identifying what portion of funding is supporting organizations led by people of color?
4. How can we tackle institutional and possibly regional barriers to funding grants with explicit racial justice focus?
$28 BILLION IN OVERALL GIVING IN 2014

$2 billion, or 7.4%, were given for people of color.

1% of those grants used explicit racial justice language.

GROWTH IN FUNDING TO GROUPS USING RACIAL JUSTICE LANGUAGE SHOWED SOME GAINS.

Five-Year Comparisons, 2005-2009 and 2010-2014

NUMBER OF FUNDER BY TYPE

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th></th>
<th>2005-2009</th>
<th>2010-2014</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Family</td>
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<td>23</td>
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<tr>
<td>Corporate</td>
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<tr>
<td>Community</td>
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<tr>
<td>Private</td>
<td>22</td>
<td>25</td>
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</tbody>
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Out of all the grants for people of color, the share of grant dollars that used explicit racial justice language increased from 1.1% to 1.7%.

Total number of grants using explicit racial justice terms increased by 33%.

506

Total $ amount in grants using explicit racial justice terms increased by 80%.

$165M

Total $ amount granted as general support to organizations using explicit racial justice terms increased from 13% to 25%.

DATA COLLECTION CHALLENGES

How can we best measure the more qualitative changes in foundation racial justice work we are able to witness, but have less data on?

What are the regional differences within all of these measures?

How do we know when racial justice terms have been co-opted, masking work and approaches that actually harm communities of color?

Any assessment of racial justice grantmaking is inadequate if it doesn’t also consider how much is being invested in attacking progress on racial justice. What mechanisms can track these trends?

JOIN US IN PRIORITIZING RACIAL JUSTICE IN PHILANTHROPY

In 2006 Philanthropic Initiative for Racial Equity (PRE) and GrantCraft developed the “Guide to Grantmaking with a Racial Equity Lens” which helped to move many funders from a framework of color-blindness to racial equity.

Recognizing the evolution of community efforts and needs, PRE is working to update the guide and will release it in 2018. The new guide will highlight some of the current trends in racial justice grantmaking, including tools and strategies that sustain the work.

Also, in collaboration with our partners Race Forward and Foundation Center, we are publishing a data and trends guide to update the 2004 report by Applied Research Center (now Race Forward), “Shortchanged: Foundation Giving in Communities of Color.”

We invite you to engage in focus groups, surveys, and interviews as PRE and its partners conduct original research on racial equity in philanthropy.

RACIALEQUITY.ORG