Philanthropic Partners

The Center on Philanthropy & Public Policy
University of Southern California
Since 2000, The Center on Philanthropy and Public Policy has built a national reputation for timely and insightful analysis focused on giving, volunteering, and nonprofit organizations. Its vital work has helped to make philanthropy more effective and to drive innovative strategies for public problem solving and public policy. By bringing people together to share experiences and to learn from – and inspire – each other, the Center has also become southern California’s premier convener of individuals and institutions concerned about their role in effecting meaningful change. In this critical moment for the philanthropic community, the Center’s ability to help visionary leaders achieve broad impact is more essential than ever before.
Conducting Groundbreaking Research and Analysis

From its studies on new philanthropists and California foundations to its analysis of foundation strategies for public policy engagement, The Center on Philanthropy and Public Policy conducts research that is powerful, rigorous, relevant, and accessible to a wide range of constituencies.

“The Center’s research makes philanthropy more impactful. It’s the kind of insightful analysis that helps us better understand complex issues facing our field — and that supports our community problem-solving efforts. There are so many ways to describe the Center, but here is the bottom line: It is an invaluable ally to all of us seeking to make a difference and an indispensable resource for data unavailable anyplace else.”

Wendy Wachtell, President, Joseph Drown Foundation
Philanthropic Partner since 2001
Convening Leaders to Inform and Inspire

The Center is the premiere venue for high-level discourse on philanthropy in southern California, bringing together thought leaders from across sectors to spark discussion and build collaborative solutions to the challenges facing our communities and beyond.

“Philanthropy is constantly changing — and the Center delivers precisely the roadmap we need. A big component of its value is its ability to get key people around the table, whether through large national forums or more intimate peer leadership gatherings. Every organization in this field has its own unique approach to strengthening the community, and the Center offers the opportunities we all need to meet our most critical goals.”

Fred Ali, President and CEO, Weingart Foundation
Philanthropic Partner since 2004
Educating a New Generation of Leaders

One of the nation’s preeminent voices at the intersection of philanthropy, nonprofits, and public policy, the Center — in conjunction with the USC Sol Price School of Public Policy — educates aspiring leaders in philanthropy and the nonprofit sector.

“The Center provides amazing opportunities for education around philanthropy — both inside and outside the classroom. Because of a national reputation for innovation and excellence, it attracts the best and brightest emerging leaders in the field. Its astonishing insights into the ways in which donors and nonprofits can play a role in community building make the Center a can’t-miss stop for anyone working to create change.”

Cara Esposito, MPA, ’09
Executive Director, Leonetti/O’Connell Family Foundation
Philanthropic Partner since 2009
In partnership with diverse stakeholders, The Center on Philanthropy and Public Policy will continue to pioneer the future of philanthropy. Moving forward, the Center will continue to expand philanthropic knowledge and to develop practical applications that maximize impact. It will do so by overcoming fragmentation in the field through facilitating connections and relationships that transcend the nonprofit sector. Through its research and commitment to driving the conversation around these issues, the Center will help to transform the quality of life in communities everywhere.
Translating Research and Learning into Practice

The Center is focused on building the knowledge base of philanthropy in order to create usable knowledge that allows philanthropists to learn in a cumulative way about what works and what doesn’t.

“We rely on the Center to provide information and resources that will help us guide donors in their charitable giving. One of the remarkable aspects of the Center is its focus on bridging the divide between theory and practice — in other words, framing research to make it actionable. The Center is more than the academic home for philanthropy, it is a critical engine driving change.”

Marvin Schotland
President and CEO, Jewish Community Foundation of Los Angeles
Philanthropic Partner since 2004
Building Networks within Philanthropy

The Center seeks to increase impact across the philanthropic sector by encouraging knowledge sharing and partnerships. Building bridges for collaboration among donors and foundations with different resources, structures, and approaches makes philanthropy more than merely the sum of its giving.

“The power of the philanthropic sector comes from its pluralism. We look to the Center to provide us with multiple ways to share knowledge and bring the various segments – corporations, individual donors, foundations trustees, and independent foundations – together for greater impact. Having a world-class resource and convener like the Center at our fingertips gives us a way to work together with top philanthropic decision makers as well as a window into how we can collectively make our mark, both locally and globally.”

Antonio Manning
Region Executive, Western Region
JPMorgan Chase Global Philanthropy
Philanthropic Partner since 2004
Making Connections across Sectors

The Center helps philanthropists forge stronger connections and deeper relationships that go beyond the nonprofit sector to include business, government, and the public. These connections enable solutions that no one sector can achieve alone.

“...The Center helps corporate foundations like ours think strategically about how to partner across sectors to address pressing issues in the communities we serve. The Center’s expertise provides us with timely and relevant resources to make informed decisions about our community investments, which support our company’s commitment to advancing local economies. In addition, the Center’s work to connect us to other philanthropic leaders has reinforced for us the link between doing well and doing good.”

Dannielle Campos
Senior Vice President
National Philanthropy Director
Bank of America Charitable Foundation
Philanthropic Partner Since 2005
Join Us

Creating a more informed, thoughtful group of philanthropic leaders whose work helps build a better future is a collaborative effort. We invite individuals, foundations, and corporations to become Philanthropic Partners by making an annual contribution to the Center and by actively engaging in its intellectual endeavors. Our Sustaining Philanthropic Partners play a key leadership role in strengthening philanthropy by contributing $25,000 or more each year. The Center’s Philanthropic Partners make an annual contribution of $10,000 or more (for organizations) or $5,000 or more (for individuals). Gifts from our Partners provide the resources necessary to develop research around emerging issues in the field and to increase opportunities to convene leaders for high-level discussions in both large forums and in more intimate settings. Please join us in our efforts to transform philanthropy and strengthen our communities.