When we named racial equity as a priority in our strategic plan, we also named it a value to start our own internal learning journey as an organization and as individuals. Moving forward, we'll be featuring a "What We're Reading" section in our Member News that highlights what people in the Funders Together network are reading to expand their understanding of racial equity. We hope this will spur inspiration for your personal or organizational racial equity work and that you'll learn alongside us.

What We're Reading: Philanthropists Bench Women of Color, the M.V.P.s of Social Change

Who's Reading It: Funders Together Staff

In this New York Times Opinion piece, Vanessa Daniel, executive director of Groundswell, calls out the vast inequity in funding practices when it comes to supporting women of color who lead grassroots organizations. She outlines why and how women of color are shut out from funding and how philanthropy can change its grantmaking to support these organizations in order to produce the greatest impact.

If you have a resource you would like to feature in an upcoming Member News, please let us know! We'd love to share with the whole network.

2020 Funders Forum
February 19, 2020 | Oakland, CA

You don't want to miss this year's Funders Forum in Oakland. This year, we'll be focusing on how the way philanthropy has been working to prevent and end homelessness has been evolving. As the field continues to work toward racial equity in our systems, policies to implement and uphold proven solutions, and building public and political will, philanthropy must come together to strategize how to synchronize all these pieces.

Our 2020 Funders Forum will touch on several topics:

- How can philanthropy continue to lift up research and evidence-based practices to ensure that people are stably housed?
- What are funders doing to build public and political will to stop the criminalization of homelessness and other policies that target people who are the most marginalized?
- How can philanthropy of all types work together to address homelessness and housing affordability?
- How do we ensure that racial equity and people with lived expertise are centered in all the work that philanthropy does to prevent and end homelessness?
Funders can register for the Funders Forum and the sold-out Solutions for Individual Homeless Adults conference together through Funders Together. This dual registration allows you to attend the full day on Wednesday, February 19 for the Funders Forum, including the NAEH conference lunch plenary, our funder networking reception, and the NAEH conference sessions on Thursday, February 20 and Friday, February 21. Space is very limited, so register now! Joint registration closes January 6, 2020. After this date, the spots we have reserved for funders will be released for people on the Solutions for Individual Homeless Adults Conference waitlist.

If you are unable to attend the full NAEH conference but would like to attend the Funders Forum, you still have the option of registering for the Wednesday-only Funders Forum event.

To register or view the working agenda, visit our 2020 Funders Forum page.

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On the Blog

**Ending Homelessness by Committing to Racial Equity**
By Janice Elliott, Melville Charitable Trust; Katie Hong, Raikes Foundation, and Bill Pitkin, Social Justice Consultant

**Our Thank You to Matthew Doherty**

We are always looking to highlight the impact of our members. If you would like to feature your work in an upcoming blog, let us know!

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Resources

Funders Together Resources
Access to the following Funders Together webinar recordings and event videos are only available to Full Members of Funders Together. If you are interested in joining to view these recordings as well as gain access to other Full Member benefits, contact Stephanie Chan, stephanie@funderstogether.org.

**Resource:** Funders Together Commitment to Racial Equity
This commitment articulates how Funders Together to End Homelessness has and will use a racial equity lens to support our members and the philanthropic sector to shift its practice, policy and grantmaking actions and how we will foster greater diversity, equity, and inclusion within FTEH as an organization. We encourage this document and its language to be a template or guide for funders to use in their own statements and work around addressing racial inequities in housing and homelessness.

Don't forget about our Member Call about the Commitment to Racial Equity on December 9th at 2pm ET/11am PT! Join us for a candid conversation about what it took to craft this commitment, what it means for members of Funders Together, and to share your thoughts on how you might use it and what you’d like to see from us.

**Webinar Recording:** The Foundation for Success is Housing Stability
In this webinar, Funders Together to End Homelessness shared how housing and homelessness are connected to almost all other systems and how, no matter what your funding priorities are, you can and should think about the role housing stability plays in the success of your community. Two funders from the Pacific Northwest shared how they think about the role housing plays in their grantmaking portfolios, even if they aren’t focused specifically on housing and homelessness.

**Webinar Recording:** The Divest/Invest Framework: What Does It Mean for Funders Working in Housing and Homelessness?
In this webinar, we talked about how funders can help build more just, thriving communities by investing in institutions and enterprises that
value low-income residents, guard against policies that criminalize people for being homeless, and protect residents from displacement. Funders Together to End Homelessness partnered with Neighborhood Funders Group (NFG) and shared how funders can use the divest/invest framework to think about their grantmaking and talked about the intersection of the criminal justice and homelessness systems.

Member Resources

- Raikes Foundation: How Funders Can Support the Cross-Sector Partnership Necessary for Impact
- Bill & Melinda Gates Foundation, Campion Advocacy Fund, and Raikes Foundation: Groups in King County partner in campaign to end homelessness

Field Resources

- Grantmakers for Effective Organizations: Racial Equity and the Role of Foundations
- Nonprofit Finance Fund: Addressing Racially Biased Financial Analysis
- Urban Institute: Can Permanent Supportive Housing Create Community for Survivors of Intimate Partner Violence?
- Your Way Home Montgomery County: 10 Ways We’ve Advanced Equity in the Past Year

Have news about your foundation’s or United Way’s work that we missed? Let us know and we would love to feature it next month!

Our work would not be possible without our generous supports of Funders Together. Thanks to the following organizations and individuals, who provided membership dues, donations, and grants in the past month:

Membership Renewal
William S Abell Foundation

Funding Partner
Raikes Foundation

Interested in becoming a full Funders Together member? Contact Stephanie Chan for more information. Interested in supporting Funders Together by becoming a Funding Partner? Contact Lauren Bennett for more information.