



THE CENTER FOR  
EFFECTIVE PHILANTHROPY

## ***The Grantee Voice: Feedback for Foundations***

### **Survey for Nonprofit Challenges: What Foundations Can Do**

The following survey should take less than 10 minutes to complete.

1. How many years have you been in your current role at your organization?

- Less than 1 year
- At least 1 year but fewer than 3 years
- At least 3 years but fewer than 6 years
- At least 6 years but fewer than 10 years
- 10 years or more

2. Thinking about fundraising, please indicate how challenging each of the following is for your organization.

	This issue is <b>not challenging</b> for my organization	This issue is <b>somewhat challenging</b> for my organization	This issue is <b>extremely challenging</b> for my organization	This issue is not relevant to my organization
Maintaining funding from our current foundation funders	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Attracting new foundation funders	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Maintaining funding from our current individual donors	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Attracting new individual donors	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Maintaining our current government funding	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Attracting new government funding	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Securing general operating or unrestricted funds	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Securing multi-year funding	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Distinguishing my organization's work from the work of similar organizations	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Demonstrating my organization's impact to potential funders	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Other (please specify): _____	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>

3.

a. Now thinking about issues that are not specifically about fundraising, please indicate how challenging each of the following is for your organization.

	This issue is <b>not challenging</b> for my organization	This issue is <b>somewhat challenging</b> for my organization	This issue is <b>extremely challenging</b> for my organization	This issue is not relevant to my organization
Building the general public's trust in my organization	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Maintaining our earned revenue	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Growing our earned revenue	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Meeting the demand for our programs/services	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Developing programmatic strategies for my organization	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Developing effective external communications	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>

Attracting and retaining qualified staff	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Developing and training staff	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Having sufficient resources and opportunities to develop my leadership skills	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Engaging my board of directors productively	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Using technology to improve our effectiveness	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Being innovative in our work in order to improve our effectiveness	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Pursuing collaborations or partnerships with other nonprofits	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Being able to influence public policy	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Keeping up with best practices in the area(s) in which my organization works	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Other (please specify): _____	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>

3.

- b. Compared to what your foundation funders are currently doing to help your organization address its challenges, please indicate how much help, either financial or non-monetary, you want from your foundation funders in addressing each of the challenges below. *(Asked only of challenges that respondent indicate as “Somewhat challenging” or “Extremely challenging” in Q3a)*

	My foundations funders are not in a position to help address this challenge	My foundation funders provide <b>enough</b> help to address this challenge	I want a <b>little more</b> help from my foundation funders to address this challenge	I want a <b>lot more</b> help from my foundation funders to address this challenge
Building the general public’s trust in my organization	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Maintaining our earned revenue	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Growing our earned revenue	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Meeting the demand for our programs/services	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Developing programmatic strategies for my organization	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Developing effective external communications	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Attracting and retaining qualified staff	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Developing and training staff	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Having sufficient resources and opportunities to develop my leadership skills	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Engaging my board of directors productively	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Using technology to improve our effectiveness	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Being innovative in our work in order to improve our effectiveness	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Pursuing collaborations or	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>

partnerships with other nonprofits				
Being able to influence public policy	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Keeping up with best practices in the area(s) in which my organization works	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Other ( <i>Answer from 3a</i> )	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>

4. Please provide a brief example of a time when a foundation funder was particularly helpful to your organization in addressing a challenge you faced.

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5. Please indicate the extent to which you agree or disagree with each of the following statements.

	Strongly disagree		Neither agree nor disagree			Strongly agree	
My foundation funders are aware of the challenges that my organization is facing	1	2	3	4	5	6	7
I can be open with my foundation funders about the challenges my organization is facing	1	2	3	4	5	6	7
My foundation funders take advantage of their myriad resources to help my organization address its challenges	1	2	3	4	5	6	7
My foundation funders share their knowledge about what other organizations are doing to address challenges similar to those that my organization faces	1	2	3	4	5	6	7
My foundation funders are not only interested in the work they fund at my organization, but also the overall health of my organization	1	2	3	4	5	6	7
My foundation funders have a thorough understanding of what my organization is trying to do	1	2	3	4	5	6	7

6. Beyond providing more funding, what is one thing your foundation funders could do to help you confront your organization's greatest challenges?

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