

INTERNATIONAL FELLOWS PROGRAM



SPREADING THE SEEDS OF COMMUNITY GIVING



CENTER ON PHILANTHROPY
AND CIVIL SOCIETY

BUILDING COMMUNITY

Since 1989 the Center on Philanthropy and Civil Society at The Graduate School of The City University of New York has provided opportunities to 191 fellows from 63 countries and territories around the globe to help build philanthropic infrastructures that promote peace, tolerance, compassion and self-sufficiency. The International Fellows Program (IFP) allows these practitioners to learn firsthand the power of combining community and philanthropy to create vehicles of social change.

The program's focus on launching and sustaining community foundations is strengthening the cultures of giving worldwide. The IFP is committed to nurturing a network of like-minded practitioners around the world who can collaborate and support each other's efforts on behalf of community philanthropy.

In its quarter century of operation, our Fellows have helped create at least 98 community foundations, support organizations and nonprofit research groups and have been involved with 84 nonprofit boards, a 2014 survey revealed, based on responses from about 40 percent of past Fellows. More than 85 percent said they maintain contact with IFP colleagues, 43 percent work with IFP alumni on projects, research and workshops, and more than 50 percent share best practices.

Among the organizations created with the help of IFP alumni:

- Turkey's first community foundation
- A community foundation in Egypt that builds on traditional Islamic giving practices
- The first community foundations in Mumbai and Ahmedabad, India
- A continent-wide Leaders in Philanthropy program in Latin America

The Center provides two fellowship programs:

- **Emerging Leaders International Fellows Program**, involving three months of training in community grantmaking for young scholar-practitioners from outside





the U.S. or from U.S. communities of color

- **Senior International Fellows Program**, involving decision makers at community foundations and similar community philanthropy organizations to encourage strategic thinking and sharing best practices

This year our two IFP programs had 13 Fellows, from Brazil, Egypt, India, France, Australia, Italy, Romania, Cameroon, Armenia, Kyrgyzstan and Serbia.

Why Community Philanthropy? A century ago Frederick H. Goff reformulated the parameters of charitable giving to include a new vision of benevolence that was truly *of the community, by the community and for the community*. This redefinition came to be known as community philanthropy and its practitioners, community foundations.

The new approach to distribution of resources and meeting community needs inspired a movement that at first spread to U.S. cities and eventually went global. Today more than 1,700 community foundations dot every continent, save Antarctica—from Egypt to New Zealand, Uruguay to Nepal, the Ukraine to Kenya—with billions in donations and grants given over the past 100 years.

Community philanthropy and its foundations tend to share certain characteristics that distinguish them from other charitable philosophies and organizations:

- **Local communities determine goals and priorities for giving.** Unlike private foundations in which endowments often define the mission, community foundations seek to evaluate the needs of the community and direct resources accordingly, while balancing those needs with the charitable interests of their many local donors.
- **Community foundations have multiple donors, many of whom are neighborhood people and enterprises.** There is a grassroots flavor to community philanthropy efforts that can be fueled today by giving circles of locals or alliances of grantmaking support groups.
- **Community philanthropy empowers neighborhoods, towns and cities to tackle their own problems.** Using an organization propelled by their own commitment, time,

energy and resources, communities are able to develop sustainable, transparent approaches to address and alleviate problems.

Since the Cleveland Foundation opened its doors a century ago, other great private organizations, notably the Charles Stewart Mott Foundation, the Ford Foundation, the Aga Khan Foundation USA and the Global Fund for Community Foundations, have worked to promote community philanthropy and the creation of community foundations.

With the generous support of the Mott Foundation and many others, the IFP has helped to promote community philanthropy around the globe by demonstrating the ability of these community foundations to respond to the changing needs of communities, enhance the transparency of giving and celebrate local control.

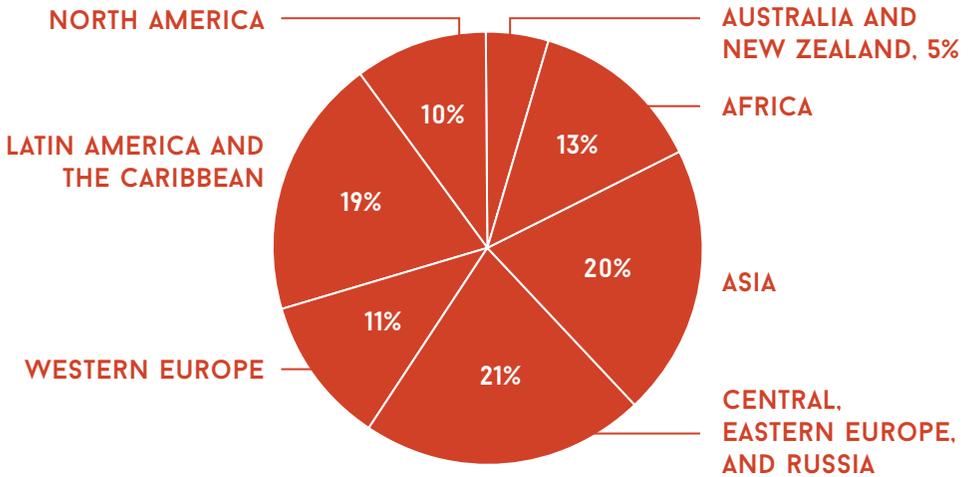
FROM THE DIRECTOR



When the Center on Philanthropy and Civil Society was launched in 1986 with international giving as one of its primary focuses, many saw it as a crazy idea. The globalization of philanthropy was still over the horizon and hard to envision. In most places around the world, grantmaking was almost unheard of and in some, even the word philanthropy was taboo. Yet, so much of what I had studied and seen convinced me that the possibility was real. What would become the International Fellows Program was a vital part of that vision. This year we celebrate 100 years of community foundations and quarter century of the Fellows Program, and what was once a far-fetched dream has become a reality.

Kathleen McCarthy is the founding Director of the Center on Philanthropy and Civil Society.

Regions where IFP's 191 Fellows originate



GLOBAL IMPACT

In 2008, the Worldwide Initiatives for Grantmaker Support (WINGS) named the International Fellows Program as one of the biggest contributors to the growth in the number of community foundations globally. That was when only 1,400 dotted the planet. Today, there are somewhere in excess of 1,750, and our program's Fellows have continued to expand upon that philanthropic legacy.

In this year's survey of our Fellows, more than 41 percent of respondents reported that they had been involved in creating community foundations or community foundation support organizations, with another close to 30 percent taking part in the founding of other types of philanthropic and nonprofit enterprises.

The Fellows are not only creating new vehicles for community philanthropy, they also are spreading the practice through our network of alumni practitioners with whom they collaborate on projects and research and share best practices.

HIGHLIGHTS FROM THE IFP 2014 SURVEY OF PAST FELLOWS

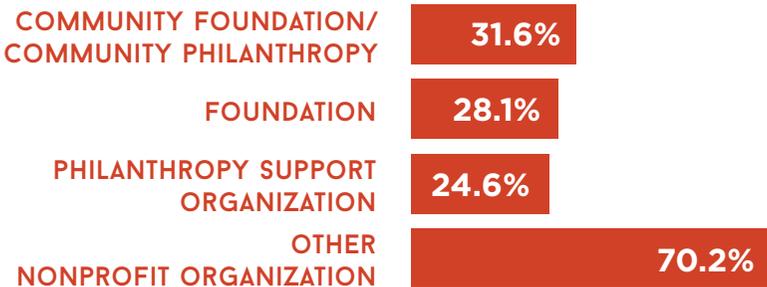
(Respondents checked all that applied, so totals exceed 100%)

More than 70% of respondents took part in the **founding** of:

Community Foundation/Community Philanthropy	30.7%
Other Foundation	13.3
Community-Foundation Support Organization	10.7
Other Philanthropy-Support Organization	14.7
Other Third Sector Support Organization	18.7
Nonprofit Research Organization	6.7
Other Nonprofit Organization	36
None of the above	29.3

46.9% say Fellowship experience is connected to their founding of a new organization.

Percentage of respondents involved with the **boards** of:





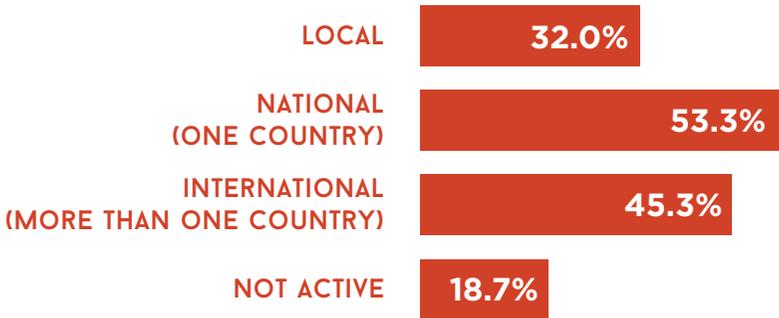
84.6%

Say they've maintained relationships with other Fellows or organizations

Percentage of respondents whose relationships have resulted in:



Are you active in any Third Sector professional networks?



70% of respondents ranked the Fellowship as a **very important or important influence on their career.**



FACES OF CHANGE

Marwa El-Daly, Egypt, 2001

Before her 2001 Fellowship with the Center on



Philanthropy and Civil Society, Marwa El-Daly didn't know much about community foundations, but she saw early on the similarities between these peculiarly American charity organizations and the

1,400-year-old Islamic waqf philanthropic tradition.

Following the Fellowship program, El-Daly set out to create the first Egyptian community foundation, based on a modernized waqf and the Muslim belief that "those close to you by kin or geography are worthiest of your donation and help." The result, six years later, was Maadi Community Foundation (Mu'assasat Waqfeyat al Maadi al Ahleya) in Cairo, Egypt.

With the organization, El-Daly was able to move giving in Egypt away from small

gifts that would force the recipient to return for more to larger awards that would help the recipient start a business and break the cycle of poverty. The foundation launched many community projects, including an arts school, which it uses to help introduce residents to the idea of waqf as well as to raise money. El-Daly has said she is adamant that local giving will always account for the majority of the foundation's money.

In 2012, the African Grant Makers Network awarded El-Daly the inaugural Africa Philanthropy Award.

George Varughese, Nepal, 2008

Two years after George Varughese completed the Fellowship program, he and colleagues launched the Niti Foundation, a Nepali public policy nonprofit with the goal of helping his country negotiate the complexities of restructuring its government. With a more stable and democratic Nepal in place, Niti's role was to provide policy actors critical information and analysis about how various alternatives of reform might play out. In

addition to providing multiple grants for policy research and deliberation, Niti also

runs various policy-related fellowships and internships.

“There is no doubt that my time at the Center on Philanthropy was critical in taking my idea to fruition,” Varughese, who holds a joint doctorate in public

administration and political science, commented recently. The IFP focus on comparative philanthropy practices in particular enhanced his abilities to construct a foundation that was sensitive to Nepali needs.

Prior to the IFP experience, Varughese served as The Asia Foundation’s country representative in Afghanistan. There, he was responsible for working with the government on various initiatives aimed at electoral reform, women’s advancement, public education and encouraging discourse on democratic political processes. He spearheaded the internationally respected Survey of the Afghan People

and other work critical to state-building efforts in the country. He returned to Nepal with the Asia Foundation in 2009 where he works on constitutional development and assisting the Constituent Assembly as well as projects to safeguard women, combat the trafficking of people and peacebuilding.

Akira Barclay, U.S.A., 2012

Akira Barclay, a 2012 Diversity Fellow, is a veteran grantmaker and philanthropy specialist. Among her areas of interest are giving circles, groups of individuals, most often women, who contribute money or promises of time to a pooled fund and then decide to which charity or cause to donate. Besides connecting with those engaged with giving circles internationally and writing about the phenomenon, the *New Yorker* is organizing a giving circle in her hometown, called the Brooklyn Benefactors.



“It is my goal to ultimately have the group collaborate with the Brooklyn Community Foundation,” Barclay says. “I still believe community philanthropy can be strengthened overall by building bridges between institutional and grassroots grantmakers.”

Also an experienced fundraiser, Barclay shifted her focus to grantmaking while studying philanthropy in New York. She worked with *Imagine Your STEM Future*, a project supported by the Girl Scouts of the USA and AT&T, and is a member of the grants advisory committee of the New York Women’s Foundation and the Circle of Sisters for Social Change.

Rasma Rozenberga, Latvia, 2007

For Rasma Rozenberga, her Fellowship in 2007 made her see philanthropy differently. After the program, Rozenberga ended up working for the European Regional Development Fund supporting the cross-border cooperation program between Estonia and Latvia. While her work in grantmaking has been a far cry from community foundations, she credits the IFP for changing the way she

approached her job.

“With hundreds of bits and pieces [the IFP] twists your mindset,” explained Rozenberga, who is from Latvia. “Then, if you land in a place where grant money comes from a more abstract EU, you keep thinking of the taxpayers behind it, you keep bothering your boss and annoying your colleagues about how to make it all more transparent, more applicant friendly, more for the people and less for the bureaucracy.”

Thanks to the IFP, Rozenberga spent much more time as the information manager telling stories on the website about projects being funded to give applicants more insight and being more transparent with them about the grants process.

“It was not easy, because the EU programs are very, very bureaucratic,” Rozenberga said. Her work was rewarded with a nomination for a European Commission Regio Star Award for the website.



PROGRAM SUPPORT

The International Fellows Program at the Center on Philanthropy and Civil Society is supported by grants and contributions from foundations, civil society organizations, corporations, and individuals located around the globe. To date, our 191 alumni and Fellows have been supported by more than 50 donors in 30 countries.

In 1989, the Rockefeller Brothers Fund provided a generous grant to support the first cohort of three International Fellows and supported the program for its first three years. Additional multi-year supporters of the program over the last 25 years include: AMIDEAST (Cyprus); The Atlantic Philanthropies (USA); Compagnia di San Paolo (Italy); The Eurasia Foundation; Ford Foundation; Himalaya Foundation (Taiwan); W.K. Kellogg Foundation; Charles Stewart Mott Foundation; Pine Tree Foundation of New York; The Rockefeller Foundation; Stavros S. Niarchos Foundation (Greece); The Winnipeg Foundation (Canada), along with Friends of the Fellows and several anonymous donors.

In the year 2000, the Charles Stewart Mott Foundation made its first grant to the Center in support of efforts to develop community foundations internationally. With ongoing support from the C.S. Mott Foundation, the Center has since hosted 157 Fellows from 42 countries. These Fellows have returned home to share research and new perspectives, and to introduce, build and strengthen community foundations and community philanthropy support organizations around the globe.

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