SPECIAL MEMBER DISCUSSION The State of Nonprofit Sustainability in Mississippi (and what it means for you)





#### "Board Engagement"

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#### Talent Retention





Sometimes, it feels like grantmakers and nonprofits speak two different languages.

# Today's objectives:

(1) An open dialogue between grantmakers and nonprofits;

(2) Collaboration for more financially sustainable programs;

(3) More funding for organizational development/capacity building.

See Two Sides of the Same Coin Report

# Part 1

How do we cross the chasm that often, exists between funders and nonprofit operators, to create sustainable impact?

#### Jane Alexander





#### Martha Allen





#### Jane Alexander





- What role does sustainability play within your grantmaking process?
- Is it a factor in your (board's) funding decisions?
- The Community Foundation raises money, too – how has this affected your perspective, if at all?

- How do you fund your mission?
- Is program sustainability a topic that's addressed in a strategic plan, or with your board?
- What does a typical month in fundraising look like for you, and Extra Table?

#### Martha Allen





#### Jane Alexander

#### Martha Allen

What keeps you up at night when you think about your (grantees') fundraising?

Community Foundation FOR MISSISSIPPI WYEXTRA STABLE

#### Identifying common challenges.



Donors want to see their giving create lasting change.

Endowed/agency funds won't grow without nonprofit capacity.

Limited discretionary funds must be leveraged wisely.



Fighting hunger across the state requires significant funding.

Limited time to cultivate donors and build campaign plans.

Inheriting messy, incomplete data and limited infrastructure.

#### Identifying shared strategies.



Build strong nonprofit partners with capacity to sustain grants and build an endowment.

## **VEXTRA A**TABLE

Consistently embrace fundraising as a central leadership priority to increase impact & fight hunger.

#### Jane Alexander

#### Martha Allen

### What have you tried in the past to build fundraising capacity?

Community Foundation FOR **MISSISSIPPI**  **VEXTRA STABLE** 

#### Jane Alexander

#### Martha Allen

### Did it work? What was successful? What was frustrating you?

Community Foundation FOR **MISSISSIPPI**  WEXTRA STABLE

#### One year ago...













- Paired with a Personal Fundraising Coach
- Began analyzing donor data;
- Developed a new donor cultivation strategy;
- Implemented over 12 months.

#### (outputs)



- Tripled Martha's campaign goal in a firstever year-end campaign;
- Raised \$60,000 in net new revenue from the 'Amazing Rai\$e';
- Identified new major gift prospects and began managing relationships with data & technology.

#### (outcomes)

#### Jane Alexander

#### Martha Allen

What do you feel prevents candid discussion between grantor and grantee?

Community Foundation FOR **MISSISSIPPI**  **WEXTRA STABLE** 

#### Jane Alexander Martha

What do you need from your counterpart that's often misunderstood or left unaddressed?

FOR MISSISSIPPI

# Part 2

Do we have data to quantify these needs on a statewide level? What should we all do as a result?

# Today's objectives:

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See Two Sides of the Same Coin Report

The challenges we all seek to address are far too big and complex for any one of us to solve.

# We must shift from a responsive to a responsible approach to change-making.

It's (y)our job to create a strong, resilient nonprofit organization.



Capacity building is turning best intentions into reality, so our nonprofits create more and more long-term outcomes.

#### Nationally, funders aren't keeping pace with needs...



...and individuals in our communities want to help...

annual giving to nonprofits by:



#### ...but nonprofits aren't building donor relationships.



#### SUSTAINABILITY

89% nonprofits overrely on single-source, granted, public funding



BUDGET

93% nonprofits don't budget for unforeseen fundraising expenses



GROWTH

77% of emerging nonprofits will struggle to raise last year's total



#### Assessing the State of Nonprofit Sustainability in Mississippi

A special report quantifying both the bright spots and potential threats to nonprofit impact across the state of Mississippi.

Prepared for members of:



#### Who did we talk with?


### Who did we talk with?



## Where is the most help needed?

What's your nonprofit's greatest challenge?						
Raising Money, Fund Development 83%						
Financial Management, Accounting	27%					
Program Evaluation	20%					
Strategic Planning	18%					
Human Resources	18%					
Technology & Infrastructure	7%					



the "middle class" of organization capacities

smallest budgets, more volunteer-run orgs

## Is raising money really that hard?

All Participants						
Individual Giving	Individual Giving Last 12 Months					
Individuals as %	7% (median)					
Annual Budget	18% (mean)					
Annual	\$400,000 (median)					
Operating Budget	\$1,565,000 (mean)					
Revenue Raised	\$32,500 (median)					
From Individuals	\$133,000 (mean)					
Number of	74 (median)					
Individual Donors	564 (mean)					
Number of	10 (median)					
\$1,000+ Donors	46 (mean)					
Average Cift Size	\$237 (median)					
Average Gift Size	\$460 (mean)					



## Is raising money really that hard?

All Part						
Individual Giving	Individual Giving Last 12 Months					
Individuals as %	7% (median)	$H_{aa}$				
Annual Budget	18% (mean)	Healthy $= 70\%$				
Annual	\$400,000 (median)					
Operating Budget	\$1,565,000 (mean)					
Revenue Raised	\$32,500 (median)	Healthy = \$280K				
From Individuals	\$133,000 (mean)					
Number of	74 (median)					
Individual Donors	564 (mean)					
Number of	10 (median)					
\$1,000+ Donors	46 (mean)					
Average Cift Size	\$237 (median)	Average = \$310				
Average Gift Size	\$460 (mean)	Average - \$310				

## Does capacity vary by region?

Individual Giving By Region	Donors as % Budget	Annual Budget	Revenue Raised	Number of Donors	\$1,000+ Donors	Average Gift Size	Major Gifts % of Base
Capital/Jackson	4%	\$380,000	\$10,000	235	8	\$297	3%
The Gulf Coast	10%	\$369,000	\$32,000	253	7	\$214	3%
The Delta	21%	\$143,000	\$33,000	26	1	\$303	4%
Piney Woods	22%	\$55,000	\$11,000	60	2	\$183	3%
Red Clay Hills	12%	\$201,000	\$10,000	57	4	\$206	7%
Statewide / All Others	6%	\$598,000	\$40,000	168	17	\$238	10%

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## Does capacity vary with staffing?

Giving by Staffing	Donors as % Budget	Annual Budget	Revenue Raised	Number of Donors	\$1,000+ Donors	Average Gift Size	Major Gifts % of Base
Board	15%	\$50,000	\$3,500	32	1	\$109	3%
Executive Director	3%	\$194,000	\$5,000	20	3	\$250	15%
ED + Dev. Director	4%	\$1,456,000	\$42,000	239	30	\$294	12%
Dev. Staff	9%	\$1,800,000	\$96,000	425	50	\$225	9%

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Dev. Staff	9%	\$1,800,000	\$96,000	425	50	\$225	9%





### **Funding Focus**





# Jumpstart



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#### COACHING + DIRECT SERVICES

Providing monthly, one-on-one coaching by a consultant providing services as if a member of grantee's team

#### FUNDRAISING OPERATING SYSTEM

Integrating tech to enable grantees to easily track and engage donors, create and launch campaigns, & monitor progress



#### TEMPLATES + TOOLS

Enabling access to a library of best-practice fundraising materials so no grantee ever has to start from scratch



#### BOARD-STAFF ALIGNMENT

Creating a shared understanding of fundraising needs, budget, planning & the interdependencies for success

## It can be difficult to embrace and actively implement best-practices and research.

#### HOW PEOPLE GIVE & WHAT CHANNELS MAKE IT EASY



## It can be difficult to embrace and actively implement best-practices and research.



Measuring the outcomes of capacity building to find an ROI is (really) hard.

#### CREATE A FUNDRAISING TIMELINE, RIGHT-SIZED FOR YOUR NONPROFIT BASED UPON DATA THAT WILL:



## Measuring the outcomes of capacity building to find an ROI is (really) hard.







#### ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS

Network for Good engaged in an extensive literature review of studies previously conducted by a number of Mississippi's philanthropic leaders. While there were many informative publications, two proved most helpful. We would like to thanks their authors, and direct readers to reference them alongside this report.



An assessment of the perceived strengths and challenges facing Mississippi nonprofits, and a description of the relationships between nonprofits and philanthropic players within the state. <u>This report calls for three consistent and related next steps:</u>

(1) Fostering an open dialogue between grantmakers and nonprofits;

- (2) Collaboration to create more financially-sustainable nonprofit programs;
- (3) More funding given for organizational development and capacity building.



A unique "Opportunity Profile" to help Mississippi stakeholders better understand specific opportunities for increasing philanthropy in support of sustainable community betterment. This report calls for a number of consistent and related next steps, including:

- (1) Beginning conversations with local foundations about tapping into new opportunity;
- (2) Imagining the possibilities of increased impact in historically under-resourced areas;
- (3) Building the capacity of local nonprofits to capture their share of transferred wealth.