



## Funders' Group on Parent Organizing, Family Engagement and Leadership Development

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United Parent Leadership Action Network (UPLAN) Listening Session with Spanish-Speaking Young Parents, Albuquerque, NM – February 2019

## Purpose Statement & Impact Framework



## Funders' Group

## Who We Are

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**Our Mission** To support and highlight the voice, expertise, and leadership of parents and caregivers from low-income communities and communities of color, working in partnership with all parents and caregivers, to influence programs and policies that impact families.

**Our Goal** To support diverse parent and caregiver advocates as decision-makers on national, state, and local policies and practices that impact families.

**Our Structure** Network of 21 private and public funders (represented by 40 individuals). **Leadership** provided by Advisory Committee of 7 member funders



## History

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2011 – 2015 Grantmakers for Children, Youth and Families (GCYF) parent engagement focus generates enthusiasm among funders about new ways to work together to support the field of family engagement and parent.

2015 Conversation with funders and parent leaders co-hosted by GCYF and Annie E. Casey Foundation generates priorities for building this field, including “creating and growing a national parent action network”.

Peppercorn Foundation, Hagedorn Foundation, Annie E. Casey Foundation, and W. K. Kellogg Foundation, align funding to launch what is today the United Parent Leadership Action Network (UPLAN).

The four funders begin exploring interest in and value of a funders' group to grow and support this field, and in 2018, the Funders' Group on Parent Organizing, Family Engagement and Leadership Development is established.



# Funders' Group

## What We Do

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Inform foundation and foundation affinity group practice through deep member engagement, and partnerships with non-member foundations and funder affinity groups.

Engage in joint learning, strategy development, and information sharing through an annual meeting, webinars, and other learning events.

Leverage funding and other resources through aligned funding, joint funding, and pooled funding.



## Funders' Group

## Why We Do It diversity and equity at the core

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- Put parent and parent leadership **voices and expertise** front and center
- Cultivate authentic **partnerships** among parent leadership organizations, funders, researchers, and other experts in the field
- **Elevate foundation best practices** and strategies to support this field, including parent voice in internal and external foundation practices

**“Trained, skilled parent leaders become community problem solvers, partners at decision-making tables, and overall civic leaders. This is the very fabric, the foundation of our democracy.”**



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*~Parent Leader Survey  
Respondent,  
Joint Survey of the  
Funder's Group and the  
United Parent Leadership  
Action Network (UPLAN)  
December 2018*



Funders' Group

**How we will do it**

**2019 Goals**

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Pooled/Collaborative funding opportunity

Rich resources for best practices

Authentic engagement with parent  
organizing groups



**Funders' Group**

## **How we will do it**

**2019 focus**

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Webinars - Case Studies  
Partnership with UPLAN  
Collaboration with Affinity Groups  
Annual meeting  
Workgroups

Communicating the Value of Parent Partnerships & Building Parent Partnership Best Practices

Advancing justice literacy in Foundation work

Highlighting Foundation best practices and strategies for parent engagement (internal and external work)



## Funders' Group

## 2019 Advisory Committee

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- Anita Black, Greater Rochester Health Foundation
- Irene Lee, Annie E. Casey Foundation
- Allison Gray, Lucile Packard Foundation for Children's Health
- Malia Ramler, Heising-Simons Foundation
- Mike White, Robert Wood Johnson Foundation



## Funders' Group

## Members

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- Annie E. Casey Foundation
- Carnegie Corporation of New York
- Central Valley Foundation
- The David and Lucile Packard Foundation
- Einhorn Family Charitable Trust
- The Estelle W. and Karen S. Kalish Fund
- Evelyn & Walter Haas, Jr. Fund
- Greater Rochester Health Foundation
- Heising-Simons Foundation
- The J. Warren & Lois McClure Foundation
- Lucile Packard Foundation for Children's Health
- Peppercorn Foundation
- Philadelphia Health Partnership
- Robert Wood Johnson Foundation
- Wellspring Philanthropic Fund
- William Caspar Graustein Memorial Fund
- U.S. Department of Health and Human Services (Aim for Independence)
- The Vermont Community Foundation
- W.K. Kellogg Foundation
- William Penn Foundation
- The Winthrop Rockefeller Foundation



## Funders' Group

## Call to Action

The Funders' Group is seeking interested grantmakers to **help us drive forward and advance a parent organizing and family engagement agenda** through webinars, case studies, convenings and special project workgroups.

Share your interests and experience in this field with us:

- Intersections with your work;
- Expertise in parent/family organizing and engagement
- Internal and external foundation practices for engaging parents and families

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