

Recommendations for Philanthropy's Engagement with the Federal Administration

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How should philanthropy work with the new Administration to create housing policy that centers racial and housing justice and follows the leadership of people with lived expertise?

Funders Together's **recommendations highlight philanthropy's role in building a strong foundation for creating and implementing bold policies rooted in housing justice**. These recommendations reinforce our belief that philanthropy has an obligation to support and resource efforts that will disrupt the status quo that centers whiteness and upholds white supremacy.

During our latest policy call, we highlighted the following recommendations:

[Building Relationships to Support Both Political and Career Staff](#)

How can philanthropy act as a learning partner and resource to staff at federal departments?

Funders can meet with past and current career staff to build relationships and to learn the most effective form of support networks, as well as what mechanisms and resources are needed for the staff to gain support from leadership and to be able to follow through with implementation. This can create mutual support networks among both political and career staff and provide them with the backing to push bold policies that advance racial and housing justice internally.

[Facilitating Transparency in Engaging Community Voices on the Ground](#)

How can funders ensure that community feedback is relayed at the federal level in real time?

Philanthropy can support and facilitate real time feedback from the community on advanced notices or early-stage ideas of program design that can then be used to make necessary changes that center equity and justice prior to being implemented into near final versions. Along with this, because philanthropy already has relationships in local communities, funders can partner with the administration to go beyond community engagement and to participate in co-governance models that focus on racial justice by using the expertise of those who have been doing this work locally for decades.

[Modeling How to Advance Racial Equity and Invest in Disenfranchised Communities](#)

How can we lift up philanthropy's work toward racial equity to show our federal government partners what is possible?

As HUD rebuilds with new staff and priorities, funders can utilize the relationship building through public-private partnerships to provide concrete examples of what has worked in the private sector both internally

and externally, where there are opportunities for improvement, and how the federal government can measure progress or success. Philanthropy can be instrumental in pushing the administration to reframe its messaging around its racial equity initiatives because we know that language matters based on the research philanthropy has funded. Philanthropy also acts as a repository of information and can serve as a key connection for federal staff to access research and consultants that can deepen racial equity at the national level.

[Read our full Recommendations for Philanthropy's Engagement with the Federal Administration here](#)

Funder Call Recording: [Advancing Housing Justice Policies with the Biden Administration](#)

During this funder call, we discussed how philanthropy can ensure the first year of partnership with this administration sets a strong foundation for creating and implementing bold policies rooted in housing justice. After we provided updates on developments with the most recent COVID-19 relief package, Lindsay Knotts, contributing author on the [New Deal for Housing Justice](#), provided her insights on the playbook's homelessness policy recommendations. Finally, Amanda Andere, CEO of Funders Together, highlighted specific sections of our Recommendations for Philanthropy's Engagement with the Federal Administration.



Access to the funder call recording is 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, or visit our [Join Us page](#).

As always, we are here to answer your questions or provide insights on public policy developments and opportunities. [Please reach out to me](#) at any time.

Amanda Andere
CEO

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