



Funders Together

TO END HOMELESSNESS



Policy Alert

Last week, organizers and advocates won groundbreaking victories in investments through the [American Rescue Plan](#). The bill notably moves away from trickle-down economics and instead gives direct support to households in need and makes tremendous progress prioritizing the needs of people who are struggling with unemployment, housing instability, and health care coverage.

These investments, however significant, are investments in systems that were built on structural racism. It will require continued organizing and advocacy to ensure that these investments advance us toward racial equity.

Funders Together encourages funders to consider their role in the equitable implementation of these funds. Our [new blog post](#) highlights actions philanthropy can take to ensure that the American Rescue Plan dollars do not exacerbate inequities. **These actions include:**

[Leveraging Public-Private Partnerships and Broker Relationships](#)

We must be attentive to and proactively counter the ways our systems disenfranchise and marginalize Black, Indigenous, Brown, LGBTQ, older and younger communities, people living with disabilities, and people who have uncertain or dangerous immigration status, focusing especially on those who are living at the intersections of these identities and their accompanying oppressions. Funders can bring together local government and community stakeholders to ensure these populations are being prioritized and supported in accessing American Rescue Plan resources through [equity-based decision making practices](#).

[Advocating for Systems Change](#)

The American Rescue Plan includes \$21.55 billion for rental assistance and \$5 billion for tenant-based rental assistance for households who are at risk of or experiencing homelessness. In our blog post, we share examples of principled work underway to identify and change policies and practices that are perpetuating inequity in housing.

[Identifying and Funding Capacity Needs](#)

There is still a need for philanthropy to think long-term and support communities in finding new ways to invest in homelessness services and affordable housing. In some cities and counties, we have seen philanthropy support message testing and development, require explicit racial equity plans, serve as catalysts for additional philanthropic support, and even as backbone organizations. Our blog post shares examples of cities where philanthropy has helped to play these roles at the local level.

[Read the blog post.](#)

Learn More About Equitable Implementation of These Funds at the [2021 Funders Forum: Housing Policies and Partnerships Rooted in Justice](#)

Next Tuesday, March 23, at our [2021 Funders Forum](#), the opening plenary will explore in greater detail what needs to happen to ensure that these investments don't further racial disparities, and what we need to do to move away from existing systems that perpetuate the status quo. Speakers for this plenary include:

- Jeremie Greer, Executive Director, Liberation in a Generation, and contributing author to Housing Policy Playbook - he/him
- Nan Roman, President and CEO, National Alliance to End Homelessness – she/her
- Diane Yentel, President and CEO, National Low Income Housing Coalition – she/her
- Amanda Andere, CEO, Funders Together to End Homelessness (moderator) - she/her

Register for the Funders Forum Today!

Registration allows for 1 individual to attend both days (March 23-24) of the Funders Forum. The participation fee is \$60 for Full (dues-paying) Members and \$120 for Basic (non-dues paying) Members and Non-Members.

Registration closes this upcoming Monday, March 22 at 1:00p ET.



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

[Funders Together to End Homelessness](#)

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