System-Level Resourcing

Presenter: Megan Klenke-Isgriggs
Panelists: Cristina Gair, Christy McMurphy, Sarah Pavone

Overview

Securing sustained funding to continue your community's work is a universally experienced challenge. Join this panel discussion and breakout conversation with communities who have developed collaborative resource development structures to more efficiently and effectively secure long-term funding for their communities. Leave with some action steps your community can take, and help contribute to the network's collective understanding of the resource ecosystems our communities operate in.

Additional Details

What we've heard: Within many communities, agencies are scrambling to compete for the same resources from the same funders. The administrative burden to prospect, apply for, secure, and maintain funding is challenging for many agencies to bear, especially when everyone is devoting 110% elsewhere. There is a lack of understanding within the funding space about the critical nature of system coordination work, making it that much harder to raise funding for system improvement work.

KEY TAKEAWAYS

Key Learnings
- Communities are adopting collaborative approaches to resource development to design community-wide resource strategies, streamline administrative work, and expand resource flows to smaller partner agencies within their communities.

- These approaches are especially beneficial for smaller, under-resourced agencies as those agencies would otherwise often have to devote valuable leadership staff time for prospecting, grant administration, and reporting.

Actions
- Drawing inspiration from panelists and group discussion, participants will leave with one quick action step and one long-term rock to approach.

Related Learning
- Place-based approaches to resource development are a hallmark of Collective Impact strategies and have been deployed in adjacent sectors such as the cradle-to-career and violence reduction/prevention spaces.

Considerations for Equity

Collective approaches to resource development advance equitable distribution of resources within a community. Many agencies, especially those serving historically under-resourced populations, don't have the staff capacity to go after or maintain large grants. Leveraging collective resource development helps alleviate administrative burdens on those agencies and strengthen the resource flows to their populations, ultimately allowing those agencies to focus on serving their populations.

FURTHER LEARNING