VOTE
KEEP SHOWING UP
DON'T DESPAIR
DOUBLE DOWN
Dear Colleagues:

By all measures, 2018 was a tough year for GCIR and for every organization working on immigration. Through a relentless barrage of policy changes and toxic rhetoric, the federal administration continued its campaign against immigrants, refugees, and asylum seekers at our borders and in our communities. Its coordinated attack has consisted of three main strategies: 1) dehumanizing and demonizing immigrants through deceitful and destructive narratives; 2) forcing immigrants already here to leave through unilateral policy directives that increased enforcement, detention, and deportation; and 3) preventing would-be asylum seekers and refugees from entering the country through extreme policies, including family separation and detention, drastic reductions in refugee admissions, and a radical overhaul of the public charge rule. Driven by racism, xenophobia, and hate, the administration’s policies have sought to alter the face of our nation, dismantle our historical role as a beacon of hope and land of refuge, and undermine our pluralistic democracy.

GCIR mounted an all-out effort to galvanize philanthropic response. We provided consultation to 75 foundations that deployed more than $15 million to address family separation. We organized a campaign, partnering with Northern California Grantmakers, that resulted in 67 philanthropic institutions submitting comments to the proposed public charge rule. We charged ahead to mobilize California funders to support a fair and accurate 2020 census count. And we strategized with funders on refugees and asylum seekers, criminalization of immigrants, and secondary trauma for service providers.

We maintained a high volume of work as well as a high standard of excellence despite significant transitions and reduced staff capacity in 2018. Upon my return from a three-month sabbatical, we bade farewell to three dear colleagues: Felecia Bartow, Camellia Rodriguez-SackByrne, and Bia Vieira. In the same timeframe, Aryah Somers Landsberger and Dianna Truong went on parental leave after the arrival of their sons (affectionately known as the GCIR twins, having been born hours apart).

External and internal challenges made 2018 a year of deep learning and reflection. Our experience taught us three important lessons:

1. In this hostile policy climate, working on immigration has never been more difficult. Mutual support and resilience are essential to weathering the toxic environment and organizational challenges.
2. With so much at stake, neither the field nor philanthropy can afford to focus solely on rapid response at the expense of long-term goals. Rather than attempt to address every urgent matter, we must be judicious and work on issues where we can activate funders to have the most impact.
3. After being marginalized for so long, immigration is now a front-and-center issue for philanthropy. To maximize our collective impact, we must have a powerful affirmative vision to guide philanthropic leadership and investment for the next ten years.

These lessons will guide GCIR’s work in the coming year and beyond, as we tackle both new and familiar challenges in partnership with members, funders, and allies across the United States and the globe.

Sincerely,

Daranee Petsod

The administration’s policies have sought to alter the face of our nation, dismantle our historical role as a beacon of hope and land of refuge, and undermine our pluralistic democracy.
2018, adverse immigration policy developments continued to unfold at a staggering pace, with profound and far-reaching consequences for newcomers, their families and communities, and all Americans. Key issues and events included family separation and detention at the U.S.-Mexico border, the public charge regulation, the Central American migrant caravan, the midterm elections, and more. GCIR delivered the in-depth subject matter expertise that funders needed to make sense of complex issues and highly technical matters of law and policy. We offered monthly policy calls, five webinars, four regional briefings, 11 conference sessions, and dozens of co-sponsored programs—as well as issue briefs, funding recommendations, reports, and presentations. GCIR helped funders delve deeper than the news headlines, understand the implications for their grantmaking agendas, and identify the most impactful funding strategies.
the nation deeply divided and immigrants caught in the crosshairs, GCIR forged and facilitated the connection, solidarity, and unity—across issues, sectors, and geographies—that are needed to protect immigrant rights and advance equity for all.

In February, amid extraordinary national circumstances and at a time when the White House was announcing anti-immigrant policies almost weekly, GCIR’s 2018 Biennial National Convening, United We Rise: Newcomers, Neighbors, and America’s Next Generation, brought together 235 funders from around the country to learn, strategize, and get inspired. The convening, held in Los Angeles, featured pioneering thought leaders and funders; presented a wide range of perspectives on philanthropy’s role in addressing community needs and effecting social change; and emphasized collaboration across sectors and silos by including a diverse array of speakers, including representatives from faith communities, community groups, ethnic-based organizations, statewide coalitions, academia, law enforcement, local and state government, grassroots activist organizations, and youth movements.

Reflecting the times, the convening confronted the topics of justice, race, and equity head on, while also creating opportunities for funders from conservative regions of the country to discuss the obstacles they were facing. We challenged seasoned funders to push the boundaries in their grantmaking while also providing entry points for funders connecting immigrant and refugee issues to their own practice areas for the first time.

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Last year, GCIR also launched three learning communities that illuminated the cross-cutting nature of immigration and provided dedicated spaces for funders to deepen their knowledge, build relationships, engage in peer learning, and identify funding strategies:

- **Funders’ Working Group on Refugees and Asylum Seekers (FRAS)** addresses issues facing refugees and asylum seekers in the United States and across the globe.

- **Immigrant Workforce Learning Community (IWLC)** provides cross-sector learning at the intersection of immigration and workforce development.

- **Immigrant Belonging, Well-Being, and Trauma Funders Group (BeWell)** examines mental health and holistic well-being, belonging, toxic stress, trauma, and resilience for immigrants, refugees, and asylum seekers—and the organizations that support them.

At GCIR’s 2018 National Convening, funders explored how equity is being advanced in healthcare spaces and heard about emerging approaches to trauma-informed healing services for immigrants and refugees experiencing high levels of fear and anxiety.

At a GCIR workshop, organized in partnership with Workforce Matters, funders learned about efforts to improve economic opportunity for low-income immigrant and refugee families by building skills and increasing access to education.

At GCIR’s 2018 National Convening, funders explored how equity is being advanced in healthcare spaces and heard about emerging approaches to trauma-informed healing services for immigrants and refugees experiencing high levels of fear and anxiety.
GCIR not only kept philanthropy informed about fast-moving policy developments but also mobilized funders to mitigate their impact on vulnerable immigrant and refugee communities. The trajectory of funder engagement on any given issue—from getting informed to connecting with peers to taking action—took place on an expedited timeline. **Funders often progressed from learning about an issue, to joining a peer learning community, to making a grant within a matter of weeks.** We moved funders to lend their voice—and deploy funds—in support of immigrants and refugees.

With GCIR’s guidance, 67 philanthropic institutions submitted public comments opposing the proposed changes to the “public charge” regulation that aimed to curtail family immigration by punishing low-income families for participating in health and social services for which they and their children are eligible.

When the administration adopted inhumane policies sanctioning the separation of thousands of parents and children seeking entry at the U.S.-Mexico border, GCIR helped funders understand the implications of the “crisis of sorrow,” recruited more than 200 philanthropic institutions to sign onto our joint statement, provided technical assistance to 75 foundations seeking to respond, and guided the deployment of $15 million to the border.

As part of our broader civic engagement strategy, GCIR launched the California Census 2020 Statewide Funders’ Initiative to engage funders in supporting efforts to achieve a fair and accurate Census 2020 count. The statewide table helped to increase census funding from three grants totaling $250,000 in 2016 to 59 grants totaling $9.5 million by the end of 2018.

GCIR also shared resources with funders and urged them to sign onto a joint foundation letter opposing the addition of a citizenship question to Census 2020. If allowed to go forward, the citizenship question would drive down response rates among hard-to-count populations, including immigrants of color, thereby undermining fair political representation. In California alone, an undercount would jeopardize $71 billion in federal funding for critical services.*

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*At the time of this publication, the U.S. Supreme Court has temporarily blocked the addition of a citizenship question to the 2020 census.
In 2018, GCIR’s established funder networks—**Delivering on the Dream (DOTD)** and **the California Immigrant Integration Initiative (CIII)**—continued to bring new funders to the immigration space and engaged longstanding funders to build the immigrant rights and services infrastructure around the country.

As a result of GCIR’s engagement of funders in the South, including a two-day funder meeting in Georgia in January 2018, two new Southern DOTD collaboratives were launched in late 2018: Georgia and Florida. We launched a third new collaborative in New Jersey, another state with high need and low funder engagement. By the end of 2018, DOTD comprised 23 collaboratives in 18 states working to advance the equity and inclusion of immigrants and refugees in their communities.

Our CIII funder table remained an important forum for catalyzing coordinated and collaborative grantmaking in the state with the largest immigrant population. This past year, we increased participation from Southern California funders.
We wish to thank the following philanthropy-supporting organizations for partnering with us on programs, inviting us to share our knowledge and expertise with their members, and joining us in speaking out for immigrant communities.

AAPIP: Asian Americans/Pacific Islanders in Philanthropy  
ABFE: A Philanthropic Partnership for Black Communities  
Africa Grantmakers’ Affinity Group  
Asian and Pacific Islander American Health Forum  
Asset Funders Network  
Associated Grant Makers  
Association of Baltimore Area Grantmakers  
Bay Area Workforce Funders Collaborative  
California Donor Table Fund  
Center for Disaster Philanthropy  
CHANGE Philanthropy  
Chesapeake Bay Funders Network  
Children, Youth & Family Funders Roundtable  
Closing the Women’s Wealth Gap Initiative  
Colorado Association of Funders  
Community Foundation Sonoma County  
Confluence Philanthropy  
Connecticut Council for Philanthropy  
Connecticut Early Childhood Funder Collaborative, a project of Connecticut Council for Philanthropy  
Council of Michigan Foundations  
Council of New Jersey Grantmakers  
Council on Foundations  
Early Childhood Funders Collaborative  
EITC Funders Network  
Environmental Grantmakers Association  
Florida Philanthropic Network  
Forefront  
Funders for LGBTQ Issues  
Funders for Reproductive Equity  
Funders Together to End Homelessness  
Funders’ Committee for Civic Participation  
Funders’ Network for Smart Growth and Livable Communities  
Grantmakers Council of Rhode Island  
Grantmakers for Education  
Grantmakers for Effective Organizations  
Grantmakers in Health  
Grantmakers Income Security Taskforce  
Grantmakers of Oregon and Southwest Washington Health and Environmental Funders Network  
Hispanics in Philanthropy  
Houston Endowment  
Houston Immigration Legal Services Collaborative  
Human Rights Funders Network  
Justice Funders  
Minnesota Council of Foundations  
Napa Valley Community Foundation  
National Committee for Responsive Philanthropy  
Neighborhood Funders Group  
Neighborhood Funders Group’s Funders for Just Economy  
New Mexico Association of Grantmakers  
Northern California Grantmakers  
NY Funders Alliance  
Open Society Foundations National Security & Human Rights Campaign  
Peace and Security Funders Group  
PEAK Grantmaking  
Philanthropic Initiative for Racial Equity  
Philanthropy California  
Philanthropy for Active Civic Engagement  
Philanthropy Massachusetts  
Philanthropy Network Greater Philadelphia  
Philanthropy New York  
Philanthropy Northwest  
Philanthropy Ohio  
Philanthropy Southwest  
Pillars Fund  
Resource Generation  
San Diego Grantmakers  
Silberman Center for the Advancement of Philanthropy  
Southeastern Council on Foundations  
Southern California Grantmakers  
Sustainable Agriculture & Food Systems Funders (SAFSF)  
The Center for Effective Philanthropy  
The Chapultepec Group & Camino Arts  
The Democracy Fund Special Project on Fostering a Just and Inclusive Society  
The Funders Network  
The Silberman Center for the Advancement of Philanthropy  
United Philanthropy Forum  
Wise Philanthropy Institute  
Women Donors Network  
Women’s Funding Network  
Workforce Matters

Thank you to our UndocuFund partners for providing critical assistance to thousands of people who lost homes, jobs, and wages in the 2017 Northern California fires.

Graton Day Labor Center  
North Bay Jobs with Justice  
North Bay Organizing Project

GCIR’s funders and members made possible the programs, resources, and services that we provided to philanthropy in 2018. Their generous support allowed us to weather another tumultuous year.

Annenberg Foundation  
Anonymous  
Blue Shield of California Foundation  
California Community Foundation  
Chavez Family Foundation  
Evelyn and Walter Haas, Jr. Fund  
Ford Foundation  
Four Freedoms Fund  
Heising-Simons Foundation  
James and Gretchen Sandler Philanthropic Fund  
Marin Community Foundation  
Open Society Foundations  
Orange County Community Foundation  
Silicon Valley Community Foundation  
The Annie E. Casey Foundation  
The California Endowment  
The California Wellness Foundation  
The Cloes Fund  
The Global Whole Being Fund  
The Grove Foundation  
The J.M. Kaplan Fund  
The James Irvine Foundation  
The JPB Foundation  
The Needmor Fund  
The New York Community Trust  
The San Francisco Foundation  
The Sapelo Foundation  
The Simmons Foundation  
Unbound Philanthropy  
Unitarian Universalist Veatch Program at Shelter Rock  
von Loeben Sels/Rembe Rock Foundation  
W.K. Kellogg Foundation  
Weingart Foundation  
Y & H Soda Foundation  
Zellerbach Family Foundation
### 2018 Membership

#### Members by Geographic Focus

- **California**: 27%
- **Northeast**: 11%
- **Pacific Northwest**: 4%
- **Midwest**: 7%
- **National**: 38%
- **Mountain**: 2%

#### Members by Years of Membership

- **1-2 years**: 30%
- **3-5 years**: 31%
- **6-10 years**: 18%
- **11-15 years**: 13%
- **16+ yrs**: 8%

### 2018 Board of Directors

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Dianna Truong  
Communications and Development Manager

Beatriz ‘Bia’ Vieira*  
California Program Director

*As of the date of this publication, these individuals have transitioned off of GCIR’s staff. We miss them dearly and we wish to convey our heartfelt thanks for their valuable service, dedication to the mission, and warm camaraderie during their time with GCIR.

2018 Consultants

We could not have accomplished all that we did in 2018 under immense pressure without support from our stellar team of consultants.

Lina Avidan  
Rebecca Carson  
Alice Cottingham

Karen Escalante-Dalton  
Sheila Chung Hagen  
Suzette Brooks Masters

GCIR’s staff of 11 planned and executed our 2018 National Convening for 235 funder participants in Los Angeles, California on February 27-March 1.

GCIR experienced significant transitions in the latter half of 2018. Our reduced but ever-resilient staff gathered for a planning and team-building retreat in November.
Around the country, groups are holding events and conducting outreach to achieve a complete Census 2020 count. GCIR has been coordinating a statewide funder table to support such efforts in California, increasing census funding from $250,000 in 2016 to $9.5 million by the end of 2018.