

Public Engagement: Why, What, and How?

Engaging the Public to Advance Policy Change



GIH Fall Forum
October 25, 2013
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The question is not
"Should we do advocacy?"
but
"Can we afford not to?"

501(c)(3)
Private Foundation

501(c)(3)
Public Foundations

501(c)(4)

Examples



Tax
Treatment

Tax-Exempt
Contributions
tax-deductible

Tax-Exempt
Contributions
tax-deductible

Tax-Exempt

Lobbying
Activities

PROHIBITED

Tax on foundation
& managers

LIMITED

Insubstantial Part or
501(h)

UNLIMITED

Electoral
Activities

Cannot support or
oppose a candidate
for office

Cannot support or
oppose a candidate
for office

Secondary activity
Follow federal and
state election law

Community
Organizing

Public
Education

Nonpartisan
Voter Ed.

Influence
Corporations

Educate
Legislators

PARTISAN
POLITICAL

Lobbying
Exceptions

Regulatory
Efforts

Get to Know
Legislators

Educational
Conferences

LOBBYING

Litigation

Research

Training

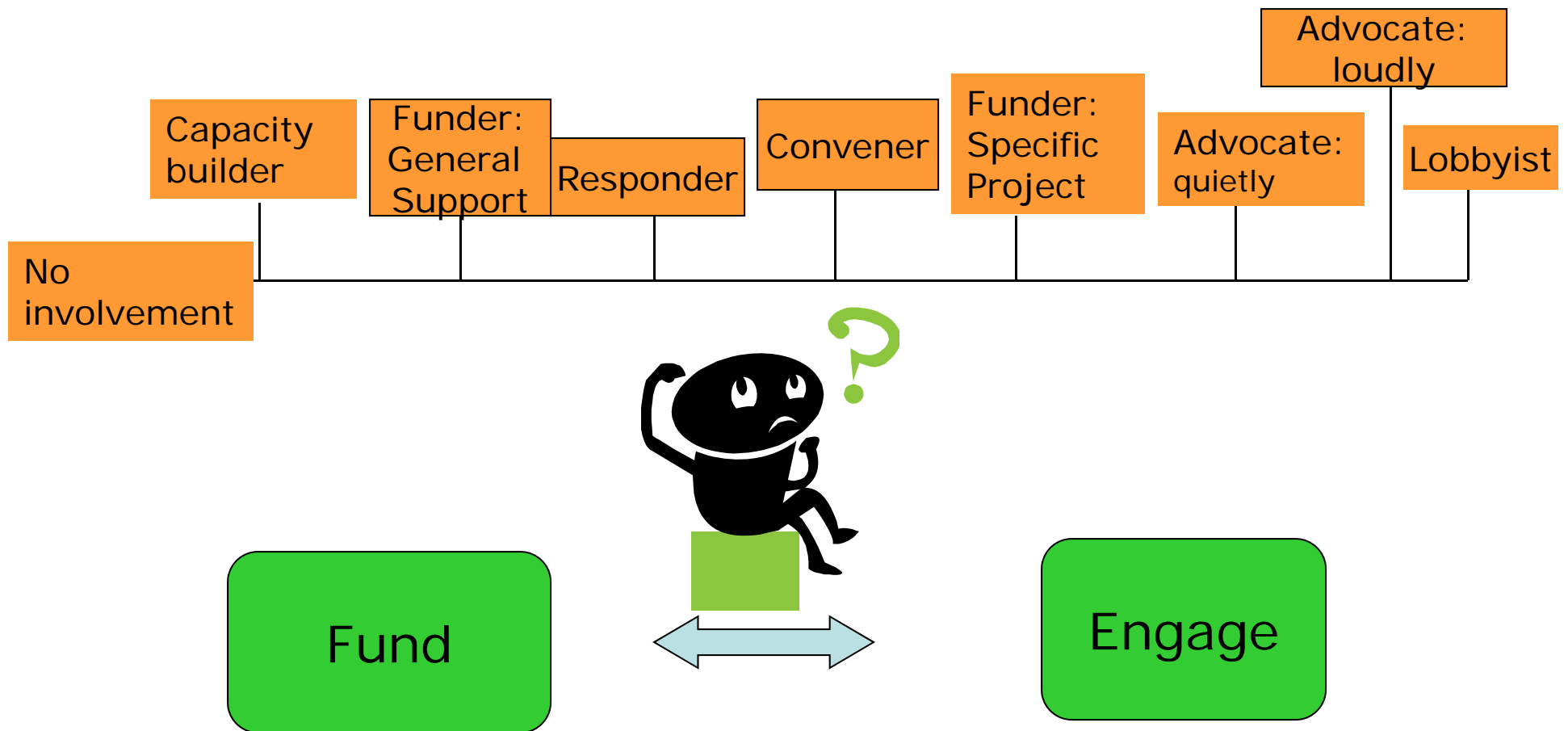
Avenues for
ADVOCATING CHANGE

What **can** I do?

What **should** I do?



Foundation Involvement in Advocacy: Continuum of Roles





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