

# Terrance Keenan Institute for Emerging Leaders in Health Philanthropy



The Terrance Keenan Institute for Emerging Leaders in Health Philanthropy, founded by Grantmakers In Health (GIH) with support from the Robert Wood Johnson Foundation, is a living legacy through which Terrance Keenan's words and deeds will continue to inspire future leaders in the field.

The institute offers a tremendous opportunity for foundation leaders to enhance the professional development of their most promising staff.

Terrance Keenan (1924-2009) had a profound impact on the field of health philanthropy, as well as on generations of individuals who have been inspired by his wisdom and values. By example and instruction, he challenged grantmakers to exercise their freedom to invest in leadership and develop new institutions and systems to confront major needs. He encouraged them to embrace both the freedom to fail and the freedom to persist.

GIH created the institute to nurture talented practitioners who have shown the potential to be among the next generation of leaders in the field of health philanthropy, to build relationships among this cadre of emerging philanthropic leaders, and to connect them with established figures in the field.

The institute will take place October 6-7, 2020 in Washington, DC.

## The Institute Experience

Terrance Keenan Institute fellows will spend two days with seasoned leaders from the field of health philanthropy, many of whom are past recipients of GIH's Terrance Keenan Leadership Award in Health Philanthropy.

The program emphasizes leadership development, mentoring, and building collegial connections that can endure throughout the fellows' careers. The institute's retreat format will include a mix of structured discussions, small group meetings, and time for informal networking. Topics will reflect key themes from Terrance Keenan's work and writings, such as innovation, taking risks, and the creative deployment of resources available to grantmakers. To further nurture ongoing professional connections among the fellows, GIH offers opportunities for fellows to connect with and learn from one another throughout the year.

## Selection Criteria

Because institute fellows are expected to be among the next generation of philanthropic leaders, evidence of leadership potential will be a critical consideration in the selection process. Nominees will be judged on the many dimensions of leadership, including:

- thoughtful use of philanthropic dollars and other resources,
  - creativity and risk taking,
  - innovative and critical thinking,
  - interest and curiosity in the challenges facing the field of philanthropy,
  - effectiveness and respectfulness in working with both colleagues and grantees,
  - management acumen,
  - contributions to their foundations and the broader field, and
  - demonstrated interest in assuming increasing responsibility and leadership roles.
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To be eligible, a nominee must be an active grantmaker with a U.S. foundation or corporate giving program working in an area that affects health or health care. While nominees are not required to work at a foundation for a minimum length of time, they must be under the age of 45. Nominees may be program officers, program directors, or other staff directly involved in grantmaking. GIH and the selection committee strongly encourage nominations of emerging leaders who reflect the rich diversity of health philanthropy.

## Nomination Process

Terrance Keenan Institute fellows must be nominated by the President and CEO or Executive Director of their respective foundations. Chief Executive Officers may nominate only one individual. Since more than one staff person may express interest in the institute, we ask that careful consideration be given to the nomination process.

Chief Executive Officers should submit a statement presenting the nominee's defining characteristics, describing his or her leadership potential, and how the nominee will benefit from participation in the institute. The statement should also include a brief biographical profile of the nominee, including a summary of his or her contributions to health philanthropy.

We would also like to learn more about each nominee and his or her ideas on philanthropic leadership. Nominees should submit a personal statement answering the two questions below. Responses will complement the CEO nomination letters.

- Why do you want to participate in the institute and what do you hope to learn from the faculty and mentors? In what ways can you imagine applying your experiences to your current or future work?
- What are the qualities of leadership that you currently apply to your work, and what experiences or training do you think would make you a more effective leader within your organization and/or the broader field?

**A complete nomination package must include:**

- CEO statement. This may be in the form of a letter, which should not exceed four single-spaced typed pages.
- Nominee personal statement. This may also be in the form of a letter and should not be more than two typed pages.
- Completed nomination form, which is available on GIH's [website](#).

No additional supporting documents are necessary.

There is no charge to attend the institute's program. However, fellows' organizations are responsible for their travel and hotel expenses.

Please email nomination materials to [TKI@gih.org](mailto:TKI@gih.org).  
Nominations are due by Thursday, February 20, 2020.

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## Selection Process

Institute fellows will be selected by a committee of executive staff from foundations around the country. The committee will review all nominations, and GIH will notify nominees of the committee's decisions no later than Friday, May 22, 2020. Decisions of the selection committee are final.

## About Grantmakers In Health

Grantmakers In Health (GIH) is an educational organization serving the trustees and staff of foundations and corporate giving programs. It is dedicated to helping grantmakers improve the health of all people. Through programs, publications, professional counsel, and other offerings, GIH works to foster communication and collaboration among grantmakers and others and to help build the grantmaking community's knowledge, skills, and effectiveness. GIH is a nationally recognized resource on and for health philanthropy, supported by nearly 250 funders annually.

For more information on the institute, contact Kate Treanor, Senior Program Director, at [ktreanor@gih.org](mailto:ktreanor@gih.org) or 202.452.8331.