Role of Philanthropy in Addressing Challenges in Policy and Advocacy

Workshop by Afton Bloom
Birth Equity Funders Summit 2022
**Goals**

A. To lift up priority policy areas at the federal AND state level and begin aligning funders to identify where they can have the most impact on elevating and shifting current policy priorities

B. Workshop ways in which philanthropy can best resource those leading the charge and create infrastructure to withstand policy/leadership challenges

C. Create a set of next steps for joint action, areas that require further learning, and ways to share priorities and approaches to state-level policy change

**Agenda**

1. SME Overview: National Framing

2. SME Overview: State Level Framing

3. Facilitated Group Discussion

4. Break

5. Group Share-Out
Subject Matter Experts

Nan Strauss
Managing Director, Policy, Advocacy & Grantmaking
Every Mother Counts

Jamila Taylor
Director of Health Care Reform and Senior Fellow
The Century Foundation
Group Discussion
Question 1: Federal

Based on what you just heard, where do you see the greatest role for philanthropy at the federal level? What are some near-term wins that could be prioritized?

What are some ways in which philanthropy could be working together towards longer-term goals at the federal level? What would those be?

What is needed to generate more interest, alignment and action to make progress at the federal level?

Imagination question: In thinking about your experience in working in adjacent fields (reproductive health, early childhood development, etc.) what are lessons learned for philanthropy to play a productive role at the federal level?
Question 2: State

What type of state-level policy change have you all been working on to date? (Round Robin)

From these experiences, where have you seen philanthropic dollars be most useful?

Where have you seen philanthropic dollars as less useful?

Are there any short-term priorities for influencing policy change that funders should be prioritizing at the state level?

Imagination question: In thinking about your experience in working in adjacent fields (reproductive health, early childhood development, etc.) what are lessons learned for philanthropy to play a productive role at the state level?
How could this group and/or a broader set of funders be working more closely together to achieve policy wins?

- Learning and sharing (between private funders? Between private and public funders? Between funders and advocates? Between funders and a broader set of CBOs?)
- Independently directly funding
- Creating a 3-5 year policy agenda for funding
- Co-funding and collaborating
Question 4: Tying It Together

What are the implications for the other two working groups?

- Aligning on Equitable and Community Informed Metrics
- Investing in the Power of the Birthing Workforce
Closing Note
End of Presentation

We would love to continue the conversation. Reach us at:
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