

ABOUT THE PROGRAM

The Next Gen Fellows Program is a 6-week, virtual leadership development program for dynamic leaders roughly 18–35 years old who are involved in all types of foundations as current or soon-to-be trustees or staff. The program is designed for deep learning and peer networking to prepare the next generation for leadership roles.

You'll gain the competence and confidence to lead—in your foundation, in your community, and in your field—and you'll return to your foundation ready to ask thoughtful questions, make meaningful contributions, and strengthen your giving.

TESTIMONIALS

"The Next Gen Retreat helped spark my family to start an associate board, which includes much of the third generation family members."

—Ted Donley, Associate Director, Donley Family Foundation

"The program is unique because it combines structured group learning experiences, one-on-one learning with a knowledgeable mentor, and ample opportunities to reach outside your comfort zone to take your personal development to the next level. A great combination!"

— Renee Steffen, Executive Director Sisters of St. Joseph Charitable Fund (previously Grants and Office Manager)

"I gained so many great insights into philanthropy through [the] Next Gen programs. They have made me a better funder, and I've been able to bring many of the tools I've gained to our entire board."

—Mark Strode, Trustee, "The Woods" Family Foundation

PROGRAM COMPONENTS

Foundations 101 Virtual Seminar

Learn the fundamentals of foundation governance, investments, legal basics, grantmaking strategies, and an overview of the nonprofit sector with our Foundation 101 virtual seminar.

Virtual Learning Series

Together with your peers, build off the knowledge you gain in the Foundations 101 series and learn from experts on topics such as effectiveness, equity, managing change, and envisioning the next generation's legacy. Plus, learn from exemplary nonprofits and connect with other funders. During the training, you will identify your learning objectives and work to create your personal action plan.

Virtual Learning Series Dates. All modules are from 3:00-5:00 PM ET.

WEEK 1: Building Healthy Relationships (Mon 3/14 & Wed 3/16)

Get to know your cohort this first week, and in light of our getting to know each other, learn how to build a healthy culture based on trust at your foundation. Deeper relationships can lead to honest conversations among board, staff, and grantee partners and more effective grantmaking.

WEEK 2: Understand Your Power (Mon 3/21 & Wed 3/23)

Explore how foundations can use their power to create transformative change in their communities. Transformative change comes about when funders understand their community and leverage their non-grant assets to support social change.

WEEK 3: Leading Through Change (Mon 3/28 & Wed 3/30)

Since "the only constant is change," it's important to understand how to manage change. Also, you'll dive into what it looks like to incorporate equity and inclusion practices at your foundation.

WEEK 4: Break (Week of 4/4)

Fellows will meet in small peer groups to digest what they've learned in the first three weeks of the virtual learning series and discuss what they are looking forward to in the final weeks of the program.

WEEK 5: Measuring Impact (Mon 4/11 & Wed 4/13)

Examine evaluation: what do different methods of evaluating look like, how do they impact your work, and how do they impact grantees.

WEEK 6: Planning for the Future (Mon 4/18 & Wed 4/20)

On this last week, gain practical tips and tools to help you implement new ideas. You'll have time and space to think about your future development.

Virtual Roundtables

Connect with other participants throughout the three-week learning series outside of our learning modules. You will join one-on-one and small group discussions around specific topics and emerging trends.

Peer Coaching

Fellows will be thoughtfully grouped in small peer coaching circles and will connect throughout the fellowship. Your peers will support your individualized learning, help you achieve the objectives of your personal action plan, and serve as a trusted resource long afterward.

Publications

Receive Exponent Philanthropy's top-selling publications, The Foundation Guidebook and The Trustee Handbook, the most comprehensive resources for foundation trustees and key staff.

FACULTY

This program is facilitated by Kerry McHugh, a Next Gen Fellow alumna, and Exponent Philanthropy board member.



Kerry is a seasoned facilitator with roots in the philanthropic and social sectors. She currently serves as a program officer and board member at The Helen J. Serini Foundation in Frederick, MD, named after her grandmother, and as Knowledge Curator with the Equitable Evaluation Initiative. She previously worked in marketing with a variety of government and nonprofit clients. She also serves on the board of Exponent Philanthropy and engages local philanthropies in conversations around systems change via the Maryland Philanthropy Network. She lives in Western Maryland with her partner, a delightfully rambunctious toddler, and an awful lot of yet-unread books.

COST TO ATTEND

Exponent Philanthropy Member Program Fee: \$1,995

Non-Member Program Fee: \$2,295.

Note: Registration fees and travel costs associated with trainings like this conference may be counted towards your foundation's [five percent distribution requirement](#). Consult your professional advisor to discuss your specific circumstances.