

# Scaling What Works

## A GEO Action Network

A coalition of more than 20 funders has made investments that will extend the reach, learning and impact of the Social Innovation Fund and other philanthropic efforts to bring effective nonprofit programs to scale. **Scaling What Works**, a nearly \$5 million project of **Grantmakers for Effective Organizations**, will leverage what grantmakers are learning about how to best expand solutions to society's most pressing problems. By clarifying what's working on the ground, this project will ensure that public and private resources, including SIF dollars, can more effectively flow to the highest performing nonprofits.

### The project's objectives are to:

- ▶ Serve as an ongoing convener, liaison and information broker between the field of philanthropy and the public agencies involved with the Social Innovation Fund, with the hope of building effective partnerships between philanthropy and the public sector that can speed the pace at which community solutions scale.
- ▶ Expand the number of donors nationally who are prepared to support the evidence base, capacity and growth of promising nonprofit organizations, regardless of whether these nonprofits receive funding from the SIF.
- ▶ Support collaborative learning and action among the network of grantmaking intermediaries funded by the Social Innovation Fund so they can most effectively invest public and private resources, and so the lessons they learn are translated for the broader field.

## Project Supporters

The Annie E. Casey Foundation

The Atlantic Philanthropies

The Bank of America  
Charitable Foundation

Bill & Melinda Gates Foundation

Blue Ridge Foundation  
New York

Carnegie Corporation of  
New York

Charles Stewart Mott Foundation

The David and Lucile  
Packard Foundation

The Duke Endowment

The Edna McConnell Clark Foundation

Ford Foundation

George Kaiser Family Foundation

The John S. and James L. Knight  
Foundation

The Joyce Foundation

The Kresge Foundation

Lumina Foundation for Education

New Profit Inc.

Open Society Foundations

Robert Wood Johnson Foundation

SeaChange Capital Partners

Surdna Foundation

W.K. Kellogg Foundation

## About GEO

Grantmakers for Effective Organizations is a coalition of more than 350 grantmakers committed to building strong and effective nonprofit organizations. Understanding that grantmakers are successful only to the extent that their grantees achieve meaningful results, GEO promotes strategies and practices that contribute to grantee success. More information about GEO and a host of resources and links for grantmakers are available at [www.geofunders.org](http://www.geofunders.org).

## About the Social Innovation Fund

The Edward M. Kennedy Serve America Act authorized \$50 million for the creation of the Social Innovation Fund. Administered by the Corporation for National and Community Service, the fund focuses on reducing poverty and inequity by increasing economic opportunity, preparing America's youth for success in school, work, citizenship and other aspects of their lives and promoting healthy lifestyles and reducing the risk factors that can lead to illness. Grantmaking institutions, acting as intermediaries, will match the fund one-to-one and then re-grant the dollars to innovative nonprofits ready for growth. These sub-grantees will also be required to match funds on a one-to-one basis. All told, the program will represent \$200 million of investment.

“The competencies required to serve as an effective intermediary for the SIF — and those Scaling What Works intends to support — are ones GEO has long associated with smart grantmaking that supports strong nonprofits and ultimately yields broader results.

Our hope is that Scaling What Works contributes to the overall capacity and effectiveness of hundreds of grantmakers and thousands of nonprofits — far beyond those directly involved in the Social Innovation Fund.”

*Kathleen P. Enright, President and CEO  
Grantmakers for Effective Organizations*



*Smarter Grantmaking. Stronger Nonprofits. Better Results.*

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