



## The Power in Philanthropy

### Speakers:

- Aaron Dorfman, President & CEO, National Committee for Responsive Philanthropy
- James Head, President & CEO, East Bay Community Foundation
- Jackie VanderBrug, Head of Sustainable and Impact Investment Strategy, Bank of America
- Host: Dr. Nelli Garton, Co-founder and Chief Impact Officer, Tablecloth and Board Member, San Diego Grantmakers

### Overview of Power Moves

- National Committee for Responsive Philanthropy (NCRP) is an independent watchdog of philanthropy. They developed assessment toolkit called Power Moves so organizations can assess their power and impact.
- Three dimensions to power:
  - Building power – explicitly addresses disparate outcomes. Fund community organizing, civic engagement, long term. Policy changes in last 10 years have helped move San Diego region forward.
  - Sharing power – nurturing transparent, trusting relationships and co-creating strategies with stakeholders and grantees. Investing in success of grantees and showing that you trust them through multi-year grants versus one time grants. Solicit input from grantees.
  - Wielding power – exercising public leadership beyond grantmaking to create equitable, catalytic change. Convene and collaborate with other funding sources. Taking a stand on import issues to amplify status and voice. Neutrality is not an asset. Deploy non-grant assets.

### Panel with Aaron Dorfman, James Head and Jackie VanderBrug, moderated by Nelli Garton

- Individuals and institutions are asking for more from capitalism. For clients' impact portfolio, 1 in 5 choose transparency and accountability in investing.
- On the journey to think about power in the community, institutions should transform to be responsive to the community. And think about how the capital was acquired. Many times it was acquired at the expense of the communities it now serves.
- Realization that lobbying power is real asset. Lawyers helped craft policy to increase lobbying and advocacy work.
- Transform what community advocacy work means. And you must pay attention to internal social justices within your own organization. For example, compensation, employee mentoring, benefits, etc.



- Bank of America’s vision is that every client will be enabled to have an impact with their portfolio. What do you want your power to do? Can we measure impact in a way that is purposeful and not overbearing?
- We have tools now that we didn’t have in the 1980s. Mission and values investing is essential. Number one question we get is why not just maximize returns with traditional investing? Women and minorities on investment team can increase returns.
- Co-create strategy with affected communities instead of contracting out your vision without consultation.
- Build capacity with community support organization that are pushing top level change even if it creates tension with political officials.
- Corporate social responsibility (CSR) group transformed into the Environmental, Social and Governance (ESG) group. CSR group was more transactional while the ESG group asked how are we accountable to all stakeholders on ongoing level. The power of employees is changing how corporations see themselves. Talent wants to work for proactive and sustainable companies.
- San Diego Grantmakers announced the Women’s Empowerment Loan Fund, which will blend philanthropic funds and low-cost capital to provide low-cost loans for underrepresented women business owners in San Diego. Have already raised 70% of the needed investment dollars and 65% of philanthropic dollars.
  - To learn more about the Women’s Empowerment Loan Fund, please contact Director of Impact Investments, Robert Foster at [robert@sdgrantmakers.org](mailto:robert@sdgrantmakers.org).