
Informational Call | June 2019
Mission

To enable large scale social and environmental change by **accelerating the use** and **increasing the effectiveness** of collective impact

Activities

The Forum seeks to accomplish its mission by **building the bridge from ideas to practice and growing the collective impact movement** by:

1. Developing a **field-wide digital forum** to create, curate, and disseminate effective knowledge, tools, and practices that support collective impact
2. Supporting **communities of practice, convenings**, and other events that enable practitioners and funders of collective impact to **increase their effectiveness**
3. **Creating content** (e.g., research and publishing) to advance the field
The Collective Impact Forum community features:

- **25,000 members** and growing
- **300+ resources** on collective impact, including articles, case studies, videos, and tools, **all free to access**
- **Community discussion forums** where members engage on topics and queries related to collective impact
- **News from the field**, including RFPs, job postings, workshops, conferences, and webinars

Forum Partners

Co-Catalysts
Facilitators for the Collective Impact Data Accelerator

We will also bring in other partners to facilitate conversations based on accelerator participants’ learning objectives.
Goals of the Collective Impact Data Accelerator

- **Build the capacity of backbone leaders, funders, and other partners** to effectively use *qualitative and quantitative data* for learning in ways that provide insights into how the initiative might improve, adapt, and grow, in service of achieving a community goal.

- **Create a supportive peer learning community** where backbone teams, funders and/or partners have candid conversations and learn with one another when using a broad range of different types of data.

- **Identify promising practices that will be shared broadly with the field** to support backbone leaders, funders, and other practitioners interested in using data in collective impact.
Learning Arc for the Accelerator: We Will Address Several Data-Focused Topics During In-Person and Virtual Sessions

1. What do we want to learn about our collaborative’s progress? What data are we collecting to answer these questions? Who determines what we want to learn?

2. How are we bringing (or should we be bringing) an equity frame to data collection and analysis processes?

3. How are we sharing data and collectively assessing progress among our partners?

4. How are we learning and adapting over time? With whom and how might we share learnings/findings from our data efforts?

• **Three in-person working sessions**: November 2019 (Chicago), May 2020 (Minneapolis), and October/November 2020 (Washington, DC)

• **Group peer learning calls** and **1:1 coaching** during months when there is not a working session

• **Identify an action learning project** focused on using data (to trace throughout the learning experience)
Benefits of Participating in the Collective Impact Data Accelerator

• **Strengthening your ability to use data in collective impact:** action learning project will bring value to participants’ organizations and collective impact initiatives

• **Access to experts and knowledge:** experts on strategic learning and evaluation, use of qualitative and quantitative data, narrative change, asset framing, and other data-related topics will join various meetings and calls for the accelerator

• **Deepening peer relationships:** build relationships with other funders and backbone team members who are prioritizing the use of data in their collective impact initiatives. Through meetings and group calls, connect with and receive feedback from your peers

Feedback from previous Collective Impact Forum learning cohort participants

“(The peer learning cohort) accelerated our movement. Having a project with a timetable was very helpful in that regard.”

“(The peer learning cohort) allowed us to be removed from the day to day hustle, and fully submerge ourselves in peer learning, innovative thinking and actionable solutions.”

“I have enjoyed connecting to a network of peers who have similar goals and share similar challenges.”
Expectations for Accelerator Participants

For those who are selected to participate in the Collective Impact Data Accelerator, participants will commit to the following:

• **Commit the same two or three representatives from your collaborative to participate in the accelerator:**
  - One of the team members should be a **funder**, and the other 1-2 representatives should be **members of the backbone team or data partners**
  - Ideally participants in this Collective Impact Data Accelerator **should be working on mid-to-late stage collective impact initiatives** (i.e., established a governance plan, identified a common goal, and moved from “planning” into “implementation” of aligned strategies and activities)

• **Attend three in-person meetings:** November 12 in Chicago, May 5 in Minneapolis, and October/November 2020 (date TBD) in Washington, DC

• **Identify an action learning project** to trace through the learning experience

• **Participate in group peer-assist calls** *(3-4 total group calls)*

• **Participate in 1:1 coaching conversations** *(3-4 individual coaching calls)*
We Anticipate that Accelerator Participants Will Be in the “Organize for Impact” Stage or Later

<table>
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<tr>
<th>Components for Success</th>
<th>Phase I Assess Readiness</th>
<th>Phase II Initiate Action</th>
<th>Phase III Organize for Impact</th>
<th>Phase IV Begin Implementation</th>
<th>Phase V Sustain Action and Impact</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Governance and Infrastructure</td>
<td>Convene community leaders</td>
<td>Identify champions and form cross-sector Steering Committee “SC” to guide the effort</td>
<td>Determine initial workgroups and plan backbone organization</td>
<td>Launch work groups “WGs” and select backbone organization</td>
<td>Building out the backbone organization; evolve WGs to meet emergent strategy</td>
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<td>Strategic planning</td>
<td>Hold dialogue about issue, community context, and available resources</td>
<td>Map the landscape and use data to make case</td>
<td>Create common agenda, clear problem definition, population level goal</td>
<td>Develop Blueprint for Implementation; identify quick wins</td>
<td>Refine strategies; mobilize for quick wins</td>
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<td>Community engagement</td>
<td>Determine community readiness; Create a community engagement plan</td>
<td>Begin outreach to community leaders</td>
<td>Incorporate community voice - gain community perspective and input around issue</td>
<td>Engage community more broadly and build capacity to implement</td>
<td>Continue engagement and conduct advocacy</td>
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<td>Evaluation and improvement</td>
<td>Determine if there is consensus/urgency to move forward</td>
<td>Analyze baseline data to ID key issues and gaps</td>
<td>Develop high level shared metrics and/or strategies at SC level</td>
<td>Establish shared measures (indicators and approach) at SC and WG levels</td>
<td>Collect, track, and report progress (process to learn and improve)</td>
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Participant Costs

Those who are selected to participate in the accelerator will pay a participation fee of $10,000 for two representatives or $12,500 for three representatives from your collaborative

- This fee will cover the meeting costs and staff time to plan for and facilitate all Collective Impact Data Accelerator calls and meetings

- The registration fee for the 2020 Collective Impact Convening on May 6-8 in Minneapolis is included for each participant in the cost of this accelerator

- Participants will cover their own travel and accommodation costs for the three in-person meetings in Chicago (November 2019), Minneapolis (May 2020), and Washington, DC (October/November 2020)
Online applications opened on May 29

Applications will close on July 26

The Collective Impact Forum will select participating initiatives (one funder and 1-2 backbone / data team members) from 10 different collaboratives by August 16

If you have other questions, please contact the Collective Impact Forum’s Robert Albright at robert.albright@collectiveimpactforum.org