

Funders Concerned About AIDS One-Sheet Report:

What Philanthropy Should Know About the Obama Administration's U.S. Global Health Initiative

In December 2009 President Obama unveiled the details of the new six-year Global Health Initiative (GHI) that would prioritize integration of the previously separate silos of HIV/AIDS, family planning, and maternal and child health. Through the GHI, "the U.S. Government is pursuing a comprehensive whole-of-government approach to global health. The Initiative promotes a new business model to deliver its dual objectives of achieving significant health improvements and creating an effective, efficient and country-led platform for the sustainable delivery of essential health care and public health programs." *Implementation of the Global Health Initiative: Consultation Document, February 2010, Office of U.S. Global AIDS Coordinator.*

On January 27, Funders Concerned About AIDS (FCAA) and the Funders Network on Population, Reproductive Health and Rights hosted the teleconference: "What Philanthropy Should Know About the Obama Administration's U.S. Global Health Initiative." Held on the same day as the State of the Union Address, the call created a forum for funders to discuss how impending changes to U.S. global health policy may impact their own grantmaking strategies. This One-Sheet Report provides a brief sketch of the issues covered by the teleconference.

Teleconference expert participants included: Jennifer Kates, Vice President and Director, Global Health Policy & HIV, the Henry J. Kaiser Family Foundation (moderator); Chris Collins, Vice President and Director of Public Policy, amfAR, the Foundation for AIDS Research; Serra Sippel, President, Center for Health and Gender Equity (CHANGE). More than 40 representatives from foundations all over the U.S. attended the call.

Top Questions for Funders to Monitor

Leadership

1. Who will lead the GHI (The State Dep't, or the White House)?
2. How will it be structured going forward to ensure coordination across federal agencies, funding streams and at the country level?
3. What is the role of the Global Fund to Fight AIDS, Tuberculosis and Malaria?

Dollars

1. How will funding be allocated across and between diseases? What is the logic underlying these allocations?
2. If there is no new money as we expand the work that is to be done, is money coming from the AIDS response and moving to other places?
3. Is GHI an aggregation of funding, or about finding synergies among current funding streams?
4. Where are the cost savings alluded to in the US President's Emergency Plan for AIDS Relief (PEPFAR) Five Year Strategy going to be found?

GHI'S SEVEN PRINCIPLES

1. Implement a woman- and girl-centered approach;
2. Increase impact through strategic coordination and integration;
3. Strengthen and leverage key multilateral organizations, global health partnerships and private sector engagement;
4. Encourage country ownership and invest in country-led plans;
5. Build sustainability through health systems strengthening;
6. Improve metrics, monitoring and evaluation; and
7. Promote research and innovation



Top Questions for Funders to Monitor (Continued)

Collaboration & Communication

1. How will vertical (disease-specific) programming remain valuable as we move towards a horizontal approach (i.e. health systems, general/primary care in which you address all health needs)?
2. It has been said that PEPFAR can be used as a foundation to strengthen health systems. What does that mean at the site level, and at the national planning level?
3. How do you identify synergies for delivering services between disease groups?
4. What are the new metrics for a health-systems approach? What role do advocates, policymakers and funders have in developing these?
5. How do we think differently about accountability?
6. Ambassador Goosby has asked for the NGO community to step up and take a more robust role in technical assistance. How do they do that, and how can funders help?
7. What is the focus on staffing and training of people within U.S. missions?
8. How will civil society be involved in planning at the local and national levels?
9. Will indigenous groups be a part of the conversation and have access to the funding?

Human Rights

1. What is the fate of vulnerable populations in this new response? Are men who have sex with men, or sex-workers, or injecting drug users going to be able to get the services they need in a health systems focused approach?
2. How will populations whose behavior is deemed illegal fare when we move to a system of government ownership?
3. What role does the U.S. Government have/play in working with host countries that penalize, persecute and/or criminalize people living with HIV/AIDS?

WHAT CAN FUNDERS DO?

Although details on the GHI are still unfolding, teleconference participants suggested multiple roles grantmakers could play:

CONVENE: Bring concerned and invested people together to ask some of these tough questions, as well as to monitor the progress of the GHI.

SUPPORT: Fund policy analysis and advocacy efforts on-the-ground, both globally and domestically.

CONNECT: Provide the link between global and domestic efforts, and efforts across disease groups. Council your grantees and colleagues to think about “unusual partners,” and to look beyond your disease group for allies, synergies and new leverage.

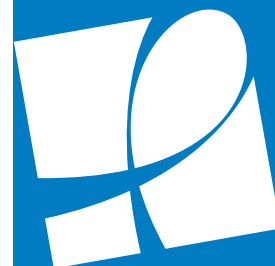
RESOURCES

FCAA and the Funders Network will continue to monitor and report back on developments in the GHI.

- For specific information on the President’s FY2011 budget, including details on key global health accounts, please visit: <http://www.kff.org/globalhealth/8045.cfm>
- To learn more about the Global Health Initiative, please visit: <http://www.pepfar.gov/ghi/index.htm>
- Learn how a coalition of global health advocacy organizations are coordinating their response to the GHI at: <http://www.theglobalhealthinitiative.org/>

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AS A NETWORK OF MORE THAN 1,500 PHILANTHROPIC GRANTMAKERS ENGAGED IN THE FIGHT AGAINST HIV/AIDS, FUNDERS CONCERNED ABOUT AIDS (FCAA) WORKS TO MOBILIZE PHILANTHROPIC LEADERSHIP, IDEAS, AND RESOURCES TO END THE HIV/AIDS EPIDEMIC AND TO ADDRESS ITS SOCIAL AND ECONOMIC CONSEQUENCES.



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