

2026 Annual Conference
PORTLAND, OR
November 11 - 13

CASE FOR SUPPORT

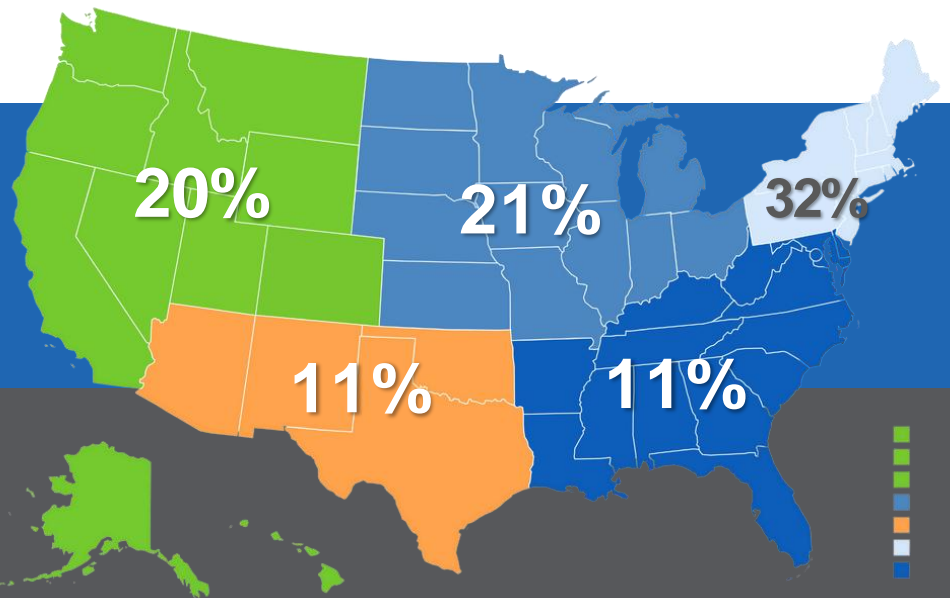


Who is Exponent Philanthropy?

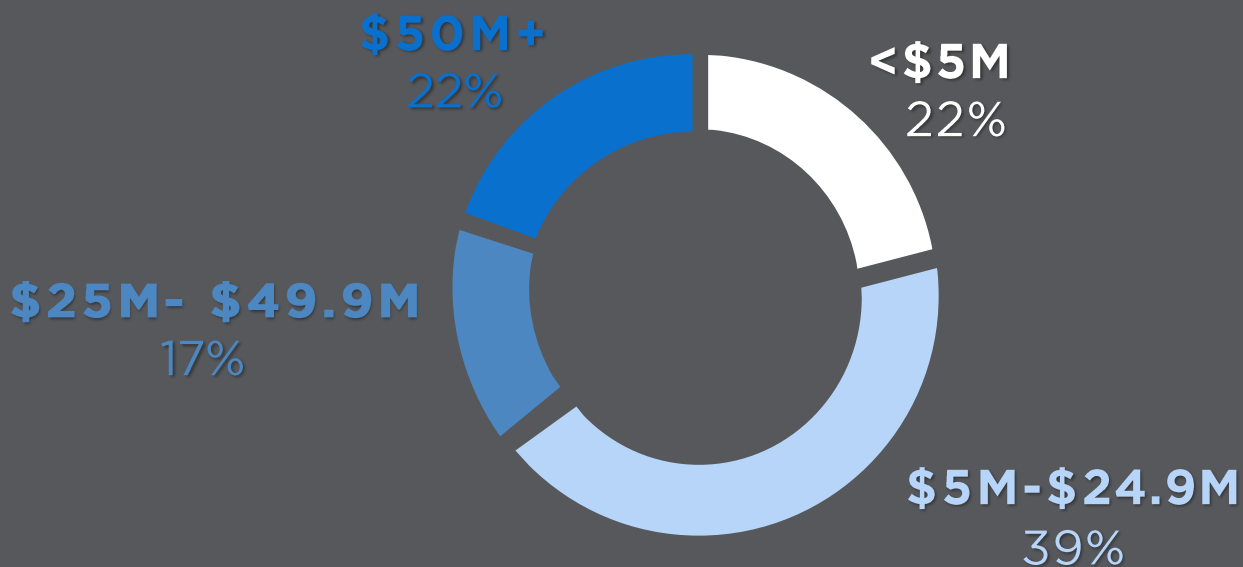
Exponent Philanthropy is the **largest philanthropic network in the United States** and the only membership association dedicated to serving foundations, families, and individual donors who practice philanthropy with lean operations. With more than 1,500 members representing every corner of the U.S., we are a nationwide network of community-connected philanthropy leaders.

Since our founding nearly 30 years ago, our work has focused on amplifying and increasing the impact of lean funders and transforming communities through informed giving. We do this by providing valuable resources, peer learning opportunities, and research to help funders - regardless of their size or structure - make informed decisions that maximize their impact and enable them to efficiently and effectively serve their communities.

Members by Region



Members by Asset Size



What is

The Annual Conference?

Designed by and for lean funders, Exponent Philanthropy's Annual Conference offers an inspiring opportunity for more than 500 philanthropic leaders from across the country to come together for in-person learning, connecting, and sharing.

Hosted each fall, our Annual Conference has a strong reputation for engaging the head and heart, providing meaningful opportunities to connect and learn, and radiating a welcoming culture that builds a supportive community of peers.

The 2026 Annual Conference will be an exceptional experience that will

1

Deliver first-rate content that informs, inspires, and challenges funders to follow an intentional path towards greater effectiveness and fulfillment.

2

Provide a robust arena for learning, sharing, and connecting among colleagues, board members, advisors, and field leaders.

3

Celebrate and champion the impact of lean philanthropy and highlight ideas and practices from across the field.

4

Highlight and infuse the uniqueness of Portland and the greater Pacific Northwest Region including its unique history, arts and culture, and thriving philanthropic and nonprofit community.



What is

The Conference Agenda?

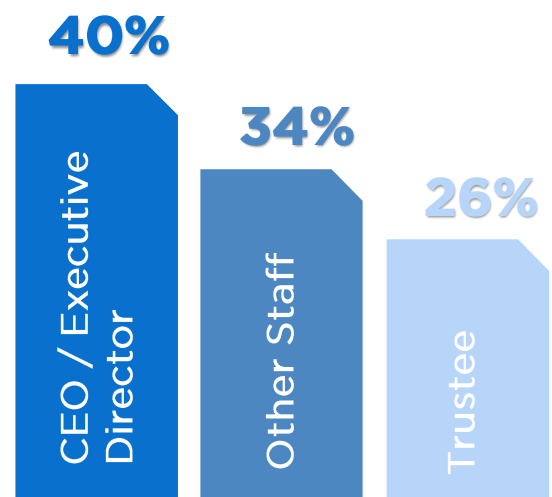
The conference agenda spans a wide range of philanthropy-related topics and offers a variety of session formats to meet all learning styles. The program will include 40+ sessions, workshops, thought-provoking plenaries, site visits, and a multitude of informal learning and networking opportunities that build connection, strengthen skills, provide inspiration, and explore trends.

Plans for the 2026 Conference include:

- Pre-Con:** Full and half-day retreats for CEOs, trustees, and Next Gen Fellows, 990PF workshop, Champions Reception, and dine-arounds
- Day 1:** Opening plenary, in-depth learning sessions, community site visits, exhibit hall, peer networking, and dine-arounds
- Day 2:** Topic-based sessions, member-led workshops, fundamental- to expert-level learning opportunities, plenaries, exhibit hall, and off-site community reception
- Day 3:** Deep dive sessions, issue area roundtables, Annual Member Meeting, and closing plenary

Expected Attendance

We anticipate welcoming more than 500 attendees, including foundation staff and trustees, individual donors, philanthropic families, corporate philanthropists, and philanthropic advisors to join us for three days of learning, networking, and sharing.



Your Support is Needed!

Registration fees cover only a portion of the costs of hosting this important annual gathering. Financial support from funders and sponsors not only makes this event possible but also ensures that it is an incredible learning and networking experience that inspires our dynamic community of lean funders.



Demonstrate Leadership

Your financial support of the Annual Conference is a public commitment of your dedication to Exponent Philanthropy's mission of transforming communities through informed giving and to our work of amplifying and increasing the impact of lean funders.



Reach Our National Audience of Lean Funders

Your support will elevate and strengthen the country's largest philanthropic network. Exponent Philanthropy's Annual Conference is the only conference designed for funders who practice philanthropy with few or no staff. This diverse community represents a majority of the philanthropic field and makes an impact in all communities and issue areas across the country.



Highlight the Local Community

Your support will help us showcase the best of Portland and the greater Pacific Northwest region, including its rich history, arts and culture, restaurants, and more. We will strive to highlight innovative local nonprofits and philanthropic initiatives, allowing participants to learn from the region's successes and apply those lessons to other efforts around the country and the world.



Ways to Lend Your Support

Become a Presenting Signature Sponsor. As the exclusive or co-Presenting Signature Sponsor of the 2026 Annual Conference, you will receive top billing leading up to and during the conference and have the opportunity to help shape the conference theme and content as a member of our Host committee. *Support at this level begins at \$50,000.*

Support the offsite reception showcasing the community. The offsite reception is one of the highlights of the Annual Conference! Support this opportunity for participants to get out of the hotel, experience the host city, and enjoy a fun evening connecting with their peers while enjoying good food and libations in a great location. *Support at this level begins at \$35,000.*

Support a Plenary Keynote. As the exclusive or co-sponsor of one of our Plenary Keynotes, you will have an opportunity to support high-profile speakers and panels that advance and inspire the philanthropic field. *Support at this level begins at \$25,000.*

Support equitable conference access. Improve disability inclusion access and services for people of all abilities. This includes open captions, event app, ASL interpretation, a livestream for those who cannot attend, and/or other assistance as requested. *Support at this level begins at \$20,000.*

Provide scholarships for lean funders with limited resources. Your support will assist in offering top-notch learning experiences for the volunteers, staff, and trustees of organizations with limited resources, including grantmaking public charities, giving circles, all volunteer run organizations, newly created foundations, and others. *Support at this level begins at \$15,000.*

Support Role-, Identity- and Issue-Specific Retreats and Gathering Spaces. Exponent Philanthropy is honored to host retreats and gathering spaces for specific role-, identity- and-issue based groups (ex: CEOs, Trustees, BIPOC funders, disaster philanthropy, impact investing, etc.) and provide unique spaces where lean funders can gather with their peers. *Support at this level begins at \$10,000.*

Support local site visits. Experiencing the local community is always one of the highlights of the conference. Support a site visit to a local neighborhood, an exemplary community project, or a local nonprofit gem. *Support at this level begins at \$7,500.*

Support local arts, culture, and businesses. Help us showcase Portland's vibrant arts, culture, culinary, and small business scene. Underwrite the costs associated with adding local performers, artists, and vendors throughout the conference and fairly compensate them for their time and services. *Support begins at \$5,000.*

Support a conference session or workshop. Help ensure we can deliver a wide variety of conference sessions, formats, and topics by supporting a conference session that aligns with your mission, interests, and/or strategies. *Support at this level begins at \$5,000.*

Provide general support for the conference. *Support at this level begins at \$2,500*

Interested in Learning More?

Our team looks forward to working with you and answering any questions you may have about supporting Exponent Philanthropy's Annual Conference, including:

- **Exploring the three-day conference agenda** to identify sessions and experiences that align with your mission and goals.
- **Brainstorming local venues, artists, organizations, or vendors** you'd like to see featured during the conference.
- **Discussing ways to improve conference accessibility** and enable the participation of people of all abilities
- **Considering other ideas or suggestions** you may have for ways to ensure this year's conference is a meaningful and inspiring experience.

Ready to talk? Please contact:

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