



THE COLLECTIVE

September 2026

If you have questions, please contact Michelle Luu at michelle@mffdn.org.

The Collective is a self-governed, independent space within the Harold M. and Adeline S. Morrison Family Foundation for the eight members of the third generation of the family to come together with their grandmother to learn from one another and partners, and to help make a difference in their communities.

Mission

The Collective is rooted in supporting community partners and their work with a focus on environmental justice, climate change, mental health, and outdoor access.

History & Background

- In 2011, the tradition began of inviting and welcoming all rising generation members to join annual site visits and foundation meetings. At this time, the age range of the eight cousins was 4-18 years old.
- In 2014, Harold and Adeline contributed to the Foundation to create a G3 Fund for each grandchild to explore their own philanthropy. To direct their allocated funds, formal presentations to the Board were encouraged, offering the family an opportunity to learn about and support each rising generation's personal interests.
- In 2020, amidst COVID-19 and the nation's racial reckoning, the G3 Fund was converted to one shared fund to encourage the third generation to take action collectively in a challenging time. Joined by their grandmother, this moment launched the "Collective" with the eight cousins today ranging in age from 18-32 and living in 6 different states.
- In 2024, one member of the Collective joined the Foundation board and continues to serve as a liaison between the Board and the Collective.
- Led by the leadership of each cousin and with support from Foundation staff, this space remains a forum for exploration, learning, and working together to make a positive impact.

Principles & Practices

- Authentic Listening – listening to understand, not to be understood.
- Respect – always held for one another, our partners, and community.

- Tuscarora Commitment to Building Consensus – ensuring everyone is ok with what's decided when a decision is not unanimous.
- Gathering with an Open Mind and Gratitude – willingness to learn, recognize differences, and uplift others.

Meeting Cadence

- Virtual 90 minute meetings are held every other month with formal agendas that include a mix of learning opportunities, grantmaking decisions, and discussion on how best to support community partners. These meetings are co-chaired by 1-2 Collective members with support from Foundation staff.
- Virtual 30 minute meetings are held every other month as an optional time to check-in and share personal life updates.

Grantmaking

- Bucket #1: Core Partners
 - The majority of the Collective's budget is directed to support organizations aligned with the Collective's mission. The Collective members work together to identify organization partners; there is no formal application process. All support is multi-year and general operating.
- Bucket #2: Discretionary Grants
 - Each Collective member has the opportunity to direct a gift to support organizations of their choice. This is a way for Collective members to build their own philanthropy, to learn about organizations where they are living, and/or explore organizations outside of the Collective's core mission.
- Bucket #3: Professional Development and Learning Opportunities
 - Funding is allocated for inviting guest speakers, attending conferences, and/or participating in trainings to support the Collective's learning of the broader philanthropic and non-profit landscape.

The Collective is a space for the eight members of the third generation of the family to come together with their grandmother under the Harold M. and Adeline S. Morrison Family Foundation.