

Community Conversation

Looking Ahead: Opportunities for Family Philanthropy

Resource List

Description

How did we get here? Where do we want to go?

Join NCFP's president and CEO for a wide-ranging conversation on the state of the family philanthropy sector. We will reflect on our current context and identify what actions family philanthropies have the opportunity to lean in to, and how funders can continue to anchor their work in our Principles of Effective Family Philanthropy—equity, accountability, relationships, reflection and learning.

We will also highlight ways families can continue to listen to communities, be values-driven stewards, work in solidarity with their partners and peers, lead with care, and prioritize trust.

Replay Link

View the webinar replay [here](#).

Resources

- [Acceleration, Innovation, and Reimagination in Family Philanthropy](#) (NCFP, 2025)
- [Effective Family Philanthropy in Practice](#) (Purposeful Planning Institute, 2025)
- [How to Show Up in a Trust Based Way](#) (Trust-based Philanthropy Project, 2025)
- [Going Beyond Giving: Perspectives on the Philanthropic Practices of High and Ultra-high Net Worth Donors | National Center for Family Philanthropy](#) (Dasher Tripp, 2017)
- [Letting Go of Power, Centering Community: The Share Fund](#) (Ellis Smith, 2023)
- [Listen4Good](#) (Fund for Shared Insight, 2025)
- [Listen to Community Initiative](#)
- [Managing Family Dynamics in Governance](#) (Ellis Smith, 2023)
- [NCFP Guide for Effective Family Philanthropy](#) (2023)
- [NCFP Trends in Family Philanthropy 2025 Report](#)
- [Philanthropy in Complex, Multigenerational Families](#) (NCFP, 2024)
- [Practices for Engaging the Next Generation in Your Philanthropy](#) (NCFP, 2025)
- [Unlocking Doors: Relational Reparations, Shared Liberation, and the Healing Power of Story](#) (NCFP, 2025)

Panelist Organizations

- [National Center for Family Philanthropy](#)
- [Phila Engaged Giving](#)
- [Strategy for Scale](#)

Upcoming Events

- [Fundamentals of Family Philanthropy Webinar: Relationships and Power: Listening Well](#) (Feb 10)

- [An Orientation to NCFP: Making the Most of your Membership](#) (Feb 24)
- [Family Staff Peer Network: How Good Governance Supports Positive Family Dynamics](#) (March 3)
- [Fundamentals of Family Philanthropy Webinar: Relationships and Power: From Transaction to Trust](#) (March 10)
- [Fundamentals of Family Philanthropy Webinar: Maximizing your Resources: Structures and Tools](#) (April 14)

Access more resources through NCFP's [resource library](#), and see upcoming [events and programs](#).

Featured Speakers



Stephanie Ellis-Smith is the CEO and owner of the philanthropic advisory firm Phīla (pronounced *phyla*) Engaged Giving and is a Chartered Advisor in Philanthropy (CAP) . She works with ultra-high-net-wealth and high-profile individuals, families, foundations, and corporations to make catalytic investments in people and organizations.

Stephanie and her husband Douglas Smith started the Rockhaven Fund in 2008 to fund the arts, humanities, and social justice causes in the US. She is a philanthropist, activist, and social entrepreneur. In 2020, she co-founded [Giving Gap](#), (formerly “Give Blck”), an online database of Black-founded and -led organizations. Having served in a variety of capacities in the social sector—nonprofit CEO, social enterprise COO, foundation and nonprofit trustee, and even a corporate board member—her diverse experience and deep knowledge makes her unique among her peers and uniquely capable of being a trusted advisor to the world’s most generous families and institutions.

Stephanie has served on numerous local and national boards and commissions including the Washington State Arts Commission, appointed by Governor Gary Locke; the Seattle Arts Commission, appointed by Mayor Greg Nickels; the Central Waterfront Committee, appointed by Mayor Ed Murray, and the Museum Development Authority appointed by Mayor Jenny Durkan. She was appointed a dean of philanthropy by the Purposeful Planning Institute in 2023.

She is the recipient of several awards for her public service. Among them are Artist Trust’s Creative Catalyst Award, the Talented Tenth Award by the Loren Miller Bar Association, the Microsoft Corporation’s Community Hero Award and was recognized by *The Seattle Weekly* as Best Expander of Cultural Boundaries and by the *Puget Sound Business Journal* as a 40 Under 40 of regional leaders. Most notably, October 21, 2009 was proclaimed Stephanie Ellis-Smith Day by the City of Seattle.

Originally from Los Angeles, Stephanie studied the biological sciences and English literature, receiving an undergraduate degree from UCLA. She lives in Seattle and is married to the Russian historian, Douglas Smith.



Kimberly Dasher Tripp is founder and principal of Strategy for Scale, where she works with donors and doers on philanthropic strategy. She conducts research and writes on the practices and behaviors of philanthropists; acts as a strategic philanthropic advisor to individual, family, and institutional philanthropies; and works with nonprofits and coalitions on issues of governance, strategy and effective revenue models. She is particularly interested in new approaches to high-impact philanthropy, on the hunt for the best models to accelerate systems change, and is endlessly curious

about the sector.

Previously, Kimberly was principal on the portfolio team of the Skoll Foundation, where she ran the Skoll Awards for Social Entrepreneurship. Her prior experience included nonprofit, international development work, and corporate marketing. Kimberly earned her MBA from the Haas School of Business at UC Berkeley and graduated magna cum laude from Princeton University with a degree in political science. She and her husband, Owen, have three wonderful children.



Nicholas (Nick) Tedesco is the president and chief executive officer of the National Center for Family Philanthropy (NCFP). NCFP serves as a hub of learning, connection, and collaboration designed to equip and activate a community of families to be attentive philanthropic stewards. Nick is a passionate advocate for philanthropy and brings more than a decade of experience partnering with donors and their families to establish and meet their giving goals.

Prior to joining NCFP, Nick served as a senior advisor in the J.P. Morgan Philanthropy Centre where he provided clients with insights and services to help meet their philanthropic objectives through innovative advice, thought leadership, and opportunities for learning and collaboration.

Previously, Nick served as a relationship manager at the Bill & Melinda Gates Foundation, where he helped launch the Giving Pledge—an effort led by Bill Gates, Melinda French Gates, and Warren Buffett to encourage the world’s wealthiest individuals and families to commit the majority of their wealth to philanthropy. In this role, Nick managed relationships with current and prospective members of the pledge, as well as their staff members and advisors. He helped to connect global philanthropists with one another in effort to exchange knowledge and encourage collaboration.

Nick began his career in the social sector as the deputy director of the Children’s Health Forum—a national nonprofit focused on the prevention and eradication of childhood diseases that disproportionately impact underserved communities.

Nick was named to the inaugural *Chronicle of Philanthropy* 40 Under 40 ranking in 2016 and the *Nonprofit Times* Power & Influence List in 2024. He was also named by *Inside Philanthropy* as the Best Guide to Family

Philanthropy in 2023. He has been quoted in the *New York Times*, *Wall Street Journal*, *MarketWatch*, *Time Magazine*, and other notable publications.

Nick received a BA from Villanova University and resides in Washington, DC.