

Legacy Module 3.

Headlines of the Future

Purpose:

To imagine and articulate what success would look like for your family's giving.

Outcomes:

- A chance to dream and vision individually and collectively
- Informal articulation of what success might look like and who key audiences are
- Findings can inform your goals and orient your strategy and giving accordingly

Process:

Individual journaling/drawing, followed by group sharing and discussion

Materials:

"Headlines of the Future" worksheet, pens, pencils (and markers if you're an artsy group)

Please note that this particular activity can be useful for talking about your philanthropy overall, or about a particular giving area in which you wish to make change.

Activity and Discussion:

In advance (or collectively in the moment) decide for what time-horizon you want to envision success, whether 5, 10, 25, or 50 years. Provide each participant with a worksheet (a version can be found on the next page).

Invite each family member to take a few minutes to simply dream and imagine in response to the following questions:

What's a newspaper article, (or LinkedIn post, or podcast, or neighborhood newsletter) you'd be proud to read that celebrates the success you were part of? What will the headline be? Will the article talk about your giving? About your grantees or partners? About a change in policy, whether federal or local? What will some key points be? And what visual will tell this story?

After taking 10-15 minutes to fill out the worksheet, go around and each take a few minutes share what you wrote. It's amazing how creative and specific this activity helps people become!

Headlines of the Future can be a great jumping off point to conversations about legacy, as it allows people to articulate what they hope your giving will accomplish in a different way. It can also be a great help in conversations about strategy, impact, and evaluation. It's much easier to chart a path forward once you know where you are headed.

Headlines of the Future

Headline:

Publication Name:

Publication Date:

Main bullet points (few words in bold print that ID key points of article)

Photo or graphic accompanying the article: