

## **Funding Equity: Disability Inclusion in Grantmaking Resource List**

### **Description**

One in four adult Americans and an estimated one billion people globally experience disability. However, only one cent out of every ten dollars in U.S. grantmaking is allocated to disability rights and social justice.

Funders have numerous opportunities throughout their grantmaking processes to shift toward more equitable, disability-inclusive, and values-aligned practices. This session will provide insights into the connection between all funding areas and disability, as well as meaningful ways for philanthropy to adopt disability-inclusive grantmaking. This includes participatory approaches that center the insights and guidance of disability communities directly impacted by a funder's priorities.

### **Replay Link**

View the webinar replay [here](#).

### **Resources**

- [Advancing Disability Inclusion in Family Philanthropy](#) (NCFP, 2025)
- [Disability Inclusion in Philanthropy](#) (NCFP, 2020)
- [Disability & Philanthropy Forum Disability Inclusion Pledge](#)
- [Disability & Philanthropy Forum Resources](#)
- [Foundation Giving for Disability Report](#) (Disability & Philanthropy Forum, 2023)
- [Funder Education Initiative](#) (WITH Foundation)
- [NCFP's Family Giving Lifecycle: Impact Strategies and Tools](#)
- [NCFP Content Collection: Participatory Grantmaking](#)
- [Trends in Family Philanthropy 2025 Report](#) (NCFP, 2024)

### **Panelist Organizations**

- [Disability & Philanthropy Forum](#)
- [May & Stanley Smith Charitable Trust](#)
- [WITH Foundation](#)

### **Upcoming Events**

- [Board Chair Peer Network: Leading Across Difference: The Role of the Board Chair](#) (May 20)
- [Impact Investing for Advanced Practitioners Peer Network](#) (May 21)
- [Non-Family Staff Peer Network](#) (June 5)
- [Community Conversation Webinar: A Philanthropy for our Times: Reimagining Purpose and Practice in a New Era](#) (June 10)
- [BIPOC Leaders Peer Network: Save the Date](#) (June 24)
- [Community Foundations Network: Strategies for Engaging the Next Generation of Youth](#) (June 26)

- [Strategic Lifespan Peer Network: Investing in Partners to Ensure the Foundation’s Mission Lives On](#) (June 26)
- [Fundamentals of Family Philanthropy Webinar: Evolving your Family Philanthropy: Family Engagement and Legacy](#) (July 8)
- [Fundamentals of Family Philanthropy Webinar: Evolving your Family Philanthropy: Staffing Structures](#) (August 12)

*Access more resources through NCFP’s [Knowledge Center](#), and see upcoming [events and programs](#).*

## **Featured Speakers**



**Jeanine Alpert** is the Senior Program Officer for Adults and Transitioning Youth with Disability at the May & Stanley Smith Charitable Trust. She joined the Trust in 2021 bringing more than 25 years of experience working as a clinician, administrator, fundraiser, and community collaborator. Jeanine has held leadership roles at non-profit organizations that focus on advocacy and community involvement for individuals who are often overlooked. Prior to joining the Trust, Jeanine was the Director of Clinical Services and Research at My Possibilities in Plano Texas, which provides adults with Intellectual and Developmental Disabilities a pathway to education, training, inclusion, and a meaningful life. Jeanine received her Bachelor of Arts in English from the University of Massachusetts, Amherst, her Master’s Degree in Social Work from the University of Texas at Austin, and a PhD in Public Policy and Political Economy from the University of Texas at Dallas.



**Ryan Easterly** lives and works at the intersections of race, class, disability, and sexual orientation. Ryan serves as Executive Director of WITH Foundation. WITH promotes comprehensive healthcare for adults with developmental disabilities in the United States. Ryan previously served as manager of the National Youth Transitions Initiative at the HSC Foundation. He has also worked across the federal sector and within community outreach and advocacy efforts. Ryan was appointed by President Obama to the President’s Committee for People with Intellectual Disabilities in 2016. He is the current co-chair of the Presidents’ Council on Disability Inclusion in Philanthropy (along with Dr. Rich Besser of the Robert Wood Johnson Foundation), a member of the Disability & Philanthropy Forum Governance Committee, a member of Grantmakers for Effective Organizations Board of Directors, and co-chairs Exponent Philanthropy’s Disability Funders Peer Circle. President Biden also appointed him to the White House Commission on Presidential Scholars. Ryan hails from Alabama and often wonders when he will find his next glass of sweet tea. He currently resides in San Francisco, California.



**Gail Fuller** is Senior Program and Communications Director for the Disability & Philanthropy Forum. As a Black woman with a non-apparent disability, her disability journey has shaped how she views her identities — race, gender, and disability. She has written about her journey in her blog, *Black and Disabled: I Have Lived in the Shadows*. She is committed to the Forum’s mission to mobilize philanthropy to dismantle ableism by increasing funding for disability inclusion, rights, and justice; amplifying the leadership of disabled people in the philanthropic sector; and educating philanthropy to build a culture of inclusion. With 36 years of experience in several industries, her philanthropic career has included serving as vice president of marketing and communications for the San Francisco Foundation and communications director for the Rockefeller Brothers Fund. Gail holds a Master of Business Administration from Nova University and a Bachelor of Arts in Speech Communications from Wake Forest University.



**Sandy Ho** began as the Executive Director of the Disability & Philanthropy Forum in June 2024. She was most recently the program director of the Disability Inclusion Fund (DIF) at Borealis Philanthropy. Prior to her role in philanthropy, Sandy was a disability policy researcher at the Community Living Policy Center at Brandeis University. She was a member of the inaugural 2023 Obama Foundation USA Leaders program, and a 2022 Disability Futures Fellow supported by Ford Foundation and The Andrew W. Mellon Foundation.

She is a co-partner of the Access is Love campaign that she leads with Alice Wong and Mia Mingus. In 2016 Sandy founded the Disability & Intersectionality Summit, a national biennial conference that is organized by disabled activists and highlights the lived-experiences of marginalized disabled people of color. Sandy was recognized by the White House in 2015 as a “Champion of Change.” She comes to disability community organizing and activism by way of youth mentoring for young women with disabilities. Sandy came to the DIF in 2021, and helmed a \$4 Million annual grantmaking strategy for disabled-led organizations building power to dismantle ableism across the U.S. At the DIF she spearheaded Joy Grants, and the launch of the \$1 Million DIFxTech Fund, further expanding pathways to inclusion and thriving disability futures. Sandy is a visionary whose commitment to disability communities and grassroots organizing centrally inform her values within and beyond philanthropy. Core to her values is the belief in disability justice, rights, and inclusion as powerful tools and ways of being that are essential to all social movements and civil sectors.

She earned her Master in Public Policy from The Heller School for Social Policy and Management. Sandy lives in Oakland, CA where she can be found birding, reading by Lake Merritt, and spending time with her communities.