



PHILANTHROPY DATA COMMONS

October 4, 2022

Letter of Commitment to the Philanthropy Data Commons & Pilot

It is the intent of the organizations listed herein to confirm their commitment to the vision and principles of the Philanthropy Data Commons (“PDC”) and confirm their commitment to participate in the PDC pilot project.

Vision for the Philanthropy Data Commons

The PDC is a sector-wide collaborative project focused on the collection, integration, and standardization of data intended to support collective activities while reducing the burden on funders and organizations seeking grants (“Changemakers”).

This work is anchored in the following **principles**, which are critical to the success of this project:

- **Centrality of Changemakers** – Changemakers own and control their own data and information, and they contribute to decisions about the use and users of their combined data from the PDC.
- **Interoperable and extensible** – The PDC promotes equitable access, meeting organizations “where they are,” while relying on a robust application programming interface (“API”) model and protocols that integrate with multiple technology platforms to facilitate the ingestion, integration, or sharing of data.
- **Shared and collaborative governance of, by, and for the sector** – The PDC is co-created, managed, and sustained by sector stakeholders, who will choose when, how, and to what extent they will participate.
- **Transparent and enduring** – The PDC seeks to leverage data and tools that already exist, whenever possible; not to replace existing tools, but to connect and enhance them, and create more efficiencies in our individual and collective work.

The PDC is committed to creating a new way of governing data and information as a sector asset, helping to organize and make data and information available in the right places at the right times and for the right purposes. This collective effort could eventually shift how sector stakeholders engage, partner, and coordinate with one another. The PDC’s proposed shared data platform, collaborative governance framework, and core principles could become new structures in philanthropy and lead to more collaboration, equity, and inclusiveness in philanthropy.

The PDC has the potential to change how we all work in philanthropy by:

- Ensuring that Changemakers and other data owners maintain ownership and control over their own data and contribute to decisions about the use and users of their combined data.

- Improving and enhancing the way we share and use data and information.
- Promoting and enabling the adoption of common data standards and practices for integration, use, and sharing of data.
- Alleviating administrative burdens, building organizational capacities, and creating efficiencies for funders and organizations seeking grants.
- Reducing the power imbalance between funders and Changemakers.
- Establishing and sustaining an iterative collaborative governance framework that promotes consensus and ensures the responsible, equitable, and secure integration, use, and sharing of data.

Participation in the PDC pilot

The goal of the PDC Pilot is two-fold: first, to design and develop a collaborative governance framework intended to demonstrate a different way of managing, using, and governing data and information in the sector; and second, to develop and test the viability of a data commons and its use in delivering common data and information elements in the grant application and grant award process. To that end, the pilot is focused on demonstrating both end-to-end data and transaction flows with involved parties (Changemakers, funders, grants management system, and data platform providers) and collaborative governance of the data-sharing model in a manner consistent with the fundamental principles animating the work. Through the pilot study we will begin to deliver long-term tangible benefits for the philanthropic sector, including:

- Create opportunities for more equitable access to philanthropic resources.
- Democratize data sharing among organizations seeking grants, organizations making grants, and other organizations vital to the sector.
- Reduce applicant and funder administrative burdens and the costs associated with the grant application processes.
- Expedite and expand access to capital for Changemakers / organizations seeking grants.
- Leverage the common application data to help address other sector goals and challenges.

With their signature, the below organization representatives acknowledge their commitment to the vision for the PDC and confirm their commitment to participation in the PDC pilot project, whether as a data contributing organization or an advisor. Representatives also acknowledge that the PDC – its structure, process, and collaborative governance framework - are a “work in progress” and that not all answers are known, but we will work collaboratively and transparently to find the best solution for the sector as well as the ongoing value and contribution of the PDC. Lastly, representatives acknowledge that should their organization determine, they can no longer participate in the PDC, their participation in the PDC and this Letter of Commitment can be terminated with at least seven (7) days written notice to the MacArthur Foundation, as the PDC Pilot Study Steward.

<p>Signature</p> <p>AMPT ángela munguía, Executive Director</p>	<p>Signature</p> <p>Bezos Earth Fund Tony Chan, Chief Financial and Operating Officer Dan Schoenfeld, Director, Grants Management</p>	<p>Signature</p> <p>Candid Ann Mei Chang, CEO Shane Ward, Senior Director of Data and Solutions</p>	<p>Signature</p> <p>Charity Navigator Michael Thatcher, CEO Jeanette Shutay, Chief Data Technology Officer Laura Andes, Chief Program Officer</p>
<p>Signature</p> <p>Circle of Service Foundation Christine Plautz, Director of Grants Management and Operations Dimitra Tasiouras, Program Director – Community Services</p>	<p>Signature</p> <p>Fluxx Kristy Gannon, CEO Kerrin Mitchell, Co- founder and Chief Development Officer</p>	<p>Signature</p> <p>Ford Foundation Tiffanie De Gannes, Senior Manager of Operations Jim Gallagher, Director of Grants Management</p>	<p>Signature</p> <p>Illinois Children’s Healthcare Foundation Heather Higgins Alderman, President & CEO</p>
<p>Signature</p> <p>MacArthur Foundation Elizabeth Kane, Managing Director of Core Services John Mohr, Chief Information Officer</p>	<p>Signature</p> <p>The Miami Foundation Vicky Checo, Community Engagement Manager Lindsey Linzer, Vice President of Community Investments</p>	<p>Signature</p> <p>Robert Wood Johnson Foundation Joseph Calabrese, Director of Applications Technology and Data Architecture</p>	<p>Signature</p> <p>SmartSimple / reSolved Mariana Catz, Managing Partner Malcolm Klotz, Chief Technology Officer</p>
<p>Signature</p> <p>Submittable Sam Caplan, Vice President of Social Impact</p>	<p>Signature</p> <p>Surge Institute William Collins, Chief Advancement Officer</p>	<p>Signature</p> <p>Thrive Chicago Kate Kavouras, Vice President of Strategy and Programs</p>	<p>Signature</p> <p>Urban Institute Erin Kundolf, Vice President of Philanthropic Partnerships</p>

Matthew Roe, Senior Solution Engineer			
--	--	--	--