IN 2011 THE U.S. WAS HOME TO 81,777 FOUNDATIONS1 WITH $662 BILLION IN ASSETS AND $49 BILLION IN GIVING

Stability. Economic forecasts now change by the day, if not the hour. The U.S. stock market is reaching record highs and home prices are up; China’s economy is slowing and the Eurozone is back in recession; U.S. unemployment is declining but may result in fewer Fed subsidies of the bond market; investors are bullish and then they’re bearish. Through all of this, U.S. foundations are predicting modest, but steady, overall growth in their giving. Grantmaking by this country’s private and community foundations reached an estimated $50.9 billion in 2012, growing just ahead of inflation.

Outlook. According to the Foundation Center’s annual “Foundation Giving Forecast Survey,” the outlook for 2013 is for continued modest growth overall. It may not be the boom years of the late 1990s or mid-2000s, but U.S. foundations continue to provide a stable source of support for new ideas and ongoing programs that improve lives around the world.

1 Figures include all independent and family, corporate, community, and operating foundations that reported giving. Excluded from these figures are approximately 15,000 foundations that did not report giving in their latest fiscal years.

Did You Know?
- Over the past two decades, California has added more foundations (5,234) than any other state.
- Community foundations in the Midwest account for a larger share of giving than in other regions.
- New York State ranks first in the nation based on no. of foundations (9,632) and overall giving ($8.2 billion).
- More than half of independent foundations have measurable donor or donor-family involvement in their governance and the actual share for family foundations2 is likely far higher.
- Operating and corporate foundations established by pharmaceuticals now annually give over $5 billion with nearly all of this support in the form of donated medicines.

2 “Family foundations” are not legally defined entities, so there is no way to determine a definitive total.

Source: Figures for 2011 from Giving USA Foundation, Giving USA, 2013.
# Types of Foundations

- **Independent**
  - Includes most of the nation’s largest foundations. Generally established by individual donors or donor families.
  - Primarily run their own programs, but some also make grants. Generally established by individual donors or donor families.

- **Corporate**
  - Established by businesses ranging from major corporations to family-owned shops, although legally separate entities.

- **Community**
  - Raise funds from the public. Engage in grantmaking primarily within a defined geographic area.

## Total No. of Foundations: 81,777

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Type</th>
<th>Total</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Independent</td>
<td>90%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Operating</td>
<td>6%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Corporate</td>
<td>3%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Community</td>
<td>1%</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

## Total Assets: $662 Billion

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Type</th>
<th>Total</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Independent</td>
<td>82%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Operating</td>
<td>6%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Corporate</td>
<td>3%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Community</td>
<td>9%</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

## Total Giving: $49 Billion

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Type</th>
<th>Total</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Independent</td>
<td>69%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Operating</td>
<td>11%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Corporate</td>
<td>11%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Community</td>
<td>9%</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

## 2012 Giving Estimate: $50.9 Billion

- **Independent**: +4% ($35.2 B)
- **Operating**: +4% ($5.8 B)
- **Corporate**: -1% ($5.1 B)
- **Community**: +9% ($4.7 B)

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*Based on projections prepared by the Foundation Center.*

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## Top Foundations

### By Total Assets

- **Bill & Melinda Gates Foundation**: $34.6 B
- **W.K. Kellogg Foundation**: $7.3 B
- **Ford Foundation**: $11.0 B
- **Robert Wood Johnson Foundation**: $9.0 B
- **J. Paul Getty Trust**: $10.5 B
- **William and Flora Hewlett Foundation**: $8.6 B
- **David and Lucile Packard Foundation**: $5.8 B
- **Lilly Endowment**: $6.1 B
- **Gordon and Betty Moore Foundation**: $5.4 B
- **John D. and Catherine T. MacArthur Foundation**: $5.7 B

### By Total Giving

- **Walton Family Foundation**: $487.8 M
- **Bill & Melinda Gates Foundation**: $5.4 B
- **Ford Foundation**: $487.3 M
- **Robert Wood Johnson Foundation**: $386.3 M
- **W.K. Kellogg Foundation**: $295.9 M
- **Susan Thompson Buffett Foundation**: $347.2 M
- **J. Paul Getty Trust**: $353.6 M
- **Silicon Valley Community Foundation**: $249.1 M
- **William and Flora Hewlett Foundation**: $246.9 M
- **Foundation to Promote Open Society**: $247.9 M
- **Andrew W. Mellon Foundation**: $246.9 M
- **John D. and Catherine T. MacArthur Foundation**: $246.9 M
- **Bill & Melinda Gates Foundation**: $246.9 M

*Excludes foundations created by pharmaceutical corporations primarily to distribute medicine to individuals.*

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GRANT FOCUS

IN 2011
A SUBSET OF THE NATION’S LARGEST FOUNDATIONS AWARDED NEARLY 148,000 GRANTS TOTALING $24.5 BILLION

Priorities. Foundations have the flexibility to determine the what, where, who, and how of their grantmaking activities. They are actively funding in nearly every issue area across the globe, from reforming public education in the United States to securing access to safe drinking water in the developing world. Some foundations see making a small number of very large, targeted grants as being most effective in achieving their goals. Others emphasize providing many smaller, unrestricted grants to a variety of organizations. Similarly, some grantmakers focus their giving on specific populations, such as the economically disadvantaged, LGBT populations, or Black men and boys, while others believe impact will be achieved by targeting populations generally. This range of priorities and approaches illustrates the role of foundations as a critical source of support for new strategies and opportunities throughout the social sector.

BY ISSUE FOCUS

HEALTH
28% ($6.8 B)

EDUCATION
20% ($5 B)

ARTS AND CULTURE
14% ($3.5 B)

HUMAN SERVICES
14% ($3.5 B)

PUBLIC AFFAIRS / SOCIETY BENEFIT
9% ($2.3 B)

ENVIRONMENT AND ANIMALS
6% ($1.5 B)

INTERNATIONAL AFFAIRS
3% ($693 M)

SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY
2% ($535 M)

RELIGION
2% ($471 M)

SOCIAL SCIENCES
1% ($234 M)

DID YOU KNOW?

The Bill & Melinda Gates Foundation made the single largest grant: $967 million over 5 years to the Global Alliance for Vaccines and Immunization (GAVI) for general operating support.

The median grant amount was $28,462.

The top 1 percent of recipients captured half of grant dollars.

More than 56,000 unique organizations worldwide received grants from these large foundations.
### BY TYPE OF SUPPORT

- **Program Support**: $13 B (55%)
- **General Support**: $6.7 B (29%)
- **Capital Support**: $5 B (21%)
- **Research**: $4 B (17%)
- **Unspecified**: $3.9 B (17%)
- **Student Aid Funds**: $737 M (3%)
- **Other**: $469 M (2%)

### WHAT’S INCLUDED

The Foundation Center reports on how foundations give by collecting and coding grants awarded by a set of the largest U.S. foundations. Following are details on what the 2011 set included:

- 1,122 of the top U.S. foundations by giving
- Top 15 funders by giving in most states
- All of their grants of $10,000 or more
- Domestic and international grants
- Full authorized grant amounts in the year the grant was made (if available)
- Primarily 2011 data, although 2010 for some foundations

Grants from unrestricted and donor-advised funds at community foundations

### BY POPULATION FOCUS

- **Economically Disadvantaged**: 35% ($8.5 B)
- **Children and Youth**: 22% ($5.3 B)
- **Ethnic or Racial Minorities**: 9% ($2.2 B)
- **Women and Girls**: 6% ($1.4 B)
- **People with AIDS**: 5% ($1.2 B)
- **People with Disabilities**: 4% ($852 M)

### OVER HALF OF U.S. FOUNDATION GIVING EACH YEAR

- **Giving by foundations in set**: 56%
- **Giving by all other foundations**: 44%

### Notes

- Grants may occasionally be for multiple types of support and would therefore be counted more than once. As a result, percentages tallied across categories total to more than 100 percent. Finally, close to one-fifth of grant dollars could not be coded for a specific type of support because foundations did not provide this information.

- Figures based on grants awarded to organizations that could be clearly identified as serving specific populations or grants whose descriptions indicated a benefit for a particular population. Grants benefiting multiple population groups are counted in each applicable category. The chart excludes groups that were the focus of less than 4 percent of grant dollars. Finally, 52 percent of grant dollars could not be coded for a specific population group.

IN 2011
A SUBSET OF THE NATION’S LARGEST FOUNDATIONS AWARDED OVER 27% OF GRANT DOLLARS IN SUPPORT OF INTERNATIONAL ACTIVITIES

Geography. The vast majority of U.S. foundations focus their giving on the communities in which they are located. Some also focus their grantmaking at the regional or national level. At the same time, a number of the nation’s largest foundations—as well as a few smaller foundations—engage in international grantmaking, whether directly to organizations in other countries or through support for international programs conducted by organizations based in the United States. As the many thousands of newer foundations established by younger, more globally focused donors come of age, the number of foundations that incorporate an international focus in their work will undoubtedly continue to grow.

DID YOU KNOW?

DOMESTIC

Organizations located in California received the most domestic foundation grant dollars ($2.7 billion).

INTERNATIONAL

The Bill & Melinda Gates Foundation has been the top international funder since 2004.

Switzerland-based Global Alliance for Vaccines and Immunization (GAVI) was the top recipient of international grant dollars.
### BY GEOGRAPHY

#### DOMESTIC

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Recipient Location</th>
<th>Percentage</th>
<th>Funding</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>South</td>
<td>33%</td>
<td>$5.8 B</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Northeast</td>
<td>26%</td>
<td>$4.6 B</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>West</td>
<td>24%</td>
<td>$4.2 B</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Midwest</td>
<td>18%</td>
<td>$3.2 B</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

13 Funding may support local, regional, or national projects.

#### INTERNATIONAL

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Geographic Focus</th>
<th>Percentage</th>
<th>Funding</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Sub-Saharan Africa</td>
<td>20%</td>
<td>$1.4 B</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Asia and the Pacific</td>
<td>17%</td>
<td>$1.1 B</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Latin America and Mexico</td>
<td>6%</td>
<td>$374 M</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Western Europe</td>
<td>4%</td>
<td>$271 M</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>North Africa and the Middle East</td>
<td>4%</td>
<td>$266 M</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Canada</td>
<td>1%</td>
<td>$84 M</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Caribbean</td>
<td>1%</td>
<td>$73 M</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Eastern Europe, Central Asia, and Russia</td>
<td>1%</td>
<td>$70 M</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

14 International grants often benefit a specific country or region. However, as grants with a focus on multiple regions do not specify the share of support that targets each region, the full value of these grants is counted in the totals for each specified region. In addition, foundations made human rights grants not reflected in this graphic focused on “developing countries” and on providing a global benefit (12% and 31% of the number of international grants awarded, respectively).

### TOP FUNDERS

#### DOMESTIC

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Foundation</th>
<th>Funding</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Walton Family Foundation</td>
<td>$1.4 B</td>
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<tr>
<td>Bill &amp; Melinda Gates Foundation</td>
<td>$482 M</td>
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<tr>
<td>Robert Wood Johnson Foundation</td>
<td>$323 M</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>W.K. Kellogg Foundation</td>
<td>$273 M</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Ford Foundation</td>
<td>$226 M</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Greater Kansas City Community Foundation</td>
<td>$200 M</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Lilly Endowment</td>
<td>$200 M</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Andrew W. Mellon Foundation</td>
<td>$185 M</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>W.M. Keck Foundation</td>
<td>$184 M</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Susan Thompson Buffett Foundation</td>
<td>$179 M</td>
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</tbody>
</table>

#### INTERNATIONAL

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Foundation</th>
<th>Funding</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Bill &amp; Melinda Gates Foundation</td>
<td>$3.9 B</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Ford Foundation</td>
<td>$189 M</td>
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<tr>
<td>Susan Thompson Buffett Foundation</td>
<td>$167 M</td>
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<tr>
<td>David and Lucile Packard Foundation</td>
<td>$115 M</td>
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<tr>
<td>Bloomberg Family Foundation</td>
<td>$104 M</td>
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<tr>
<td>Gordon and Betty Moore Foundation</td>
<td>$100 M</td>
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<tr>
<td>William and Flora Hewlett Foundation</td>
<td>$98 M</td>
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<tr>
<td>Rockefeller Foundation</td>
<td>$97 M</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>John D. and Catherine T. MacArthur Foundation</td>
<td>$89 M</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Carnegie Corporation of New York</td>
<td>$63 M</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

15 Giving amount reflects 2010 grants data, the most current available for this foundation when the analytic set was created.

ABOUT THIS REPORT

Key Facts on U.S. Foundations provides you with what you need to know about the scale of the nation’s foundation community and the grantmaking priorities of the largest foundations. This report is produced annually by the Foundation Center’s research team.

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ABOUT THE FOUNDATION CENTER

Established in 1956, the Foundation Center is the leading source of information about philanthropy worldwide. Through data, analysis, and training, it connects people who want to change the world to the resources they need to succeed. The Center maintains the most comprehensive database on U.S. and, increasingly, global grantmakers and their grants — a robust, accessible knowledge bank for the sector. It also operates research, education, and training programs designed to advance knowledge of philanthropy at every level. Thousands of people visit the Center’s web site each day and are served in its five regional library/learning centers and its network of 470 funding information centers located in public libraries, community foundations, and educational institutions nationwide and around the world.

For more information contact Steven Lawrence, director of research, at sal@foundationcenter.org or (212) 620-4230.