

The Foundation and Corporate Response to the Economic Crisis: An Update

In January 2009, the Foundation Center released a report tracking the initial response of foundations and corporate funders to the economic crisis. This spring, the Center released Foundations Address the Impact of the Economic Crisis, based on survey findings that explored how the crisis was affecting funders and their ability to provide support. Below is the latest information on how grantmakers are responding to the crisis based on data collected by the Foundation Center through June 30, 2009. For more on the crisis, visit foundationcenter.org/focus/economy.

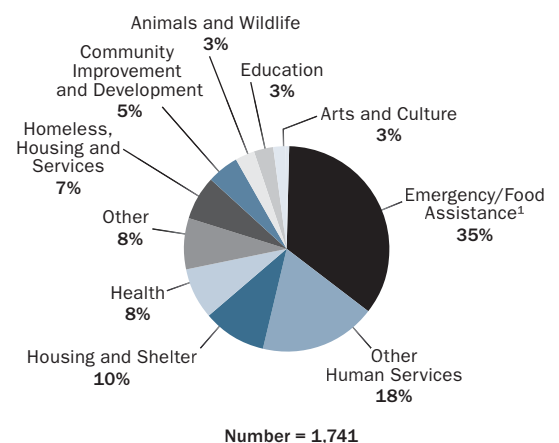
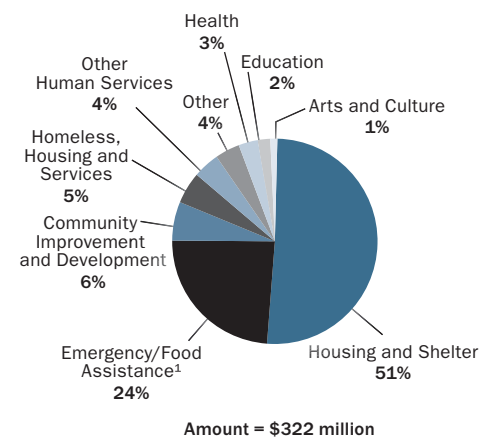
Crisis-related Funding Is Growing

- ◆ The amount of crisis-related grants and program-related investments (PRIs) has nearly tripled since January 2009, rising to \$322 million in 1,741 grants and PRIs from \$117 million and 535 commitments.
- ◆ The number of U.S. corporations and foundations providing crisis-related funding has risen from 50 in January to 139 in July.
- ◆ Nearly 1,600 organizations in 35 U.S. states have received support; internationally, two recipients are located in Italy, and one is in Canada.
- ◆ Grants tracked by the Center range in size from \$750 to \$50 million with a median value of \$20,000; PRIs range from \$250,000 to \$50 million.

Where the Dollars Are Going

- ◆ Housing and Shelter (including foreclosure prevention) received the lion's share of the dollars: \$163.1 million or 51 percent. Most of the PRIs supported foreclosure prevention efforts nationally and locally, with the MacArthur and Ford foundations being the two principal PRI makers.
- ◆ Emergency Assistance, including food assistance, received the second largest share of dollars (\$75.8 million or nearly 24 percent) but the largest share by number of commitments (606 or 35 percent).
- ◆ Compared with January 2009, the share of support has declined for Housing and Shelter (from 57 percent to 51 percent), while Emergency Assistance/Food Assistance has more than doubled from 10 percent to nearly 24 percent.
- ◆ Other program categories that received at least 5 percent of support include Community Improvement and Development (\$18.1 million or 5.6 percent) and Homeless, Housing and Services (\$16 million or 5.1 percent).

Economic Crisis Response: Foundation and Corporate Commitments by Major Subject



Source: The Foundation Center, 2009. Figures based on grants and program-related investments announced through June 30, 2009. Includes categories accounting for at least 2.5 percent of the amount or number of commitments.
¹Includes support for heat, rent, and utilities as well as support for food assistance and food banks.

Who Is Providing the Funding

- ◆ 54 independent foundations, including 20 family foundations, have committed \$162 million in 392 grants and PRIs, accounting for almost 58 percent of the dollars committed.
- ◆ 49 community foundations have committed more than \$40 million in 866 grants and PRIs, accounting for 13 percent of the dollars committed.
- ◆ 20 corporations, including 16 corporate foundations and four corporate giving programs, have committed close to \$40 million in 248 grants, accounting for 12 percent of the dollars.
- ◆ A single operating foundation—Open Society Institute—has committed \$50 million in one grant, accounting for 16 percent of total dollars.
- ◆ 15 public foundations (grantmaking public charities) have committed more than \$8 million in 161 grants, accounting for less than 3 percent of the dollars.

What Kind of Support Is Being Funded

- ◆ Grantmakers awarded 82 percent of funding in response to the crisis for program support.
- ◆ Capital support and general support each accounted for just over 4 percent of funding.
- ◆ About 16 percent of the dollars committed were given on a matching or challenge basis.

Economic Crisis Response: Top 25 Foundation and Corporate Donors

Foundation	State	Donor Type ⁴	Amount	No.
1. John D. and Catherine T. MacArthur Foundation	IL	IN	\$71,050,000	11
2. Ford Foundation	NY	IN	65,599,000	23
3. Open Society Institute	NY	OP	50,000,000	1
4. Bank of America Charitable Foundation	NC	CS	10,627,500	81
5. GE Foundation	CT	CS	10,500,000	1
6. McKnight Foundation	MN	IN	10,000,000	2
7. New York Community Trust	NY	CM	8,225,000	17
8. Bill & Melinda Gates Foundation	WA	IN	6,400,000	4
9. Grand Rapids Community Foundation	MI	CM	5,297,835	18
10. Countrywide Home Loans, Inc. Corporate Giving Program ²	CA	CG	4,850,000	15
11. Silicon Valley Community Foundation	CA	CM	4,633,200	64
12. Colorado Trust	CO	IN	4,046,715	13
13. Living Cities, Inc.: The National Community Development Initiative	NY	PC	4,000,000	8
14. Cleveland Foundation	OH	CM	3,994,000	6
15. Lilly Endowment	IN	IN	3,500,000	2
16. Kresge Foundation	MI	IN	3,392,750	6
17. Otto Bremer Foundation	MN	IN	3,231,054	59
18. Cargill, Incorporated Corporate Giving Program	MN	CG	3,000,000	4
19. Alfred P. Sloan Foundation	NY	IN	2,728,613	4
20. Columbus Foundation and Affiliated Organizations	OH	CM	1,938,292	128
21. Nina Mason Pulliam Charitable Trust	IN	IN	1,773,000	19
22. Wal-Mart Foundation	AR	CS	1,650,000	5
23. Annie E. Casey Foundation	MD	IN	1,508,000	8
24. Chevron Corporation Contributions Program	CA	CG	1,325,000	28
25. Paul G. Allen Family Foundation	WA	IN	1,200,000	8

Source: The Foundation Center, 2009. Figures based on grants and program-related investments announced through June 30, 2009.

¹IN = independent foundation; CS = corporate foundation; CG = corporate giving program; CM = community foundation; PC = grantmaking public charity

²Company is in the process of merging with Bank of America.

About the Foundation Center

Established in 1956, and today supported by close to 600 foundations, the Foundation Center is the nation's leading authority on organized philanthropy, connecting nonprofits and the grantmakers supporting them to tools they can use and information they can trust. The Center maintains the most comprehensive database on U.S. grantmakers and their grants and conducts research on trends in foundation growth, giving, and practice. It also operates education and outreach programs that help nonprofit organizations obtain the resources they need. Its web site receives more than 57,000 visits each day, and thousands of people are served in its five regional learning centers and through its network of 400 funding information centers located in every U.S. state and beyond. For more information, visit foundationcenter.org or call (212) 620-4230.

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Source for all data:
The Foundation Center

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