

# Membership Information & Application

www.vafunders.org

# Thank you for your interest in

# Virginia Funders Network



## **Our History**

In 2017, a small group of funders came together to advance an idea: Virginia's philanthropic community could reach an unprecedented level of effectiveness if grantmakers across the state worked together to tackle the Commonwealth's most pressing needs and capitalize on opportunities. In 2020, the Virginia Funders Network was officially launched from this belief in the power of collaboration.

Since that time, our strength and effectiveness come directly from the diverse and valued insights, wisdom, perspectives, and dedication of over 120 funders all across the Commonwealth who comprise our network. We are dedicated to working together to help ensure that all who call Virginia home, regardless of race, gender, age, ability or geography, have the resources they need to thrive.

### **Our Vision, Mission, and Values**

#### Vision

All Virginia communities are valued and thriving, and are empowered and supported by a strong and vibrant philanthropic sector.

#### Mission

To build a connected, collaborative philanthropic community that advances opportunities for all who call Virginia home.

#### **Values**

Our organizational values guide our strategy, inform our work, and serve as a beacon as we continue to grow and learn as an organization.

- Community: We value community, collegiality, and the transformative power of conversation. We intentionally foster a connected, collaborative, and respectful community where members feel comfortable supporting, encouraging, inspiring, and challenging each other.
- **Inclusion:** We unapologetically value the diversity of our membership. From personal demographics to geographic location to organizational type to philanthropic philosophy, we intentionally seek diverse perspectives to inform, drive,
- Curiosity: We value the creativity and inquisitive spirit of philanthropic leaders. Together, we are dedicated to listening, learning, growing, and evolving.
- Collaboration: We believe in the power of collaboration and are dedicated to working together and with cross-sector leaders to advance opportunities for all who call Virginia home.

#### **Our Work**

Each year, VFN works to support the effectiveness of Virginia's philanthropic community by:

- Hosting dozens of learning and networking opportunities to help funders learn from experts and each other. These events build community among the state's philanthropic leaders and provide a robust arena for idea exchange, collective problemsolving, and the development of collaborative solutions.
- Keeping members up to date on what's happening across the field of philanthropy, across Virginia, and across the issue areas philanthropy cares about.
- Leveraging members' collective knowledge to create and curate useful tools and resources to help grantmaking organizations maximize their funding and impact.



We invite you to join our growing network. Come learn with us, build community, and work in partnership as we strive to build a Commonwealth where all Virginians can thrive.

# **VFN Membership Information**



## **Member Qualifications**

Membership is open to any funder who makes grants for charitable, religious, educational, or scientific purposes in support of the residents of the Commonwealth. Members affirm that their core interest in joining VFN is to inform and improve their grantmaking through networking, collaboration, learning, and leverage. The Member category includes:

- Grantmaking organizations that make grants to multiple organizations in Virginia for charitable, religious, educational, or scientific purposes.
- Philanthropic advisors who provide services in support of grantmaking organizations as the majority of their work.
- Government or quasi-government offices that focus on grants and/or public partnerships as a majority of their work.
- Organizations that do not restrict their giving solely to subsidiary chapters, member organizations, affiliates, or a single institution.
- Organizations that act as grantmaking intermediaries such as government entities, nonprofit organizations, initiatives, or collaboratives that grant or re-grant, private and/or public dollars.
- Individuals committed to sustained, strategic philanthropy through their own private grantmaking.

#### **Member Benefits**

Membership covers all of an organization's trustees, staff, and consultants. Members are eligible for the full spectrum of benefits including:

- Access to VFN publications, member directory, and listservs,
- Service on VFN's Advisory Board and/or committees,
- Connection to funders in like roles with similar funding interests,
- Member pricing for the annual conference,
- Participation in learning events and other programming, and
- Support from VFN's dedicated staff.

#### **Member Dues**

While VFN develops a more comprehensive membership fee structure, member dues remain at the inaugural level of \$1,000. Because dues cover only 18% of VFN's operating budget, almost half of VFN's members invest in VFN at higher levels to support VFN's work, mission, and capacity. Members are strongly encouraged to support with an additional contribution, conference sponsorship, and/or grant funding.

## **Virginia Funders Network Non-Solicitation Policy**

The Virginia Funders Network provides a unique space and events where philanthropic leaders can gather, learn, share ideas, and seek the advice and input of their peers and colleagues. As such, at VFN events, solicitation, promotion, and fundraising of any kind to benefit a specific organization, event, or cause by members, partners, and/or guests is prohibited. This ensures a comfortable, respectful atmosphere in which professional relationships can be fostered and maintained. Notably, this shall not prohibit education, communication, and collaboration among funders for areas of mutual interest. Members understand that the CEO, Advisory Board members, and other VFN leadership, in their roles as fiduciaries, shall make members aware of funding opportunities that support VFN's strategic objectives.

The payment of dues by members and partners is acceptance of VFN's non-solicitation policy. Violators of this policy, as decided by VFN's Executive Committee, may be excluded from future VFN events and/or denied future membership.

VFN may invite representatives of the grantseeking community to join us as speakers, panelists, or guests at VFN events. We also ask these representatives to adhere strictly to our policy of non-solicitation. Invited nonprofit representatives who violate this policy, as decided by VFN's Executive Committee, may be excluded from future VFN events.



# MEMBERSHIP APPLICATION

# **Organization's Contact Information**

Organization Name			
Mailing Address	City	State	Zip
Physical Address (if different from above)	City	State	Zip
Main Email		Main Phone	
Website			
<b>Key Contact Info</b>			
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## **Organizational Profile**

Please complete the following information which we will use to construct your organization's profile in our members-only online directory. Please choose all boxes that apply.

rganization Type (choose from dropdo	wn)	Staff Size (FTEs)		Board Size
otal Giving (\$)		Total Giving (\$) in Virginia		
egion Located (choose from dropdown	)	Support Types		
Section 2000 (choose in our anopaeviii	,	Advocacy/Voice		Meeting/Office Space
		Capacity Building		Program Specific
Primary Region Funding (choose from dropdown)		Capital (campaigns)		Research/Data
, 5		General Operating		Scholarships
		Grants to Individuals		Sponsorships
/hat are your giving priorities/primary	interest areas?	Impact Investing		Other
	_	_		D: 11
Advocacy/Public Policy	Environment			Human Rights
Aging	Agriculture			Immigrants/Refugees
Agriculture	Climate & E			International
Arts/Culture	Conservation			Journalism/Media
Broadband	Parks/Gree	nspace		Leadership Developme
Children/Youth	Faith-based			LGBTQ+
Civic Engagement	Grassroots			Peace/Security
Civil Rights/Liberties	Health			Philanthropy
Community Organizing/Grassroots	Addiction F	Prevention/Treatment		Placemaking
Criminal Justice/Legal Aid	Dental			Racial/Social Justice
Democracy/Civil Discourse	Direct Serv	ices		Recreation/Sports
Disability Services	Mental			Rural Affairs
Disaster Response/Relief	Reproducti	ve/Family Planning		Science/Technology
Diversity, Equity & Inclusion	Research			Social Services/Welfare
Domestic Violence	Historic Preserv	ation		Urban Affairs
Economic Development	Housing			Veterans/Military
Education	_	Home Ownership		Voting Rights
Adult Education	Eviction Pro			Women/Girls
Early Childhood		ess Prevention/Services		Workforce Developme
K-12		Housing/Wraparound Service	es	Youth Development
Literacy	Tenant Rig	hts		Other
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## **Payment Information**

The minimum annual membership investment is \$1,000, though many of VFN's members invest in the organization at higher levels to support our work, mission, and capacity. Membership in VFN runs on a calendar year (January-December). Members who join later in the year may prorate dues if desired.

Investment Level (\$)	Multi-Year Commitment?	If yes, years?
Payment Method:		
Check enclosed		
Pledge to pay by (date)		
Please invoice me		

Please make checks payable to: "PATH Partnerships for support of VFN". VFN is a fiscally sponsored project of PATH Partnerships, a 501(c)(3) organization (EIN 85-1911943).

#### Please mail checks to:

Virginia Funders Network 321 Walker Drive, Suite 301 Warrenton, VA 20186

### **Questions?**

If you have any questions about VFN or membership, please contact **Patte Koval, Director, Member Engagement & Learning**, at patte@vafunders.org or (804) 339-1512 or **Angie Molina, Manager, Member Services**, at angie@vafunders.org or (410) 739-6984.

