

PAUL M. ANGELL

FAMILY FOUNDATION

A New Grantmaking Model for Social Causes

Overview

The goal of the Foundation’s grant making in Social Causes is to address the root causes of urban poverty and inequality. The Foundation seeks to support programs that help alter the life trajectories of socioeconomically disadvantaged individuals and families toward a path to self-sufficiency. Priority will be given to programs that emphasize evidence-based prevention and early intervention programs for low-income, disadvantaged youth and families of color. A limited number of grants will be considered for policy and advocacy efforts which address barriers that disproportionately impact low-income, communities of color. Priority areas are **Education, Economic Empowerment, and Equity**. These areas are described in detail below. *The majority of Social Causes grants focus on the Chicago area.*

Guiding Principles

The Foundation’s grantmaking in Social Causes is guided by the following principles:

Children thrive within caring families and healthy environments. The most effective programs involve and empower parents and caregivers, implement multi-generation strategies, and build upon participants’ strengths and assets. Too often, the role of fathers has been overlooked in human services. Engaged, caring fathers are essential to the health of children and communities.

In most cases, there are no quick fixes. Shifting one’s life trajectory out of poverty is not a one-time event, nor does it occur in a single phase of development. The foundation embraces pathways to opportunity at multiple points throughout the life cycle. Programs should be substantive and foster meaningful, supportive relationships. Intervening during critical transitions is important.

Children and families in poverty experience numerous stressors and, too often, trauma. Interventions must be trauma-informed.

Effective programs are informed by and led by the constituents they serve. Programs must be culturally competent, address needs articulated by participants, and strive to empower youth, families, and communities.

The foundation prioritizes programs that can demonstrate their impact and/or potential. Since many nonprofits do not have adequate resources to evaluate their outcomes, the foundation will allow a portion of its grants to support evaluation costs.

Even the strongest programs cannot thrive if the organizations in which they operate lack the infrastructure they require. Support for general operating is essential to the health of the nonprofit sector.

To bring effective programs to scale, strategic partnerships between the nonprofit, government, business, academic, and philanthropic sectors will be required. Applicants who demonstrate an ability to work strategically with diverse stakeholders who can broaden the impact of their efforts are welcomed.

The foundation recognizes ways in which poverty, racism and discrimination, and social and economic disadvantage intersect. The foundation supports a limited number of policy/advocacy efforts that demonstrate significant potential to create meaningful opportunities for disadvantaged populations of color.

Priority Areas

EDUCATION	ECONOMIC ADVANCEMENT	EQUITY
<p>Early Childhood and Parenting</p> <p>Infant mental health & attachment</p> <p>Cognitive and non-cognitive development</p> <p>Strengthening families</p>	<p>Quality Workforce Training</p> <p>Vocational training and credentials</p>	<p>Women's Empowerment</p> <p>Economic advancement & employment</p> <p>Reproductive health/rights</p>
<p>School Achievement and Completion (K-12)</p> <p>Academic skills and attendance</p> <p>Social-emotional skills</p> <p>Behavioral health, healing trauma</p>	<p>Comprehensive Supports</p> <p>Long-term financial and life stability (e.g., financial literacy, asset building, GED, literacy, behavioral health, social services)</p>	<p>Education Equity</p> <p>Ending the school-to-prison pipeline</p> <p>Transforming punitive school cultures into places of healing and support</p> <p>Civic engagement, leadership development</p>
<p>Post-Secondary Success</p> <p>College access, persistence, and graduation (2- and 4-year institutions)</p> <p>Exploration of career interests/pathways</p>		<p>Immigrant & Refugee Rights/Services</p> <p>Resettlement services, education, and employment training</p> <p>Civil rights and protections</p>

E ducation (0-18)

Early Childhood and Parenting (0-5)

Goal: Children in poverty will have strong bonds and attachments with their caregivers, and they will be fully prepared for kindergarten. Families will be strengthened socially and economically.

Grants in Early Childhood and Parenting will support:



Programs that help parents strengthen their relationships with their children, support their child's learning, and access financial and other needed resources. *Programs serving teen parents and fathers are welcomed.*



Evidence-based and/or innovative early learning programs and initiatives that help low-income children of color ages 0 to five years old enter kindergarten with strong cognitive and social-emotional skills.



Efforts to improve the quality of early childhood education and to promote the adoption of best practices in teacher training and classroom instruction.

School Achievement and Completion (K-12)

Goal: Low-income students of color in grades K-12 will graduate from high school and be prepared for college and career.

Grants in School Achievement and Completion will support:

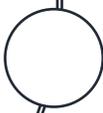
Trauma-informed, culturally-competent, and substantive in-school and after-school programs that will:



Improve school attendance, academic performance, graduation rates, and social-emotional skills;



Connect classroom learning to future careers and life possibilities;



Support students and their families through critical academic and family transitions and foster meaningful relationships between youth and caring adults;



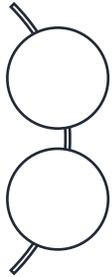
Improve the quality of instruction and build supportive school cultures with high expectations.

In general, the foundation does not currently make grants directly to Chicago public schools or charters.

Post-Secondary Success

Goal: Low-income students of color will successfully access post-secondary pathways out of poverty.

Grants in Post-Secondary Success will support:



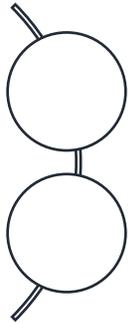
Programs that support students' access to, persistence in, and graduation from two and four-year colleges, particularly among first-generation college-goers;

Programs that help students explore career interests, prepare for employment, build social capital, and plan career pathways.

Economic Advancement (19 and beyond)

Goal: Disadvantaged job seekers (adults and opportunity youth) will have the skills and opportunities to earn family-sustaining wages and advance in their careers.

Grants in Economic Advancement will support:



Workforce development organizations with a proven ability to help unemployed and underemployed populations develop hard and soft skills and earn credentials in sectors that offer quality jobs with potential for advancement.

Programs that provide comprehensive supports that are critical to long-term success (e.g., assistance with financial literacy and building financial assets, accessing behavioral health or social services, completing a GED, improving literacy).

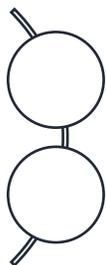
E_{quity}

While grantmaking in Social Causes focuses on direct services, the foundation is interested in efforts that may advance significant systemic changes that remove inequities for women, low-income students of color, and immigrants and refugees.

Women's Empowerment

Goal: Low-income women will have the skills and supports they need to sustain their families and advance economically. Women will have access to reproductive health care and will be fully empowered to make decisions about their health.

Grants in Women's Empowerment will support:

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- Training programs that enable low-income women to earn family-sustaining wages and access opportunities to advance in their careers;
 - Efforts that protect women's reproductive health and choices.

Education Equity

Goal: Low-income students of color will receive the supports they need to succeed in school and will not face disproportionately harsh disciplinary actions that limit their life chances.

Grants in Education Equity will support:

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- Services and advocacy efforts that help low-income students of color dealing with trauma or special needs avoid school suspension and/or expulsion, thus working to end the "school-to-prison" pipeline
 - Programs that transform punitive school cultures into places of healing and support.
 - Programs that empower low-income youth to be civically engaged and develop leadership skills.
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Immigrant and Refugee Rights

Goal: Immigrants and refugees will have access to opportunities to achieve self-sufficiency and contribute to their new communities.

Grants in Immigrant and Refugee Rights will support:



Human service and resettlement agencies that assist immigrants and refugees with building safety, community, and educational and economic opportunities;



Policy and advocacy efforts that protect the rights and humane treatment of immigrants and refugees.
