



When Disaster Hits: Philanthropic Responses to Natural and Man-Made Disasters

A CGLR Funder-to-Funder Conversation

September 17, 2024 | 12:30–2 pm ET/9:30–11 am PT

Panelist Bios

MODERATOR



Anne C. Kubisch

President & CEO Emerita

The Ford Family Foundation

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Anne Kubisch has over 45 years of leadership experience in international and national economic development, social policy, rights and justice, and philanthropy.

From 2013-23, Anne served as President/CEO of the largest private foundation in Oregon, The Ford Family Foundation (TFFF), with over \$1 billion in assets and an operating budget of \$55 million. Prior to that, she founded and served as the director of the Aspen Institute Roundtable on Community Change (1994-2013). She has lived and worked in Latin American and West Africa, focusing on economic development, human rights, and women's health and economic empowerment for the Ford Foundation (1985-94), the World Bank, the Battelle Memorial Institute, and USAID. Anne has published many articles and books and is a frequent public speaker on antipoverty programs, rural development, racial and gender equity, philanthropy, and social policy research and evaluation.

Anne has been recruited to serve on 15 Boards of Directors and has been elevated to Board Chair of five, including the Federal Reserve Bank of San Francisco's Portland Branch, Foundations for a Better Oregon, and the Institute for Research and Reform in Education. She has been appointed by the Governor of Oregon to special Councils on Early Childhood Learning and on Wildfire Recovery.

In 2023, Anne was bestowed the Distinguished Service Award (lifetime career achievement award) from the Council on Foundations, the premiere national organization that represents and serves the philanthropic sector in the United States.

She has a BA from Tufts University and a Master's Degree in Public and International Affairs from Princeton University, and resides in both Roseburg OR and New York NY.

PANELISTS



Justina Acevedo-Cross, MPP

Senior Director of Community Strategy

Hawai'i Community Foundation

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Justina Acevedo-Cross, MPP, is a senior director at the Hawai'i Community Foundation (HCF) overseeing the implementation of collaboration, impact, and grantmaking across Community Grants and Initiatives. She is the principal staff on the implementation of the Promising Minds Initiative focused on increasing child and family wellbeing through better access to early childhood mental health across Hawai'i. Ms. Acevedo-Cross specializes in policy and systems change, and network design and implementation. Justina has more than 20 years of nonprofit, foundation, board, and cross-sector experience to draw from for projects.

Prior to joining the HCF, Justina was a Program Officer for the David and Lucile Packard Foundation and was instrumental in the strategy design and implementation for early learning and expanded learning initiatives. She worked to increase meaningful training and professional development opportunities for teachers who work with children ages 0-5. Prior to joining the Packard Foundation, Justina worked in the nonprofit sector as a strategic communications professional for small and mid-size organizations, including Women's Initiative for Self Employment. Justina has experience serving on nonprofit boards and government commissions; she recently completed two terms as an appointed member of Hawai'i State's Early Learning Board. She holds a MPP from UC Berkeley and a BA from Scripps College.



Sharad Aggarwal

Vice President for Fund Management & Coalition Building

Center for Disaster Philanthropy

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Sharad Aggarwal serves as vice president of fund management and coalition building (FMCB) at the Center for Disaster Philanthropy (CDP), which brings funders, civil society organizations and other partners together to mobilize a range of resources and strengthen the ability of communities to withstand and recover equitably from disasters.

With more than 25 years of experience in partnership and resource development, grant and financial management, and program operations, Sharad supports the president & CEO and

leads the FMCB team to advance CDP's fund management, grantmaking, coalition building, and influencing strategies.

Before joining CDP in March 2024, Sharad held senior leadership positions at BRAC USA, guiding and strengthening BRAC's positioning in North America, and most recently focused on humanitarian fundraising, award management, brand building and DEI initiatives. He joined BRAC USA in September 2015 after more than 15 years with the United Methodist Committee on Relief (UMCOR).

During his time at UMCOR, Sharad worked at both the headquarters and country office levels. He identified and implemented strategies for program, organizational and resource development while overseeing staff and operations in Africa, Asia, the Balkans and the Caucasus. He also led program alignment with headquarters business development, monitoring and evaluation, human resources, and finance and risk management units while ensuring systems promoting program quality were developed and applied consistently at UMCOR's country offices.

Sharad served previously with Mercy Corps/Scottish European Aid in Bosnia-Herzegovina, the International Rescue Committee in Bosnia-Herzegovina and Washington, D.C., and InterAction in Washington, D.C.

He holds a master's in public administration from New York University's Robert F. Wagner School of Public Service with a concentration in international public and nonprofit management and policy. Sharad completed his undergraduate studies at Brown University, where he concentrated in international relations as well as modern literature and society.



Maria Juarez Stouffer, LMHC, MPA

Chief Program Officer

The Children's Services Council of Broward County

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Maria Juarez Stouffer is the Chief Programs Officer (CPO) at the Children's Services Council of Broward County. As the CPO, she has led the successful development, implementation, and oversight of over 150 effective programs with an overall budget of over 140 million dollars. She has extensive experience in designing and administering social service procurements, and children's service programs and in the coordination of data-driven, community-driven, and community-owned program funding processes. Mrs. Juarez-Stouffer has two master's degrees: one in psychology and another in Public Administration from Nova Southeastern University and a bachelor's degree in psychology from Florida State University. She served as the past President of the Broward Healthy Start Coalition, serves as the Chair of the Broward Funders

Forum, is a member of the Broward County Children Services Board, and is the Chair of the Needs Committee. She is a licensed mental health professional with over 25 years of experience serving children and families. Her clinical interests have focused on child abuse prevention and treatment and maternal-child health. Mrs. Juarez-Stouffer has presented at both national and state conferences on the topic of innovative maternal-child health programs and Kinship programs.



Laress L.W. Lawrence, M.Div., Ph.D.

Community and Equity Learning Partner

Elmina B. Sewall Foundation

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Laress Wilkins Lawrence, M.Div., Ph.D. is Community and Equity Learning Partner for Elmina B. Sewall Foundation, whose mission is to improve the well-being of people, animals, and the environment in Maine, while fostering equity and centering community voices. Since 2020 she has partnered with Tamarack Institute to co-design, pilot, and implement a collaboration- and capacity-building process with over 80 non-profit and municipal agencies in the twin-cities community of Lewiston and Auburn, Maine. Before joining Sewall in 2015, Laress taught Religious Studies and did multicultural programming at Regis College in Weston, Massachusetts. Her grant-making career began in the early 1980's at GMA Foundations in Boston, where she developed expertise in community outreach, social justice, and philanthropy. Laress serves on the board of Maine Initiatives, a progressive community foundation that promotes racial, social, economic, and environmental justice in Maine. She lives in Portland, Maine, with her husband Mark and their Goldendoodle Teddy.