



A Disaster Within a Disaster: Philanthropy Responds to Learning Loss

A CGLR Funder to Funder Conversation

February 16, 2021 | 12:30-2 pm ET/9:30-11 am PT

Moderator & Presenter Bios

MODERATOR



Debra Jacobs
President & CEO
The Patterson Foundation
@DebraMJacobs

In January 2009, Debra Jacobs became the President and CEO of The Patterson Foundation (TPF), based in Sarasota, Florida. The Patterson Foundation strengthens the efforts of people, organizations and communities. The Foundation focuses on issues that address common aspirations and foster wide participation, along with ways organizations learn and share as they evolve.

Prior to transitioning to TPF, Debra was President of the William G. and Marie Selby Foundation, based in Sarasota, Florida. In addition to the Selby Foundation, Debra was responsible for the administration of eight other independent foundations. Prior to joining the Selby Foundation in May 1998, Debra was the Vice President for Institutional Advancement for Ringling College of Art and Design. Debra came to this position after 11 years as Executive Vice President for SunTrust Bank, Gulf Coast. Prior to joining SunTrust in December 1985, she was Senior Vice President and Retail Division Administrator of Central Trust Company in Rochester, New York.

Debra received her undergraduate degree summa cum laude from Utica College of Syracuse University in 1971 and earned her MBA in 1981 from the University of Rochester.

PRESENTERS



Patricia McIlreavy
President & CEO
Center for Disaster Philanthropy
@mcilreavyp

Patty McIlreavy (MAC-ill-ree-vee) is president and CEO of the Center for Disaster Philanthropy, an organization that works with funders, nongovernmental organizations (NGOs), and other partners to mobilize a full range of resources that

strengthen the ability of communities to withstand disasters and recover equitably when they occur. With more than 25 years of international humanitarian policy and practice experience - with InterAction in Washington DC, and overseas for more than 17 years, with the International Rescue Committee, the Red Cross movement, United Nations agencies, and NATO - Patty brings a unique blend of operational and strategic expertise to disaster philanthropy.



Kayla Klein
Black Hills Reads Director
United Way of the Black Hills

Ms. Kayla Klein leads the Black Hills Reads initiative under the United Way umbrella, which is a Campaign for Grade Level Reading initiative. Kayla has always had a passion of early childhood education and has dedicated the last 15 years of her career to advancing the professionals that work with her and status of early childhood education in the state of South Dakota. Kayla graduated from Black Hills State University, holds a degree in Psychology and Human Services as well as a Child Development Associate. Kayla was also a 2016 Women in Leadership series graduate from Black Hills State University. Kayla opened and was CEO of Northern Hills Alliance for Children, Child Development Center for eight years and in working with families and teachers discovered her passion of public policy and being a voice for early learning. When offered the Black Hills Reads Director position at United Way, Kayla saw this as an opportunity to continue this work in the field at a more impactful level. She has served on many boards including SDAEYC as Public Policy chair, NH CASA as President, Handley Recreation Center as President, among others. This passion is only topped by her passion for her family, which includes her husband Matt Klein and two young and spunky boys Desmond and Lincoln. She will continue to volunteer and help promote the rural communities in the Black Hills and is honored to work with so many passionate individuals.



Kimberly Rusnak
Project Director of the Children's Opportunity Fund
Greater Washington Community Foundation
@communityfndn

Kimberly Rusnak joined The Community Foundation staff in July 2018 as the Project Director of the Children's Opportunity Fund in Montgomery County, Maryland. Through her previous experience as a Program Officer with the Social Innovation Fund, she oversaw a portfolio of innovative interventions ranging from cradle to career. Kimberly came to The Community Foundation well-versed in program development, nonprofit management, and community development. A graduate of University of Pittsburgh, Kimberly earned a master's degree in Social Work and a master's degree in Public and International Affairs. Kimberly also attended Wake Forest University for her undergraduate studies, where she earned a BA in Sociology with a minor in International Affairs.

Prior to joining the Greater Washington Community Foundation, Kimberly spent time working with various non-profits. She has always been drawn to public service so she spent three years in Senegal with the Peace Corps and also volunteered with AmeriCorps through Hands On Atlanta. Her passion and experience is in addressing various issues along the cradle to career continuum – it is critical that we provide equal opportunities to all young people.