Modern Philanthropy and the Role of Women

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What is Modern Philanthropy?

Traditional grant-making models involve direct grants to nonprofit organizations or causes:

• *Donors decide which nonprofits to support, and how much money to give them*

• *Nonprofits have responsibility for developing and implementing solutions to social problems.*
What is Modern Philanthropy?

Newer models of philanthropy focus on impact:

**Strategic philanthropy** – tries to create systemic change by focusing on root causes of social problems

**Venture philanthropy** – donors engage with nonprofits as investors instead of grantors, i.e. take a seat on the board, act as staff, support organizational development

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What is Modern Philanthropy?

**Impact investing** – donors act as investors and expect a social return on investment as well as financial return

**Catalytic philanthropy** – donors focus on creating change, empowering stakeholders, and creating conditions for collaboration

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Catalytic Philanthropy

• Donors take responsibility for achieving results

• Mobilize and coordinate stakeholders to participate in larger campaigns for change

• Use all available tools – mass media, advertising campaigns, advocacy, corporate engagement, etc.

• Create actionable knowledge – donors gather and share knowledge about a social problem
Women and Philanthropy

• According to the Women’s Philanthropy Institute, the two key predictors of philanthropy are education and income.

• In 2012, women made up 56 percent of college students in the U.S.

• Since 1979 earnings for women across all racial groups in the U.S. have risen by an average of more than 20 percent while men’s earnings have remained static. (U.S. Bureau of Labor Statistics)
Women and Philanthropy

• In the U.S., 43 percent of top wealth holders are women and women control more than half of all private wealth.

• Women-led households are more likely to give than households headed by men, and give twice as much. (Rockefeller Philanthropy Advisors)

• There are 9.1 million women-owned business in the U.S., generating $1.4 trillion in revenue and employing nearly 7.9 million people. (Women’s Philanthropy Institute)
Women and Philanthropy

• Women are responsible for more than 83 percent of all consumer purchases. (Women’s Philanthropy Institute)

• Women philanthropists are poised to leverage their influence to challenge the root causes of injustice and social inequality.
Discussion

• What role can/should women play in philanthropy? How does women’s giving differ?

• How are women philanthropists tackling challenges in grantmaking?

• How do we measure success in giving? How do we measure impact?

• What do we gain/lose by relying on data-driven models of giving?