

Collaborations Overview

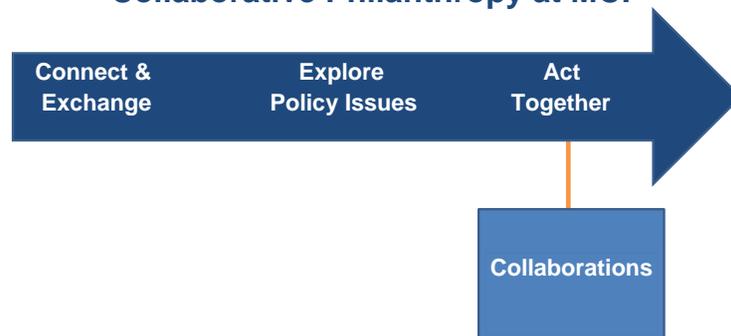
Collaborations provide a vehicle for MCF members and non-members to take action together. Taking action together could involve pursuing a joint project or initiative, pooling or aligning funding, planning a large convening, developing and advocating for an independent policy agenda at the legislature, etc. This is also a catch-all category for groups housed at MCF that do not fit as peer networks or working groups.

Collaborations are likely to be more time-intensive, action-oriented and autonomous from MCF than peer networks and working groups. Collaborations are not bound by the same parameters MCF sets for its peer networks and working groups. Collaborations determine their own goals and purpose, membership requirements, funding model, leadership structure, meeting frequency, etc.

A collaboration could be:

- the maturing of a working group into a more action-oriented collaborative
- a spin-off pooled fund, project or initiative from a working group or peer network
- a funder group that wants to develop and advocate for its own independent policy agenda
- a funder group that includes non-members or wants to meet more frequently than four times/year
- a funder group that is ready to hire an external coordinator or other staff

Collaborative Philanthropy at MCF



What does a collaboration look like?

- **How to Participate:** Learn about membership for an individual collaboration on MCF's website
- **Collaboration Leadership:** Each collaboration determines its own leadership structure based on its needs. MCF requests 1-2 MCF liaisons be designated for effective service delivery.
- **Who can Participate:** MCF members and non-members, as determined by the collaboration
- **MCF could provide an agreed upon combination of the following services:**
 - Fiscal sponsorship
 - Collaboration staffing and coordination
 - Strategy and work plan development
 - Research and reporting
 - Consultant management
 - Event planning and registration
 - Online community management via MCF's Hub
 - Agenda development and meeting facilitation
 - Work plan implementation and oversight
 - Event promotion via MCF channels and meeting space (free)
- **Cost:** MCF supports collaborations on a below-market fee-for-service basis, working with consultants as needed. *Collaborations will receive the support that an affiliated network or coalition receives until a fee-for-service arrangement is in place (see MCF role for affiliated networks and coalitions).* MCF contracts with collaborations will be revisited on an annual basis.



