Grantmaking in Washington grew, largely because of the Bill & Melinda Gates Foundation.

The largest single gift to the Northwest region was the Bill & Melinda Gates Foundation’s $210 million capital campaign grant to University of Washington. Seattle Foundation also awarded significant grants for health and education, including $430,000 to Fred Hutch Cancer Research Center. A sampling of other grantmaking across Washington state included a range of topics and grant amounts.

Among the human services grants made to Washington organizations was a $973,000 grant from Norcliffe Foundation to St. Martin de Porres Shelter. The grant supported 70 programs that serve children and families with shelter, permanent housing, emergency food and clothing assistance, and services for elders.

- The Ben B. Cheney Foundation provided $25,000 to Sound Experience, an outdoor youth education organization that provides shipboard environmental science and maritime careers programming in Port Townsend, Washington. The funds supported the second phase of restoration of the Adventuress, a century-old National Historic Landmark tall ship.

- Both Margarette Casey Foundation and Yakima Valley Community Foundation awarded funds ($500,000 and $10,000 respectively) to OneAmerica in Seattle for programs and services aiding immigrant rights and civic participation.

- Medina Foundation awarded several grants totaling $85,000 to provide services and operating funds to organizations that provide programs and resources for survivors of domestic violence, sexual and physical assault. Grant recipients included Domestic Violence and Sexual Assault Services of Whatcom County ($45,000) in Bellingham; the Abused Deaf Women’s Advocacy Services ($30,000) in Seattle; and Beyond Survival ($10,000), a resource center in Aberdeen.

- Washington Women’s Foundation awarded $100,000 for arts services to Terrain, an organization in Spokane dedicated to building community and economic opportunities for the artists and culture creators of the Inland Northwest.

**Top 10 Foundations Awarding Grants to Recipients in Washington, 2016**

1. Bill & Melinda Gates Foundation (WA)
2. The Boeing Company (WA)
3. Seattle Foundation (WA)
4. Microsoft (WA)
5. Fidelity Charitable (OH)
6. United Way of King County (WA)
7. The Norcliffe Foundation (WA)
8. Schwab Charitable (CA)
9. Cystic Fibrosis Foundation Therapeutics (MD)
10. M.J. Murdock Charitable Trust (WA)

**WASHINGTON**

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STATEWIDE CAPACITY COLLABORATIVE
Strengthening Washington’s nonprofit sector through grantmaker collaboration

Several grantmakers came together in early 2010 to work collectively to support a healthier, more resilient nonprofit ecosystem. Since then, the Statewide Capacity Collective (SCC) has made aligned investments of $8 million, as well as $1.5 million through a pooled fund. The latter funds investments aimed at supporting advocacy and public policy in the sector, increasing the effective delivery of capacity building knowledge, and developing local, regional, and statewide leaders.

In 2016, SCC partners included: The Ballmer Group, Bill & Melinda Gates Foundation, Campion Foundation, Cedarmere Foundation, Empire Health Foundation, Medina Foundation, Satterberg Foundation, Seattle Foundation, Sherwood Trust and Social Venture Partners, which convenes the group.

Mike Quinn, director of community investment at Social Venture Partners, has served as the SCC’s convener for the past three years. Quinn said that supporting the nonprofit sector’s advocacy efforts is particularly impactful.

“Ten years ago, there was not one entity with a statewide lens advocating on behalf of the entire sector,” he said. “Building the infrastructure of the statewide nonprofit association to advocate at the legislature has been huge.”

With about $400,000 in annual grants coming from the pooled funding, SCC funds are not enough to support all the gaps that exist in the sector, Quinn said. What’s been most powerful, he says, is the conversations the group inspires, and its ability to strengthen the sector’s capacity to advocate for itself across issues and geographies.

“At the 10-year mark of the SCCs existence, we continue to evolve and adapt as a learning community — from both pooled funding and aligned grantmaking,” said SCC Co-Chair Caroline Miceli, program officer at Satterberg Foundation. “We have also been joining in community conversations and centering our work alongside what is already happening within community — with a particular focus on historically marginalized communities. We continue to learn from others in the nonprofit sector as a whole, and together, work to advocate for a strong sector and increasing opportunities for organizational capacity building and individual leadership development.”

ENDNOTE

9 The data in this report includes information from the data sources described in the Methodology section. Only those organizations that responded to our requests for information or had reliable information publicly available elsewhere have been included in this report.
This report is based on the analysis of two closely-related datasets from 2014 and 2016 collected by or reported to Foundation Center, now operating as Candid, by December 31, 2018:

- Analysis of the fiscal year (FY) 2016 philanthropic giving to the Northwest relies on data from 73,813 grants totaling $2.97 billion from a national sample of 7,445 funders that awarded at least one grant of $1,000 or more to the six-state region — Alaska, Idaho, Montana, Oregon, Washington and Wyoming.

- Analysis of the changes in giving to the Northwest between FY’s 2014 and 2016 uses a matched subset of 4,253 funders so as not to distort data due to changes in the funders in each year.

Dollar amounts may represent the full authorized grant award, or the amount paid in that year, depending on how the foundation reports its activity. Similarly, FY 2014 and FY 2016 may include grants awarded in late 2013 and late 2015, respectively, depending on a foundation’s fiscal calendar. Percentages are rounded to the nearest whole number, leading to some figures reflecting slightly more than 100% totals. Dollar amounts are rounded to the tenth place.

**ABOUT THE DATA**

**What data was collected?** This report includes grants data, primarily, but also foundation-administered programs, program-related investments and mission-related investments, collectively called “transactions.” The data come from:

- IRS Forms 990 and 990-PF
- Lists provided directly by funders
- Foundation websites
- Other sources (including news and press releases or via partner organizations). Learn more on Candid’s website at candid.org.

New since 2016, each reported transaction is now machine-coded according to Candid’s Philanthropy Classification System. The change increased the number of grants in the database and provides a more comprehensive picture of the philanthropic sector.

Candid manually reviews machine-assigned codes for transactions of $250,000 or more made by 1,000 of the largest U.S. foundations, as well as for some special projects. The automated system uses a deliberately conservative methodology to track grant recipients that primarily work with people of color by population group, focusing on:

1. Identifying the population served by the transaction.

2. If there is no beneficiary population associated with the transaction, then Candid identifies the population served by the recipient organization.

Some transactions benefit multiple population groups, such as African Americans and Latinx Americans. In these cases, the full dollar amount is allocated for each beneficiary population, since it’s not possible to specify the share of support that is intended for each population group.

For detailed information about Candid’s Philanthropy Classification System or to learn more about how the data were classified visit the website at taxonomy.candid.org.
Trends in Northwest Giving 2019 is a joint project of Philanthropy Northwest and Foundation Center, now known as Candid.

Data processing, research and analysis conducted by Reina Mukai (of Candid, formerly Foundation Center) in conjunction with Paul Kim (formerly with Philanthropy Northwest). Report strategy and production guidance provided by Philanthropy Northwest staff: Kiran Ahuja, Danielle Crystal, Megan Fairweather, Lyn Hunter, Anjana Pandey and Karen Westing. Funder interviews, writing and editing provided by Caitlin Copple Masingill of Full Swing Public Relations.

Graphic design and layout by Asha Hossain Design, LLC.