

# Snapshot of FOUNDATION GIVING TO THE NORTHWEST

Fall 2016



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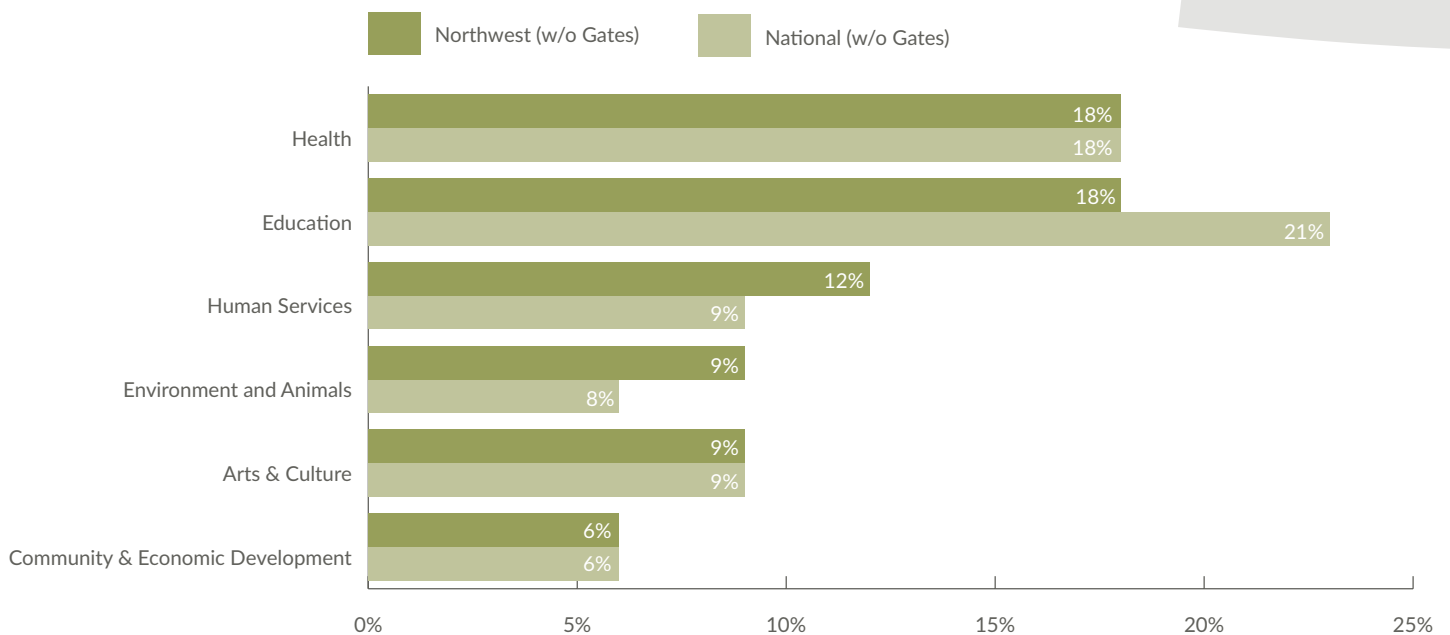


U.S. foundations make significant investments in communities across Alaska, Idaho, Montana, Oregon, Washington and Wyoming. This snapshot captures support from a sample of 512 foundations for a range of issues and focus areas in Philanthropy Northwest's six-state region, based on 22,291 reported grants totaling \$1.3 billion to 7,862 organizations.

## Health Receives Highest Proportion of Dollars

Consistent with national trends, the largest share of foundation funding to the Northwest went to health-related activities: \$563 million (45 percent of total grant dollars), including more than \$275 million from the Bill & Melinda Gates Foundation to PATH, a global health organization based in Seattle. Excluding Gates Foundation philanthropy, health-related programs in the Northwest received \$131 million (18 percent of grant dollars).

**FIGURE 1.** Share of Dollars by Issue Area, Northwest vs. National



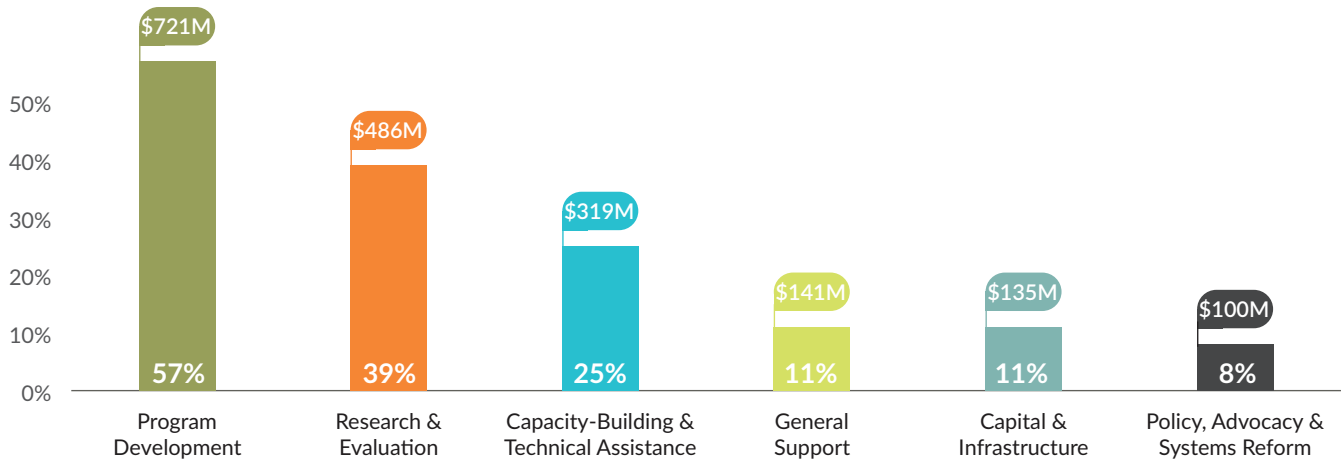
Source: Foundation Center, 2016. Includes issue areas accounting for at least 5 percent of grant dollars. Smaller categories not included on this chart included public safety, religion and science/technology.



## Most Funding Focus on Programs, Research & Evaluation

Across issue areas, more than half of foundation funding to the Northwest provided support for developing programs in 2014, followed by research and evaluation. Policy, advocacy and systems reform received the lowest share of grant funding in the six-state region.

**FIGURE 2.** Foundation Funding to the Northwest Region by Support Strategy

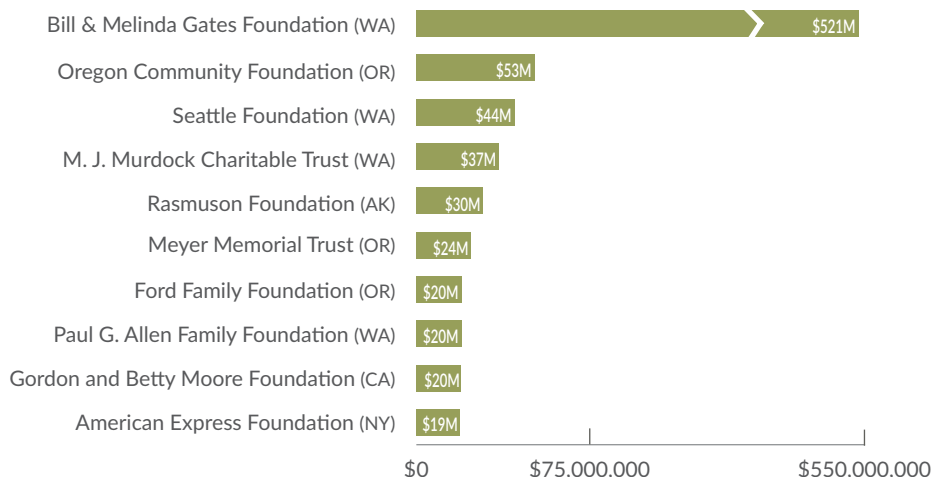


**Source:** Foundation Center, 2016. Includes support strategies accounting for at least 5 percent of grant dollars. Total exceeds 100 percent due to some grants categorized under multiple support strategies.

## Ten Foundations Contribute Half of Northwest Giving

In our reporting sample of 512 foundations, including 405 based outside the Northwest, 10 accounted for three-fifths of grant dollars awarded in Alaska, Idaho, Montana, Oregon, Washington and Wyoming. The Seattle-based Bill & Melinda Gates Foundation, the world's largest private foundation, is by far the largest funder to its home state: \$521 million awarded to organizations in Washington and parts of Oregon. Two community foundations — The Oregon Community Foundation and Seattle Foundation—came in second and third, respectively.

**FIGURE 3.** Top 10 Foundations Awarding Grants to the Northwest Region



**Source:** Foundation Center, 2016.

# Alaska & Wyoming Receive Highest Median Grant Amounts

Two-thirds of grants in the Northwest region went to organizations in Washington state, driven by funding from the Seattle-based Bill & Melinda Gates Foundation, followed by Oregon. Wyoming reported the highest median grant amount (\$15,300), followed by Alaska (\$9,300).

**FIGURE 4.** Foundation Giving to the Northwest Region by State

State	Total Dollars	No. of Grants	Median Grant Amount
Alaska	\$41,119,227	809	\$9,300
Idaho	46,543,921	1,944	3,000
Montana	51,108,802	1,799	5,000
Oregon	282,036,093	8,003	5,000
Washington	811,012,444	9,105	5,000
Wyoming	31,023,779	631	15,000
<b>Total</b>	<b>\$1,262,844,266</b>	<b>22,291</b>	<b>\$5,000</b>

Source: Foundation Center, 2016.

## ABOUT THE GRANTS SET

This report is a snapshot of 22,291 grants awarded to organizations in Philanthropy Northwest's six-state region—Alaska, Idaho, Montana, Oregon, Washington and Wyoming—totaling \$1.3 billion from 512 community, corporate, family, independent and operating foundations. This set does not include grants below \$1,000, cash and in-kind donations, impact investments or grants made to individuals. For community foundations, this set includes only discretionary grants and a sample of donor-advised grants provided by those funders.

Our analysis is based on data submitted to Foundation Center between November 2015 and September 2016 by 107 foundations based in the Northwest (\$955 million total giving to the region) and 405 foundations from outside the Northwest (\$337 million total giving to the region). Two-thirds of the data in this report reflect FY2014 awards; one-third reflect FY2013. Dollar figures may represent the full authorized amount of the grant or the amount paid in that year, depending on how the foundation reports its activity.

Visit [philanthropynw.org/get-map](http://philanthropynw.org/get-map) to view more data, update your information and submit your grants for inclusion in our next Trends in Northwest Giving report.



32 Old Slip ♦ New York, NY 10005  
(800) 424-9836 ♦ [foundationcenter.org](http://foundationcenter.org)



2101 Fourth Avenue, Suite 650 ♦ Seattle, WA 98121  
(877) 769-2752 ♦ [philanthropynw.org](http://philanthropynw.org)