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# EDI as an Imperative in Stakeholder Engagement and Fundraising

## **WEBINAR TOPICS**

## EDI as an Imperative in Stakeholder Engagement and Fundraising

### CREATING A CULTURE OF INCLUSION AND PHILANTHROPIC PARTNERSHIP

RECRUITING AND RETAINING A DIVERSE TEAM

### FUNDRAISING AND VOLUNTEER ENGAGEMENT

- Moving from awareness to action to create sustainable behavioral change
- Assessing where your organization is in its EDI journey

- Start with the "why?"
- Be candid and honest

• Identifying and engaging all stakeholders and donors

# An Inclusive Culture

- Defining equity, diversity, and inclusion
- Inclusion makes equity and diversity count

# Awareness to Action

# SHAPING YOUR PHILANTHROPIC CULTURE



## **AWARENESS-ACTION GAP: BOARDS**

- 90% of nonprofit CEOs are white (awareness)
- 90% of nonprofit board chairs are white (awareness)
- 22% overall have done an EDI audit (assessment)
- In the 27% of organizations with 100% white boards:
  - 62% of these have leaders who say racial diversity is important (awareness)
  - 10% say demographics are a priority in recruitment (action)

# **AWARENESS-ACTION GAP: ORCHESTRAS**

- 94% of orchestra EDs/CEOs are white (awareness)
- 12% of orchestras have done a diversity audit and have a diversity plan (assessment)
- 32% have a recruitment plan designed to promote equality (action)

### **DEI Maturity Model for Advancement**



- Internal policies ensure external legal requirements are met
- Compliant with equal opportunity and affirmative action goals
- Organization committed to responding to problems
- Reactive



 Programs are provided to address specific

challenges/gaps

- DEI recognized as beneficial to engagement and fundraising success
- Ad-hoc and standalone initiatives such as trainings boost knowledge
- Systematic barriers identified
- DEI statements developed
- Early learning
- Episodic

# 

#### UNDERSTANDING

- DEI defined and widely embraced
- Comprehensive strategy and measurable DEI goals set
- Goals understood by leaders as essential to mission fulfillment
- Leaders/managers commit resources to DEI
- Systematic barriers to an inclusive culture are addressed
- DEI incorporated into talent
  management
- Inclusion Council established
- Proactive and strategic

### LEVEL FOUR

### CHANGED BEHAVIOR

- Inclusion Council active and respected
- DEI is integrated into all areas of engagement and fundraising
- Leaders hold themselves
  accountable
- Internal commitment is reflected externally
- All team members and stakeholders see themselves as included and as essential to the organization's future
- DEI increases competitive advantage and strengthens mission fulfillment
- · Proactive and sustained

Grant & Schiller (CASE 2020) Diversity, Equity, & Inclusion in Advancement: A Guide to Strengthening Engagement and Fundraising Through Inclusion

# Philanthropic Partnership

Apply inclusion to stakeholders: take time to assess how donors and other stakeholders view the organization

# POLL

Where is your organization right now, in terms of EDI Maturity?

- We are compliant, and we respond to problems as they arise (reactive)
- We have episodic training in EDI, and most are aware of the importance of EDI in our organization (episodic)
- Measurable EDI goals have been set, our leaders are committed, and resources have been allocated (strategic)
- All team members and stakeholders feel included, and EDI has increased our stakeholder engagement and fundraising results (sustained)

## **KEY TAKEAWAYS**

EDI as an Imperative in Stakeholder Engagement and Fundraising

### CREATING A CULTURE OF INCLUSION AND PHILANTHROPIC PARTNERSHIP

- Moving from awareness to action to create sustainable behavioral change
- Assessing where your organization is in its EDI journey

- Knowledge is not enough: awareness needs to lead to action.
- Assessment of EDI maturity provides a basis for the setting of measurable goals.
   Include diverse stakeholders in the assessment process.

# Diversity, Equity & Inclusion **IN RECRUITMENT AND RETENTION**

**ASPEN LEADERSHIP GROUP** 

# Start with the "Why?"

EDI is a moral imperative and an engagement and fundraising imperative

Communicate honestly, and be vulnerable

# PANEL DISCUSSION

What are the engagement and fundraising imperatives for EDI in your organization, given your mission?

### **KEY TAKEAWAYS**

EDI as an Imperative in Stakeholder Engagement and Fundraising

### RECRUITING AND RETAINING A DIVERSE TEAM

- Start with the "why?"
- Be transparent

 Effective recruitment and retention require articulating EDI as an engagement and fundraising imperative and communicating honestly with candidates, staff, and stakeholders. Be willing to fail forward.

# Inclusive Engagement & Fundraising

&SPEN LEADERSHIP GROUP

What are research and donors telling us?

**Developing inclusive strategies** 

## DONORS

# What are research and donors telling us?

- Changed and changing demographics
- Diverse potential donors have been there all along, but not included
- Passion, partnership, involvement
- Impact

ASPEN LEADERSHIP GROUP

## **INCLUSIVE STRATEGIES**

## **Adaptations**

- Identification: Prospect Research
- Cultivation: Donors have Objectives Too!
- Seek the voice of your diverse donors and other stakeholders

# Meeting Donors as They Prefer

ASPEN LEADERSHIP GROUP

Engaging all potential donors involves applying inclusion in all stages of the fundraising process: one size fits all never worked, and it won't work now

Some "best" practices need to be better

## **KEY TAKEAWAYS**

## EDI as an Imperative in Stakeholder Engagement and Fundraising

### FUNDRAISING AND VOLUNTEER ENGAGEMENT

 Identifying and engaging all stakeholders and donors

- Changed and changing demographics require new strategies for prospective volunteer and donor identification.
- A more diverse donor population requires better practices that incorporate diverse donor motivations and objectives.

## SUMMARY: KEY TAKEWAYS

### EDI as an Imperative in Stakeholder Engagement and Fundraising

- Knowledge is not enough: awareness needs to lead to action.
- Assessment of EDI maturity provides a basis for the setting of measurable goals. Include diverse stakeholders in the assessment process.

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- Changed and changing demographics require new strategies for prospective volunteer and donor identification.
- A more diverse donor population requires better practices that respond to different donor motivations and objectives.

# What can I do, starting today?

- Ask staff and volunteers for candid feedback on where our organization is on the DEI maturity model.
- Define engagement and fundraising imperatives for EDI – what stakeholders are we excluding?
- Identify perspectives we are missing, on our staff and on our volunteer boards, such that we are unable to identify our blind spots.
- Which of our practices in engagement and fundraising should be reexamined, to assess whether better practices practices informed by our awareness and assessment of EDI—are needed?

# **EDI in Advancement**

Diversity, Equity, and Inclusion in Advancement: A Guide to Strengthening Engagement and Fundraising Through Inclusion

By Angelique S.C. Grant and Ronald J. Schiller



# Q & A Panel Discussion