

Understand.  
Strengthen.  
**Advance.**



**JOHNSON CENTER**  
AT GRAND VALLEY STATE UNIVERSITY



**GRAND VALLEY**  
STATE UNIVERSITY

**Annual Report 2018-19**





## Dorothy A. Johnson Center for Philanthropy

### Mission

The Dorothy A. Johnson Center for Philanthropy aims to be a global leader in helping individuals and organizations understand, strengthen, and advance philanthropy.

### Vision

We envision a world with smart, adaptive, and effective philanthropy.

### Values

Excellence  
Inquiry  
Community  
Innovation  
Sustainability  
Integrity  
Inclusiveness

At the Dorothy A. Johnson Center for Philanthropy, we believe that strong philanthropy builds resilient and vibrant communities. We have a unique view of our sector: we see philanthropy as an interconnected ecosystem of donors, nonprofits, and funders, working together in pursuit of the common good. As a university-based center, we embrace an applied research agenda that both produces new knowledge and translates that research and expertise into useful, applicable resources.

This philosophy propels our scholarship, our community engagement, and our commitment to data-driven decision making. Our staff are leaders in the field, driven by a desire to support meaningful philanthropy through inclusive learning, frank exchange, and profound local impact. Our thought leadership and strategic convenings are intended to strengthen the work of professionals and their organizations. And our commitment to empowering communities while engaging with global perspectives demonstrates our conviction that philanthropy is a fundamentally diverse and inclusive field. Through our values and our actions, we advance a world shaped by smart, adaptive, and effective philanthropy.

The Dorothy A. Johnson Center for Philanthropy is an academic center of excellence based in the College of Community and Public Service at Grand Valley State University in Grand Rapids, Michigan.

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# A Message from Dr. Teresa Behrens

Executive Director, Dorothy A. Johnson Center for Philanthropy

When I assumed the role of executive director at the Dorothy A. Johnson Center for Philanthropy last fall, I was blessed with a strong leadership team, talented staff, and a clear strategic framework. Over the past year, we’ve worked to bring that framework to life. Together, we’ve defined our priorities; created a nimbler internal structure; striven to infuse equity into all our work; and focused on delivering high quality research, products, and services to the partners and communities we serve.

Our role in supporting the people and organizations who do the front-line work of this sector is sometimes hard to understand and appreciate. While it is easy to grasp what nonprofits achieve in providing direct services to clients, or what foundation staff accomplish in convening and funding those organizations, the effort to build the skills and capacity of those people and organizations can be less glamorous. Yet it is equally important. Infrastructure organizations — such as the Johnson Center — play an essential role in developing and sharpening the tools of social change work.

While this annual report highlights some of our key accomplishments for the year, there are a host of smaller but no less important successes we’ve had as we work to understand, strengthen, and advance philanthropy. Our evaluation work led to a major art museum changing its policies and programs to become a more inclusive space. The dashboards we’ve created have been used to help communities

and individual organizations understand and monitor their progress. Staff at both foundations and nonprofits tell us our training programs have led to more effective work.

We have some exciting initiatives envisioned for the next year and will be working to secure the resources we need to carry them out. Creating new professional development and credentials for nonprofit and foundation leaders, building a better ecosystem for board engagement, deepening our diversity and inclusion work, and expanding our data tools are priorities.

Our vision of a strong, adaptive philanthropic sector that contributes to healthy communities is more critical than ever. In these times of political divisiveness, increased tension (often intentionally stoked) among different racial and ethnic groups, and a steepening concentration of wealth, the philanthropic sector is perhaps the only part of society that is well positioned to remind us of the value and importance of community and to help us move forward together. We hope you’ll join us in helping the sector thrive.

Dr. Teresa R. Behrens  
Executive Director  
Dorothy A. Johnson Center for Philanthropy

# A Message from Dr. George Grant, Jr.

Dean of the College of Community and Public Service

As we closed the book on one academic year at the end of June, and opened a new one on July 1, 2019, Grand Valley State University (GVSU) said farewell to our longtime president, Thomas J. Haas, and welcomed our new leader, President Philomena Mantella.

We had all of the 2018-2019 academic year to prepare ourselves. We offered “T-Haas” our sincere gratitude for his 13 years of inspiring leadership.

We looked forward to meeting our new president and learning more about her vision for GVSU’s next chapter.

President Mantella brings a distinguished career in higher education (most recently serving as Senior Vice President and CEO for the Lifelong Learning Network at Northeastern University) to her new role. And she brings a deep conviction that higher education at its best is both responsive and relevant — to peoples’ lives and to today’s global forces.

President Mantella herself put it best: “Higher education must go beyond the frame of 18- to 22-year-olds to consider a lifetime view of learning that helps illuminate powerful intersections of learning, life and work” (University World News).

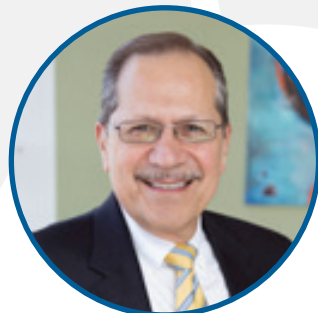
Academic environments like GVSU’s College of Community and Public Service (CCPS), of which the Johnson Center is a part, that bring together research and practice are the epicenters of this kind of innovation. When academic scholarship and

the lived experience of practitioners are able to inform each other, the opportunity for extraordinary impact is created. We maximize the value we offer students and professionals alike by simultaneously igniting their curiosity and deepening their professional preparedness.

As we move forward together, I invite you to join me, our colleagues at the Johnson Center, CCPS, and all of GVSU in embracing opportunities to enrich the lives of all who walk through our doors — whether those doors be physical or virtual. To value those diverse perspectives, innovative minds, and caring hearts that come to GVSU to learn and to make the world a better place.

Dr. George Grant, Jr.  
Dean, College of Community and Public Service  
Grand Valley State University





### JULY '18

Juan Olivarez joins the Johnson Center as the first **Distinguished Scholar in Residence for Diversity, Equity, and Inclusion**

### NOVEMBER '18

Jason Franklin and partners from the Collective Giving Research Group publish two new reports, *Giving Circle Membership: How Collective Giving Impacts Donors* and *Dynamics of Hosting Giving Circles and Collective Giving Groups*, providing **new insights into the state of collective giving in the U.S.**



Michael Moody, along with co-author Sharna Goldseker, publishes **three new best-practice guides** — for fundraisers and nonprofits, families, and advisors — based on their research of next gen donors.

### JANUARY '19

Nonprofit expert **Dennis McMillian** joins the **Johnson Center** as a senior consultant.

Johnson Center publishes **11 Trends in Philanthropy for 2019.**

The Donor Journeys Initiative kicks off at the **fifth biennial National Summit on Family Philanthropy**, "Our Donor Journeys and Why They Matter," in Fort Lauderdale, Fla. on January 28 and 29.



### MAY '19

The Johnson Center publishes **Grantmaking That Advances Equity: A Teaching Case**, a case study of the Kresge Foundation's Climate Resilience and Urban Opportunity Initiative.



On May 16, the Johnson Center offers the first session of a **new course from The Grantmaking School**, "Persuasive Writing in Grantmaking."

2018

2019

### OCTOBER '18

The three-month **"Field Focus: Local Action"** campaign begins, exploring how individuals and organizations plug into the communities they care about and spur others to action as well.

The Johnson Center partners with Plante Moran to host **nationally-acclaimed fundraising expert Kim Klein** in Kalamazoo, Mich. on October 5.

Tamela Spicer convenes more than a dozen community organizations to kick off the **Ecosystem for Nonprofit Leadership**, a community-led project to support board service capacity for nonprofits and individuals. The initiative was announced publicly in July 2019.



**Teresa Behrens transitions to her new role as executive director** of the Johnson Center on October 22.

### FEBRUARY '19

Liz Gordillo and Teri Behrens host the **first convening of Michigan foundation learning officers** on February 15.

### APRIL '19

The three-month **"Field Focus: Learning for Good"** campaign begins, featuring content that considers the value and practice of learning in philanthropy.

On April 2, the 2019 **Association of Fundraising Professionals (AFP)/Skystone Partners Prize for Research on Fundraising and Philanthropy** is awarded to Michael Moody and co-author Sharna Goldseker for their book, *Generation Impact: How Next Gen Donors Are Revolutionizing Giving.*



### JUNE '19

The Johnson Center partners with the Ralph C. Wilson, Jr. Foundation to **convene the CEOs of spend-down foundations** in Detroit on June 6.

Tamela Spicer and Liz Gordillo present at **Detroit Nonprofit Day** on June 15.

# Strategic Framework

## 2018–2021

The Johnson Center adopted a new strategic framework in early 2018. These principles guide our decisions and partnerships and align our course with GVSU's strategic plan through 2021.

### Our Guiding Beliefs

- Philanthropy is an ecosystem of people and institutions that includes donors, funders, and nonprofits.
- Philanthropy works to strengthen communities and advance the common good through private and collective action.
- Philanthropy is a diverse and inclusive field, and often engages closely with business and government.

### Our Strategic Principles

#### Understand Philanthropy

Understand philanthropy by articulating and pursuing an applied research agenda that empowers community problem solving and builds upon our expertise, while informing both philanthropic scholarship and practice.

#### Strengthen Philanthropy

Strengthen philanthropy by developing resources and services that demonstrably improve the skills and knowledge of individuals and organizations.

#### Advance Philanthropy

Advance the thinking of philanthropy scholars and practitioners by identifying trends, developing tools, articulating strategies, and disseminating concepts and frameworks.

#### Global Perspective

Incorporate a global perspective to respond to the ever-changing field of philanthropy and its emerging markets by staying grounded in and informed by our work with communities.

#### Organizational Sustainability

Ensure our enduring impact by securing and stewarding the human, financial, and intellectual resources necessary to support the organization's mission.



**Over the next three years, we will be focused on these six key priorities** for advancing our strategic direction.

Throughout 2018 and 2019, we identified and began moving forward on these priorities. This Annual Report is dedicated to exploring what we have accomplished and what we look forward to achieving in the next annual cycle.



# Meet Juan Olivarez

The Johnson Center’s first Distinguished Scholar in Residence for Diversity, Equity, and Inclusion

Profound demographic shifts are reshaping American communities. For philanthropy, these shifts necessitate the development of new tools and strategies that effectively address equity issues and promote inclusion.

In 2018, West Michigan’s Frey Foundation, Wege Foundation, Kate and Richard Wolters Foundation, and Grand Rapids Community Foundation stepped forward to help philanthropy meet this need. The Distinguished Scholar in Residence for Diversity, Equity, and Inclusion is the embodiment of their vision.

Juan Olivarez began his three-year term on July 1, 2018. He spent his first year researching unique efforts in cities nationwide to expand talent pipelines and support inclusive growth, while forging connections with transformational leaders and organizations. This learning turns to action with *Field Focus: Inclusive Growth* — a slate of events, workshops, and publications planned for fall 2019 — and a series of Grand Rapids community convenings scheduled into 2020.

Juan’s work prefigures a research and training agenda on diversity, equity, and inclusion that the Johnson Center is committed to pursuing into the future.



Dr. Olivarez previously served as president of Aquinas College, president and CEO of the Kalamazoo Community Foundation, and president of Grand Rapids Community College.

“What role does philanthropy have in these issues of diversity, equity, and inclusion? Is that role simply to distribute charitable gifts, or is it to be more transformational? Is philanthropy a leader, or is it a follower of government, non-profits, and industry initiatives? Is it proactive or reactive?”

— Dr. Olivarez, *Philanthropy’s Quest for Equity*

# Develop a two-year applied research agenda that informs and guides our work.

In 2018–2019, Johnson Center experts developed a clear and robust research agenda that will guide our work through 2021.

We identified these topics as key issues that affect the work of all our colleagues in philanthropy and reflect our unique areas of expertise, our deeply rooted networks, and our commitment to anticipate and investigate developments in our field.

Our research agenda will focus on:

- **Diversity, equity, and inclusion** in philanthropy
- Family and individual **donor journeys**
- **Giving circles** and methods of collective giving
- **Foundation exits**, including program closures and spend-downs
- The development of **competency models** for foundation and nonprofit roles
- The intersections of **faith and philanthropy**
- Administration of the **VoiceKent** community survey



# Strategic Priority



# 11 Trends in Philanthropy

## Anticipate and Embrace What's Next

Our third annual *11 Trends in Philanthropy* report compiled expertise from across the Johnson Center to share one conversation about how emerging trends are likely to affect our sector. Media publications worldwide have covered and reprinted insights from the 2019 *Trends* report, including *Pro Bono Australia*, *Giving Compass*, and *MiBiz*.

- The Boundaries are Blurring Between Philanthropy and Business
- As Religiosity Changes, Donor Engagement Needs to Adapt
- For Nonprofits, the Tax Landscape is Far from Settled
- Nonprofit Media is Experiencing a Growth Spurt — So is Philanthropy's Response
- More Tools — and More Calls — to Align Foundation Culture with Mission and Values
- Nonprofits Are Playing a Vital Role in Civic Engagement
- Concrete Strategies are Emerging for Implementing Diversity, Equity, and Inclusion Principles
- Powering Communities While Protecting Individuals
- The Wealth Gap is Becoming a Giving Gap
- As Donors and as Causes, Women are Taking the Lead in Philanthropy
- Foundations are No Longer Wedded to the Long Game

## Spotlight Trends

### Wealth Gap/Giving Gap

"We've seen declining numbers of donors even as we raise more and more funds from alumni," says Colin Cumming, Leadership Annual Giving Officer at Georgia Tech. "So [the giving gap trend] worries me a bit, as young alumni, in particular, are much more resistant to giving and will remain unengaged if the current trends of inequality (and high student loan debt) continue."

**The Wealth Gap is Becoming a Giving Gap** captured a reality that Cumming and his peers are facing every day. We shared that story with a field-wide audience — many of whom are themselves in a position to affect that gap.

### Foundation Exits

Since the 1990s, two particular phenomena have had a significant impact on funding relationships: the rise of strategic philanthropy and a growing trend toward "exiting" — closing out particular program areas or spending-down foundation assets altogether within a set timeframe.

In the summer of 2018, **the Johnson Center collaborated with Independent Sector to field a survey on the practice and impact of these foundation exits.** The survey and follow-up interviews with respondents revealed that foundations and nonprofits are experiencing the exit process in markedly different ways.

In collaboration with the Ralph C. Wilson, Jr. Foundation, the Johnson Center convened a gathering of spend-down foundation CEOs in June 2019 to discuss these results and how to move forward. The group agreed that the next step will be to conduct a survey matching foundation responses with nonprofits specifically affected by that foundation's exit — of a program or from operation. Further research and convenings are in the works for 2019–2020.



Web versions of the 2019 *Trends* essays received a **400% increase in readership** over the 2018 essays.



# Did we see you at these conferences?

2018	<b>July 10-13</b> Teri Behrens, Jason Franklin, and Michael Moody travel to Amsterdam for the International Society for Third Sector Research (ISTR) conference. Teri and Jason led the first convening of a WINGS affinity group of Researchers, Academics, and Data Enthusiasts (RADE).	<b>July 17</b> Michael Pratt presents a session on LearnPhilanthropy Academy at the United Philanthropy Forum (UPF) Conference in Boston.	<b>July 17-20</b> Jason Franklin and Michael Moody travel to Powder Mountain, Utah for the Destination Impact Donor Network Convening.
	<b>July 31-Aug 2</b> Tory Martin serves on the Planning Committee for the annual conference of Emerging Practitioners in Philanthropy (EPIP).	<b>Month of September</b> Adriana Paz serves on the Planning Committee for GVSU's inaugural Big Data Month.	<b>September 12</b> Juan Olivarez speaks at the Michigan Nonprofit Association (MNA) Talent Summit.
		<b>September 20</b> Jeremy Pyne presents "Community Activation: Tools to Inform and Engage" at the Big Data Ignite conference.	
2019	<b>October 17-19</b> Adriana Paz and Jamie DeLeeuw present at the semi-annual gathering of the National Neighborhood Indicators Partnership (NNIP).	<b>March 5-6</b> Teri Behrens and Amway's Michelle Meulendyk present at the annual conference of the Association of Corporate Citizenship Professionals (ACCP) in Atlanta.	<b>March 14</b> Jason Franklin shares his research on giving circles at the Centre for Social Impact in Sydney, Australia.
	<b>May 9</b> Teri Behrens presents at the 2019 Center for Effective Philanthropy (CEP) conference in Minneapolis-St. Paul.	<b>May 29</b> Teri Behrens hosts a breakfast meeting on competency models at the 2019 Grantmakers for Effective Organizations (GEO) conference.	<b>June 7</b> The Johnson Center partners with the Ralph C. Wilson, Jr. Foundation to convene CEOs of spend-down foundations in Detroit.
			<b>June 11-18</b> Staff from the Johnson Center attend the Lakeshore Ethnic Diversity Alliance (LEDA) Summit on Race Inclusion.

## Disseminate findings and our knowledge of the field and trends at conferences and through scholarly and practitioner-focused publications.

As the nation's largest applied research center on philanthropy, we do everything with an eye towards practice. In 2018-2019, much of our original research resulted in new, easy-to-use guidance for practitioners, including:

- **Engaging Generation Impact: Best Practice Guides** — Michael Moody and his co-author, Sharna Goldseker of 21/64, built on their *Generation Impact* research to develop three practical guides (for families, advisors, and nonprofits & fundraisers) for those eager to build meaningful relationships with philanthropy's next gen givers.
- Jason Franklin and the Collective Giving Research Group distilled their extensive **research on U.S. giving circles** into two new reports and three easy-to-read infographics, providing practitioners with the key data they need to understand this giving vehicle.
- Our third annual **11 Trends in Philanthropy** report was published in January 2019.





Collaborate with other units within GVSU to develop badging processes.

A growing number of workers are coming to philanthropy with a broad array of professional and academic backgrounds. Just as they are eager for opportunities that respect and acknowledge their lived experiences, philanthropy itself is seeking better, more intentional ways to increase diversity and inclusion within our workforce. Alternative credentials, sometimes called badging, are a way to help bridge these two aims.

Competency-based hiring and promotions have been shown to result in hiring and retaining a more diverse workforce. Our competency-model based badging program, begun this year, will offer practitioners an alternative credential to advance their work and careers. With partners across GVSU — including Seidman College of Business and the School of Public, Nonprofit, and Health Administration — and the talent development landscape, we intend to promote a more diverse and inclusive workforce.

A competency model for foundation program officers is nearing completion, and research on models for nonprofit leaders is underway.



Strategic Priority



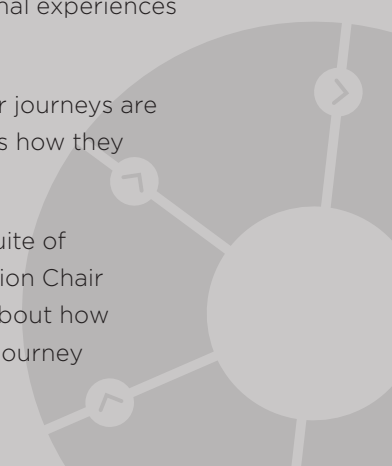
A **competency model** is a collection of the knowledge, skills, abilities, and other characteristics (KSAOs) that are required for effective performance in a particular job or profession.

Donor Journeys Initiative and the Fifth Biennial National Summit on Family Philanthropy

Nearly 100 leaders in family philanthropy gathered in Fort Lauderdale, Fla. in January for the fifth biennial National Summit on Family Philanthropy. The theme of the convening, “**Our Donor Journeys and Why They Matter,**” highlighted the importance of learning from and sharing personal experiences as families pursue meaningful giving.

Every giving family has a story to tell about their philanthropic path and past. But donor journeys are not just tales of historical interest — they matter. Each donor’s journey deeply influences how they give, their values, strategies, knowledge, skills, and ultimately, impact.

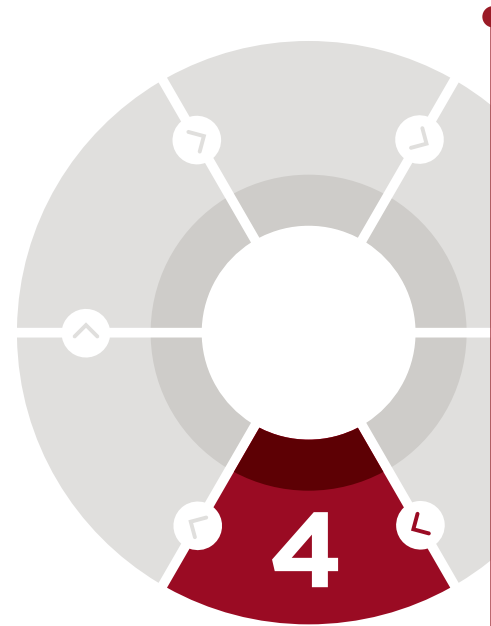
The National Summit marked the kick-off of the Donor Journeys Initiative, a two-year suite of interrelated research and convening opportunities, 2019–2021. Led by the Frey Foundation Chair for Family Philanthropy Michael Moody, the Donor Journeys Initiative raises questions about how donors learn, with the goal to present analysis and themes that can improve the donor journey in ways that lead to more and better giving.



The Donor Journeys Initiative and Giving Compass have teamed up to offer an online magazine that curates and collects stories, research results, updates, and insights. Visit **GivingCompass.org/Donor-Journeys-Initiative** regularly to find new articles and learning opportunities presented by the initiative.



# Strategic Priority



## Deliver a continually evolving, first-in-class suite of online and in-person educational services for foundations, donors, and nonprofit leaders.

Issue-area knowledge runs deep in philanthropy, but many practitioners lack job-specific training and expertise. With that passion for mission comes a deep hunger to do the job well and to maximize impact.

Through a multitude of professional development offerings, we pursue our mission to help individuals and organizations understand, strengthen, and advance philanthropy. New courses in 2019 included:

- ▶ The Grantmaking School: **Persuasive Writing for Grantmakers**
- ▶ A three-part Leadership Lab series for nonprofits: **Developing Leadership for Tomorrow's Organizations**

At least five new courses are planned for next year. Staff spent this spring designing an enhanced calendar, doubling our schedule of offerings for both nonprofits (from 14 workshops this fiscal year to 27+ in 2019-2020), and public sessions of The Grantmaking School.

The first track of LearnPhilanthropy Academy, "The Philanthropic Sector," will debut near the end of 2019. This video series features nearly a dozen experts in the field and is designed to ground foundation professionals in the fundamentals of their roles and the philanthropic sector.

The Grantmaking School served more than 120 professionals through open and custom courses in FY 2018-19.

Our free, monthly **Brown Bag Lunch & Learn** sessions were attended by nearly 300 people in FY 2018-19.

# Our Signature Content and Publications

## The Foundation Review

Articles from *The Foundation Review*, now in its eleventh year, have been **downloaded more than 208,000 times since 2014** alone. Quarterly issues continue to share insights, models, book reviews, and new research from and for foundation professionals.

The journal is now indexed in both SCOPUS (the largest abstract and citation database of peer-reviewed literature) and the Web of Science (as Emerging), signaling its importance to the field.

*The Foundation Review* averaged **more than 3,000 downloads per month** in FY 2018-19.



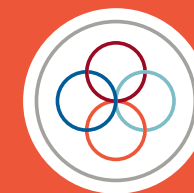
## Field Focus



The Johnson Center produced two Field Focus digital series this year: **Local Action** (October through December 2018) and **Learning for Good** (April through June 2019).

**More than 30** sector experts and practitioners from across the country have contributed content to our digital Field Focus series so far.

The Johnson Center hosted two Field Focus webinars in 2018-19 with **participants from five countries**.



## Active Blog

The Johnson Center's blog has been publishing regularly since January 2018. Between July 2018 and June 2019, we published **33 new blog posts**, including *Trends* pieces and several cross-posted articles shared with partners, including the Luminare Group, Giving Compass, and the Center for Effective Philanthropy.





## Giving Circles

Groundbreaking 2017 research from the Collective Giving Research Group (CGRG) — co-founded by Jason Franklin, W.K. Kellogg Chair for Community Philanthropy — charted the remarkable rise of giving circles in the U.S. Two new reports released in late 2018 — *Giving Circle Membership* and *Dynamics of Hosting Giving Circles and Collective Giving Groups* — provide a more detailed look at the data.

In 2018, Jason and his co-researcher Jessica Bearman also led an evaluation of giving circles supported by The Funding Network in Central and Eastern Europe (CEE). Their research identified 40+ giving circles in CEE, hosted primarily by community foundations and youth banks. **In November, Jason presented their results at the Grantmakers East Forum in Budapest, Hungary.**

Work continues as the team undertakes a landscape scan of giving circles around the world. They have completed an initial mapping and assembled a global, 22-member advisory group of researchers and giving circle leaders. Further results are expected in late 2019.



Newer GC members (participating for less than one year) tend to be **more diverse in age, income, and race**, as well as more strategic in their giving than established members.

**92%** of GC hosts — like community foundations — say contributing to a culture of philanthropy is their top motivation for hosting.

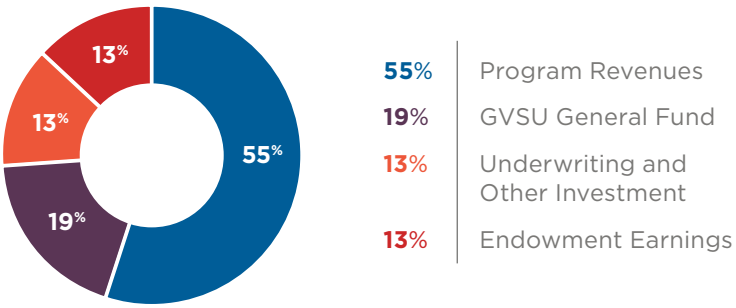
## Finances and Financial Narrative

The Johnson Center is committed to ensuring our organizational sustainability by securing and stewarding the human, financial, and intellectual resources necessary to support our mission. We deeply value our relationships with the many passionate donors, partners, and clients who empower our work. Together, we are building a world that is shaped by smart, adaptive, and effective philanthropy.

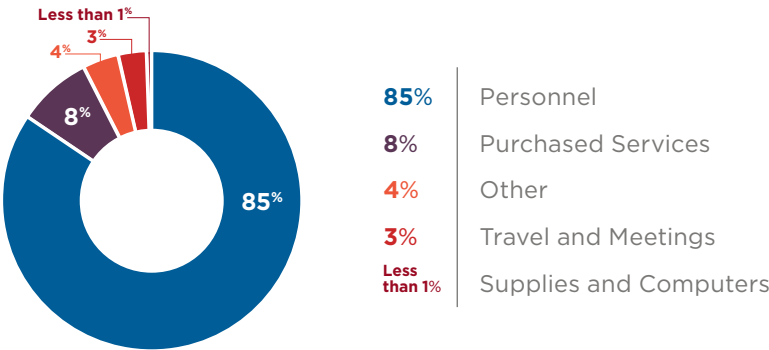
The Johnson Center has an annual budget of \$3.5 million, excluding the facility and administrative costs that are provided by Grand Valley State University. Our expenses are supported by a diverse funding mix that includes program revenues, the GVSU general fund, and earnings from several endowments. In the coming year, the Johnson Center plans to strengthen the role of contributed revenue in powering our mission and strategic priorities. In particular, we will seek increased funding to support our research agenda (see Strategic Priorities, p. 9).

### Funding and Expenses for Fiscal Year 2018-19 (July 1, 2018–June 30, 2019)

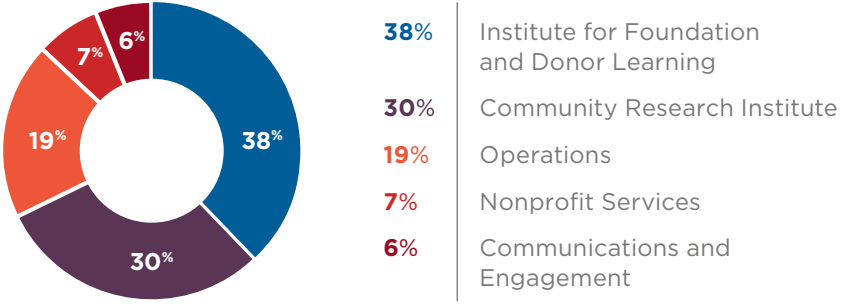
#### Direct Expense Funding



#### Expenses by Category



#### Expenses by Program Area



# Leadership Council

## CO-CHAIRS

**David Egner**  
President & CEO  
Ralph C. Wilson, Jr. Foundation

**Kate Pew Wolters**  
President  
Kate and Richard Wolters  
Foundation

## MEMBERSHIP

**Dan Cardinali**  
President & CEO  
Independent Sector

**Robert Collier**  
Consultant &  
Senior Advisor to the President  
Council of Michigan Foundations

**George Grant, Jr.**  
Dean, College of Community  
and Public Service at  
Grand Valley State University

**Mae Hong**  
Vice President  
Rockefeller Philanthropy Advisors

**Dorothy A. Johnson**  
President Emeritus  
Council of Michigan Foundations

**Arend D. Lubbers**  
President Emeritus  
Grand Valley State University

**Donna Murray-Brown**  
President & CEO  
Michigan Nonprofit Association

**Joel J. Orosz**  
Distinguished Professor of  
Philanthropic Studies Emeritus  
Grand Valley State University

**Diana R. Sieger**  
President  
Grand Rapids  
Community Foundation

# 2018-19 Donors and Grantmakers

## Strengthening Philanthropy Through Field-Building Support

We deeply appreciate the many generous organizations and individuals who have fueled the work and mission of the Johnson Center through project-based and operational support in 2018-2019.

Thank you.

### The Foundation Review Sponsors

- The California Endowment
- The Colorado Health Foundation
- Communitas Consulting
- Cricket Island Foundation
- Ewing Marion Kauffman Foundation
- FMA Fiscal Strength for Nonprofits
- Fremont Area Community Foundation
- Gordon and Betty Moore Foundation
- Johnson and Johnson Global Community Impact
- McKnight Foundation
- Vancouver Foundation
- Wake Forrest School of Medicine
- Walton Family Foundation

### W.K. Kellogg Chair for Community Philanthropy Contributors

- Charles Stewart Mott Foundation
- The Funding Network

### Frey Foundation Chair for Family Philanthropy Contributors

- Max M. and Marjorie S. Fisher Foundation
- Fetzer Institute
- F. Martin and Dorothy A. Johnson
- Ewing M. Kauffman Foundation
- Raikes Foundation
- The Kate and Richard Wolters Foundation

### National Summit on Family Philanthropy Sponsors

- Frey Foundation
- Fidelity Charitable Gift Fund
- Max M. and Marjorie S. Fisher Foundation
- Robins Foundation

### Donor Journeys Initiative Contributors

- Frey Foundation
- F. Martin and Dorothy A. Johnson Foundation
- Kate and Richard Wolters Foundation

### The Grantmaking School Custom Course Clients and Partners

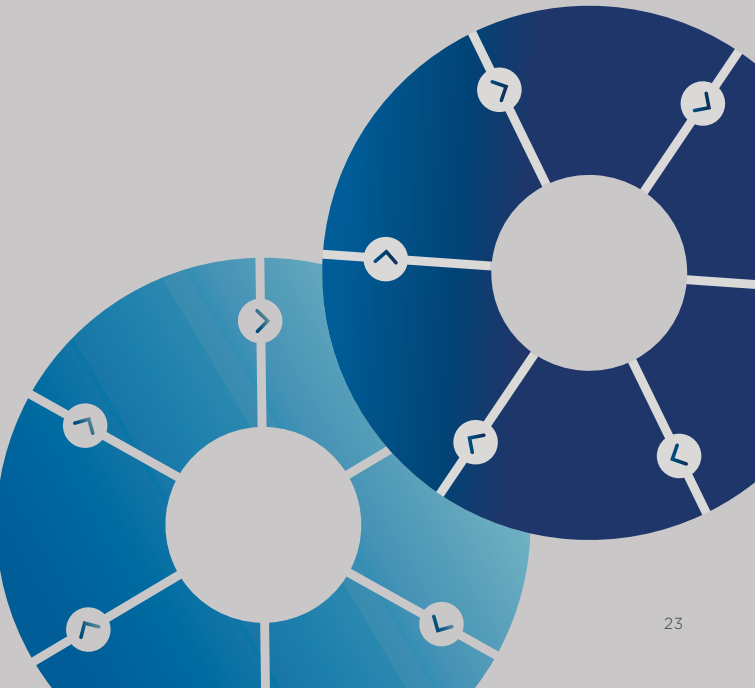
- Colorado Association of Funders
- Council of Michigan Foundations
- William Davidson Foundation
- Fetzer Institute
- Ewing Marion Kauffman Foundation
- David and Lucile Packard Foundation

### LearnPhilanthropy Supporters

- The Kresge Foundation
- Charles Stewart Mott Foundation

### General Support Funders

- F. Martin and Dorothy A. Johnson
- Teresa R. Behrens and George Schimmel
- Frey Foundation
- Mr. And Mrs. Robert S. Collier
- Grand Haven Area Community Foundation
- Grand Rapids Community Foundation
- Autumn Hubbard
- Dr. Priscilla J. Kimboko
- Arend and Nancy Lubbers
- Tory Martin
- Kathryn Mullins
- Joel and Florence Orosz
- Kevin Peterson
- Pat Flannery Robinson and Dan Robinson
- Lisa Rose
- David and Jerri Schroeder
- J. Michael Schultz and Shirley Loesch





# 2018-19 Clients

## Clients in Michigan and Around the U.S.

- 21/64
- Amplifunds
- Amway
- Area Agency on Aging of Western Michigan
- Assistance League of Southeastern Michigan
- Bank of America
- Baruch Senior Ministries
- Battle Creek Community Foundation
- Building the Engine of Community Development in Detroit (BECDD)
- Calvin College
- Camp Roger
- Cascade Community Foundation
- Center for Arab American Philanthropy
- Central Bering Sea Fishermen's Association
- Charles Stewart Mott Foundation
- Chelsea Education Foundation
- ChoiceOne Bank
- City of Grand Rapids
- College of Education - GVSU
- Communitas Consulting
- Community Action of Allegan County
- Community Foundation for Southeast Michigan
- Compassionate Touch
- Council of Michigan Foundations
- David and Lucile Packard Foundation
- Doug and Maria DeVos Foundation
- Fair Housing Center of West Michigan
- Faith in Action
- Family Hope Foundation
- Ferris State University
- Ferris State University Latino Business and Economic Development Center
- Fetzer Institute
- First Steps Kent
- FMA - Fiscal Strength for Nonprofits
- Fremont Area Community Foundation
- Global Community Impact - Johnson & Johnson
- Grand Rapids Community Foundation
- Grand Rapids Public Library
- Grand Rapids Public Schools
- Grand Rapids Student Advancement Foundation
- Grand Valley State University Applied Computing Institute
- Grand Valley State University Charter Schools Office
- Grantmakers for Effective Organizations
- Greenville Area Community Foundation
- Health Forward Foundation
- Hispanic Center of West Michigan
- Holland Area Arts Council
- Holland Chorale
- Holland Museum
- International Institute for Restorative Practices
- KConnect
- Kids in Distress Services (K.I.D.S.)
- Land Conservancy of West Michigan
- Longbrake Family Foundation
- Loutit District Library
- Marion I. and Henry J. Knott Foundation
- Max M. & Marjorie S. Fisher Foundation
- Michigan After-School Partnership
- Michigan After-School Partnership
- Michigan Asian Pacific American Affairs Commission

- Michigan CASA
- Michigan Department of Natural Resources
- Michigan Education Foundation
- Michigan Nonprofit Association
- Midland Area Community Foundation
- National Assistance League
- Noorthoek Academy
- Northview Education Foundation
- Office of Foundation Liaison
- Peter Kiewit Foundation
- Plante Moran
- Robert Wood Johnson Foundation
- Ruth Mott Foundation
- S.D. Bechtel, Jr. Foundation
- Shaniya Rose Community Development Corporation
- SpartanNash Foundation
- Special Olympics Michigan
- Spectrum Health Foundation Pennock
- The Bonnie Wesorick Center for Health Care Transformation
- The Esther School
- The Ewing Marion Kauffman Foundation
- The New Hampshire Charitable Foundation
- The Philanthropy Roundtable
- U.S. Green Building Council of West Michigan
- Vancouver Foundation
- West Michigan Mountain Biking Alliance
- West Michigan Sustainable Business Forum
- Women's Philanthropy Institute

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# Strategic Priority

**This page:** Johnson Center employees Aaron Yore-VanOosterhout and Tiana Hawver.

**Opposite page:** Johnson Center employees Michael Pratt and Emily Brenner on the WGUV Morning Show.

## Recruit, hire, and retain a diverse, talented, and engaged staff that supports and advances the work.

Around 30 practitioners with diverse personal and professional backgrounds make up the staff of the Johnson Center. With expertise in a variety of disciplines — including social science research, organizational governance, data analytics, communications, web and database technology, and community engagement — we bring passion and experience to our work.

Our staffing needs evolve as we take on new projects and pursue advanced research agendas. As we seek out exceptional team members, we are committed to building an inclusive workplace where all can thrive.

To this end, we formalized a Diversity, Equity, and Inclusion (DEI) Steering Committee within the Johnson Center in February 2019. This team leads our efforts to offer DEI training and reflection opportunities for staff and embed these principles within our professional development offerings.



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Aerial view of Grand Valley State University's  
Pew campus in downtown Grand Rapids, Mich.



## JOHNSON CENTER

AT GRAND VALLEY STATE UNIVERSITY



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