



Summary of achievements 2013–19

The GACP operated as a collaboration of six private and public donors over a seven-year period 2013–19 in conjunction with the Global Fund for Community Foundations (GFCF) with the aim of ‘... *advancing the practice of community philanthropy and at influencing international development actors to better*

understand, support and promote community philanthropy’s role in achieving more lasting development outcomes.’ GACP Achievements can be summarized in terms of outcomes, added-value and wider benefits contributing to international efforts aimed at furthering community philanthropy across the globe to as follows:

Outcomes

- Donor endorsement of the idea that donors can and should be enabling ‘bottom-up’ or community-based initiatives by investing in organizations that are locally-controlled and built upon local resources (assets), local leadership (capacities) and local ownership (trust).
- A new type of donor collaboration focused on advocating an idea, rather than on pooling funds, which has generated new interest in community philanthropy among donors and in international development.
- A strengthened and more focused GFCF, engaging with donor partners in its own way, and on its own terms, to operationally support community foundations across the globe.

Added-value

- Increased interest in community philanthropy among donors enabled by GACP-inspired guides, handbooks, manuals and other publications, leading to potentially more resources being invested in community philanthropy (see summary overleaf).
- Alliance members more knowledgeable and better equipped to support their respective grantees and local partners thanks to engaging with donors from outside of their mode and geography of operation.
- Inspired the Partnership Brokers Association’s (PBA) ‘Working with Donors and Animating Alliances’ initiatives, which seek to improve the effectiveness and impact of different forms of collaboration. PBA acted as external evaluators to the GACP.

Wider benefits

- Growing recognition that collaborative working involving donors-as-partners, given the right investment, can generate new ways of operating, which create new opportunities for innovation in the community philanthropy field.
- Contributions to making community philanthropy part of donor dialogue and discourse on improving international development, thanks to (inter alia) the 2016 Global Summit on Community Philanthropy held in Johannesburg.
- New connections made between practitioners in fields of community philanthropy, international development and partnership brokering.

GACP partners



Outputs

Publications

Overview

2015



Community Philanthropy: The Context, the Concepts and Challenges – A Literature Review
Compiled by Avila Kilmurray

This review provided a baseline and reference on the field of community philanthropy for the GACP. The report draws together information from existing reports, studies and organizational websites in order to provide an overview of the current state of organized community philanthropy around the globe. It draws on the data and analysis provided by the Community Foundation Atlas, published in 2014. The review identifies the distinctive feature of community philanthropy as locally-controlled mobilization of assets, enhancement of community capacity and resilience, building trust and social capital.

2016



Alliance Magazine: #ShiftThePower: The Rise of Community Philanthropy
Edited by Jenny Hodgson and Barry Knight

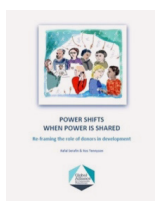
The December 2016 edition of *Alliance Magazine*, which is dedicated to global philanthropy, focuses on the rise of community philanthropy – the idea that development should be owned by local people not imposed from the outside. The special issue included a call to action to coincide with the December 2016 Global Summit on Community Philanthropy in Johannesburg. A new paradigm called 'durable development' is proposed. This involves shifting power closer to the ground, giving agency to local people and their organizations on the principle that they should have greater control of their own destinies.



Shifting the Power. How Can Working in Partnership Help?
Written by Surinder Hundal and Ros Tennyson

The paper explores how partnering experience can usefully be adopted by, and adapted to, the field of community philanthropy: helping to drive transformational change and to sustain that change long after the power has shifted. Local communities and community foundations, which may well have partnered effectively, should look at how they can build on their own experiences of collaborative work to co-create with others an ecosystem that is inclusive and supportive of sustainable development.

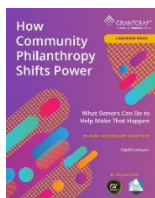
2017



Power Shifts when Power is Shared: Re-framing the Role of Donors in Development
Written by Rafal Serafin and Ros Tennyson

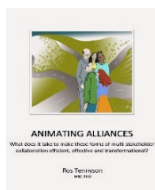
This paper makes the case for using partnering to reframe the 'rules of the game' in international development, suggesting that donors engaging in multi-stakeholder collaboration aimed at sharing (rather than shifting) power can go a long way to reframing power dynamics. This is because partnering provides a means for moving from a command-and-control model where power is concentrated in the hands of a few, to a partnership model where power is, de facto, shared. In this context, community foundations should be seen as experiments in community-based partnerships aimed at sharing power.

2018



How Community Philanthropy Shifts Power. What Donors Can Do to Help Make that Happen
Written by Jenny Hodgson and Anna Pond

This publication was developed by the GACP, building on insights and practical experience of GACP members on how to support and enable community philanthropy. The paper focuses on practical approaches for donors to pursue in supporting initiatives that are conceived, led and owned by local communities. The advice within, particularly the 'Effective Interventions Toolkit', is an important resource for any donor serious about sustaining meaningful change. Published in the GrantCraft series, the paper reached a grantmaking/donor audience.



Animating Alliances: What Does it Take to Make these Forms of Multi-stakeholder Collaboration Efficient, Effective and Transformational?
Written by Ros Tennyson

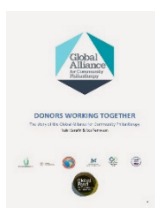
Written specifically to support GACP members in their discussions about the future of the Alliance, this paper describes alliances as one type of 'partnering model', arguing that different partnering models can be matched to different needs, circumstances and opportunities of collaboration. Choosing the right model and working it through so it is fit for the specific purpose can go a long way towards transforming business as usual approaches.



The Answer is Local: How Community Philanthropy Shifts Power and Changes the World

This short animated film introduces the growing community philanthropy movement, outlining how it challenges traditional development approaches by reprioritizing values such as justice, equity, empowerment and dignity. Translations of the video are available in nine different languages.

2019



Donors Working Together
Written by Rafal Serafin and Ros Tennyson

This story aims to capture the collaboration aspirations and realities of the Alliance as part of an on-going evaluation that took place over a period of 3.5 years, during which time the two authors (and others) accompanied the Alliance members on their collaboration journey. The intention was to extract as many lessons as possible from this unique consortium of different types of donors, hoping that it might have genuine insights about donors' role(s) in promoting and modeling partnerships for development.