

6 Grantmaking Models

- What's Your Ideal Portfolio? -

Model	Responsive	Strategic	Proactive	Collaborative	Initiative	Participatory
Slogan	“Meet community needs”	“Defined impact in mind”	“Invite a few and go deep”	“Manage mutual ends and/or means”	“More than money to solve a problem”	“Nothing for me without me”
Examples of goals & activities	Building community or employee goodwill	Identify gaps or opportunities to fill	Invite and co-create workplan with nonprofits	Giving circles Funder collaboratives	Multi-year focus on opportunity/problem Deploying grant & loan \$ + relationships + reputation & communications + more	Some youth philanthropy programs
	Publishing favored proposal or applicant qualities	“Big splash” grant or award	Targeted RFP with specific goals	Aligning success measures		Including client feedback in decision-making
	Responding to disasters	Cluster and learn from similar programs	Capacity-building cohort for a few nonprofits	Pooling time, talent, treasure	Using one or more of other models	Residents on grant committee
	R&D and trend-spotting for the other models	Assessments & plans that increase quality of services	Multi-year operating or capitalization	Using common forms, deadlines Collective impact	Influencing public will, flow of ideas and resources	Grassroots grants – residents/clients in control of grant process
Time horizon	1 year or less	1-3 years	2-5 years	3+ years, ongoing	5+ years; often thinks generational	Varies
Ability to move the needle	Very low	Low-medium	Medium-high in a narrow group	Medium-high, also must measure process	Medium-high, also must measure process	Varies, priority on process & capacity building

Increasing: ability to track & influence results, opportunity for transformation, relationships with partners, staff time required