



## The Public Health Funder Network of the American Public Health Association

### Mission Statement and Goal

The Public Health Funder Network (PHFN) is a community of grantmakers, donors and APHA members who recognize that philanthropy has an important role in the improvement of population health outcomes and the overall health of our communities. The goal of the PHFN is to promote a cross-sector approach to solving complex public health challenges by convening, networking and sharing best practices. The PHFN places a special focus on philanthropy as a catalyst to drive change through innovative strategies and solutions in partnership with local communities and stakeholders.

### History

In an effort to build an increasingly informed and transparent public health funding community, a network of funders and donors have been convening during the APHA annual meetings since 2013. Unlike most grantmaker associations, APHA has a membership that includes practitioners, scientists, educators, students and funders and its meetings facilitate cross-sector dialogue. The PHFN believes that these conversations enhance the public health sector's ability to strategically and collaboratively create impact, creatively and judiciously invest private resources, and ultimately improve the health of the communities we serve.

PHFN activities and membership have expanded over the past three years to include:

1. Co-hosting a Social Hour with funders from the host city, during which APHA meeting participants can meet and mingle;
2. Co-sponsoring with APHA four peer reviewed sessions which allow us to learn, discuss best practices and share our work with the public health practice community; and
3. Conducting a business meeting at which time we welcome new planning committee members, conduct APHA business, and begin planning for future meetings.

### Looking Forward

The PHFN has begun to plan for the next APHA annual meeting (October 29 – November 2<sup>nd</sup>, 2016) which will be held in Denver, Colorado. As has become our tradition, we hope to work closely with the Colorado funder community to best highlight the host city, learn from on-the-ground collaborative work to improve public health, and capitalize on new opportunities for ongoing communication. One of the four sessions is reserved for local (host) foundations and we hope that funders from Colorado will submit a session abstract for the 2016 meetings.

For questions or more information, please contact the PHFN Local Host Subcommittee Co Chairs:  
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