News from the Collective Impact Forum — October 2015

Dear Peter,

We’re excited to be sending the latest Forum news while here on the ground at the 2015 Equity Summit, hosted by PolicyLink. (If you see us, say hello!)

October has been a monumental month for the Forum—with a new research scan released, a three-part blog series in SSIR by the Aspen Forum for Community Solutions, FSG, and PolicyLink, the kick-off of the Getting Started webinar series, the exciting return of CI Forum Director Jennifer Splansky Juster from maternity leave, and the news that the Forum has now reached over 13,000 members! Thank you so much for being a part of our growing community!

We hope you enjoy the latest news on the Forum below, including a new Ask Me About column focusing on aligning initiatives, a new tool to help with budgeting for the backbone, and more news and events.

Gratefully yours,
Forum Highlights

Ask Me About Aligning Across Organizations with Merita Irby

What are you wondering about related to how to align your work with collaboratives? Merita Irby from the Forum for Youth Investment is here to help with your questions in the latest Ask Me About expert column. Come share your questions about how to work better together with your partners and related coalitions.

Share your questions >

New Tool - How to Budget for your Backbone

How much will it cost to launch and operate a backbone organization? FSG's Valerie Bockstette and Pamela Sud share about a new free tool in the Forum's resource library which provides a potential budget that can help explore some of the estimated backbone costs and can be adjusted to fit what you need.

Read More >

Nov. 3 Webinar on Building a Common Agenda

With so many different stakeholders at the table, coming to consensus over the key
issues and how to approach them can seem like a daunting task. Join the CI Forum, FSG and partner practitioners in this upcoming webinar as they demonstrate how to develop an initiative's vision and shared goals.

Register Now >

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**New Research from the Field**

**Equity: The Soul of Collective Impact**
Judith Bell, Angela Glover Blackwell and Michael McAfee

**Collaborating to See All Constituents Reach Their Full Potential**
Collective Impact Forum and Grantmakers for Effective Organizations

**Business Aligning for Students: The Promise of Collective Impact**
Allen S. Grossman and Ann B. Lombard

**Putting Collective Impact Into Context: A Review of the Literature on Local Cross-Sector Collaboration to Improve Education**
Jeffrey Henig, Carolyn Riehl, Michael Rebell and Jessica Wolff

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**Equity and Collective Impact**

**SSIR Blog Series #EquityAndCI**

In this three-part SSIR blog series, the Aspen Forum for Community Solutions, FSG, and PolicyLink share perspectives on the importance of embedding an explicit focus on equity throughout any
collective impact effort, and address the need to acknowledge and more deeply examine structural inequities and the root causes of outcome disparities.

Read More >

Voices from the Field

As part of the research scan, Collaborating to See All Constituents Reach Their Full Potential, contributors to the scan share more recommendations about advancing equity.

3 Levels of Racial Equity Work within Collective Impact
Juan Sebastian Arias and Jeff Raderstrong, Living Cities

If You Don’t Know Who You’re Impacting, How Do You Know You’re Making an Impact?
Kelly Brown, D5

Pitfalls to Avoid When Pursuing Equity
Sandra Witt, The California Endowment

Social Change Book Club

Next Book Club Pick - The Solution Revolution

D. Eggers and Paul Macmillan. We look forward to hearing what you think!

Each person who contributes to the Oct/Nov. book club thread will **automatically be entered in to win a free ebook** of the next reading selection. Post your thoughts and questions by **November 30** for a chance to win!

Share your thoughts >

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**Upcoming Events**

**Collaborating to Create a Common Agenda**
(Nov. 3, 2015 - Online)

**The Collaboration Conference 2015**
(Nov. 16 - 17, 2015 - Houston, TX)

**Community Engagement: The Next Generation**
(Nov. 24 - 26, 2015 - Edmonton, AB)

**The Big Picture Approach - Achieving Collective Impact: How Partnerships Change Community Outcomes**
(Dec. 1 - 3, 2015 - Washington, DC)

Have an upcoming event related to collective impact?

Whether it is in-person or online, come share your event on the Forum's [events page](#).
Join the Discussion

Looking for examples of evaluations tracking "national level impact"

Now Hiring! Systems-Building Lead, Austin, TX

The Missing Piece in Collective Impact: Engaging Families

Have a question or topic to share related to collective impact?

Come share your questions and thoughts in the community discussion forum.

About the Collective Impact Forum
The Collective Impact Forum, an initiative of FSG and the Aspen Institute Forum for Community Solutions, is a resource for people and organizations using the collective impact approach to address large-scale social and environmental problems. We aim to increase the effectiveness and adoption of collective impact by providing practitioners with access to the tools, training opportunities, and peer networks they need to be successful in their work. The Collective Impact Forum includes communities of practice, in-person convenings, and an online community and resource center. Learn more and join the community at collectiveimpactforum.org

Have a question or comment about the Forum? Please contact Tracy Timmons-Gray

www.collectiveimpactforum.org