

THE FUNDERS CENSUS INITIATIVE

Statement of Purpose

The Funders Census Initiative (FCI) is an ad hoc working group committed to stimulating interest in the 2010 Census among funders and their grantees. It strives to move both groups to support, contribute, and engage in efforts for a fair and accurate decennial count, with a focus on hard-to-count communities. Through outreach, updates, resource development, and one-on-one consultations, FCI endeavors to become a philanthropic collaborative for present and future censuses.

Why We Organized

Accurate census data are essential for the fair distribution of political representation at the national, state, and local levels, and for the fair allocation of government resources. Nearly \$400 billion in federal program funds are allocated each year to states, counties, cities, and Tribal areas based in whole or in part on census data. State governments allocate public funds to localities using census data and the private sector depends on accurate census data for many decisions, including where to locate their businesses and what products and services a community needs. Historically, the census has missed disproportionate numbers of racial minorities, immigrants, children, and the poor, leading to a decade of inequality in political power, government funding, and private sector investment for these communities.

FCI has been an invaluable resource as we've developed plans for promoting an accurate 2010 census in the Midwest. Our collaboration has the potential to have a strong, positive impact on census participation - and the future quality of life - amongst the high-need populations that so many foundations aim to benefit

Gretchen Crosby Sims, Joyce Foundation and the Illinois Funders Census Initiative

Visit Us Online



<http://funderscommittee.org/funderscensusinitiative>

What We Offer

- ✓ Direct Assistance to Funders
- ✓ Support for Collaborative Funding Efforts
- ✓ A Funder Census Toolkit
- ✓ Navigating 2010 Census Data Tools
- ✓ Regular Information about the 2010 Census and Related Policy Decisions
- ✓ 2010 Census Fact Sheets
- ✓ Documentation of Philanthropy's Role in the 2010 Census
- ✓ Funders Census Initiative Webpage

Contact Us: Terri Ann Lowenthal, Consultant, Funders Census Initiative, TerriAnn2k@aol.com; Dr. William O'Hare, Consultant, Funders Census Initiative, wohare@aecf.org; Mario Lugay, Program Director, Funders' Committee for Civic Participation, mlugay@funderscommittee.org | **Working Group Members:** Cristóbal Josh Alex, Open Society Institute; Kelly Bates, Access Strategies; Patricia Bauman, Bauman Foundation; Cynthia Brothers, Henry Der and Julie Kohler, Public Interest Projects; Alice Cottingham, Illinois Funders Census Initiative; Gretchen Crosby Sims, Joyce Foundation; Rebecca Dames, Grantmakers Concerned with Immigrants and Refugees; Anna Fink, New World Foundation; Geri Mannion, Carnegie Corporation of New York; Maria Mottola, New York Foundation; Darren Sandow, Hagedorn Foundation; Thomasina Williams, Ford Foundation; Deb Ross and Mario Lugay, Funders' Committee for Civic Participation