

Cause Effective Recent Funder Training Programs

Cause Effective's extensive experience working with funders to guide their grantees towards greater sustainability has included collaborations across a range of subsectors and issue areas:

- For the past decade, we've offered a series of portfolio programs for over 100 grantee partners of the **New York Women's Foundation**. Programs have included a mixture of peer-to-peer learning, customized consulting tailored to the needs of particular grantees, and training for board prospects considering board service. Since we lead several cohorts per year, we have become expert at developing content to match the sophistication of the grantees, which vary considerably from grassroots groups to citywide, regional and even national advocacy and organizing entities.
- Since 2015, we've partnered with the **Dyson Foundation** to strengthen board engagement and fundraising among over 20 nonprofits in New York State's Mid-Hudson Valley. In three day-long workshops, board members and executive and development directors learned how to identify and engage prospective donors, the role of the board as enthusiastic lay-leaders, and more. These training sessions were followed by one-on-one consulting support for each organization including board trainings, retreats, and strategy discussions to implement workshop takeaways. The Dyson Foundation has also provided grantees with mini-grants to allow them to receive continued consulting support from Cause Effective. *"Cause Effective's approach has inspired nearly every group to enhance their fundraising, driven by board leadership,"* noted Dyson Foundation Program Officer Jennifer Killian.
- In a partnership with **United Way of New York City** since our founding, we have delivered a series of governance "boot camps" over the years that combined workshops and individual coaching to more than 50 community-based nonprofits that needed to advance their board's development. We have also enjoyed multi-year partnerships with UWNYP on its BoardServeNYC initiative to enhance the governance practices and recruit diverse new members to NYC's nonprofit boards.
- From 2012 to 2016, we worked with arts and cultural grantees of the **City of New York's Department of Cultural Affairs**. We both worked individually with selected nonprofits to support their ability to take a leap forward in their fundraising and governance; and led the governance and fundraising components of two NYC Department of Cultural Affairs Community Arts Leadership Training Program cohorts for small cultural nonprofits. Providing a mix of group presentations, peer learning circles and individual consultations, we created a content-rich, customized experience for each of the 30 participating cultural organizations.
- For three years we participated in a **New York Community Trust**-funded consortium with Lawyer's Alliance and Fiscal Management Associates to provide timely guidance as well as intensive, long-term interventions to 28 New York City anchor nonprofits affected by the 2008 downturn.
- We also collaborated with the **Nonprofit Coordinating Committee of NY** and the **NY Council of Nonprofits** on three SkillsBuilders series for small nonprofits. For each, we worked with a cohort of approximately 20 nonprofits to offer group training, individual consulting, peer support, coaching by phone and "implementation clinics" over a 12-month timespan to boost each nonprofits' fundraising capacity and deliverables. The result of this intensive effort: 95% of the nonprofits enrolled met their stated program goals of increasing their organization's fund development efficacy, reach and gain.

Cause Effective can customize training and peer support for a particular set of grantees; **please contact Executive Director Judy Levine (judy@causeeffective.org) to discuss how we might best help your grantees thrive.**