January 30, 2020

With the start of the new year and the convening of the Georgia General Assembly, the Policy Committee of the Georgia Grantmakers Alliance is back at work! Our task is to provide our fellow grantmakers with critical insights into how the discussions and decisions of our state legislators potentially impact the success and effectiveness of your grantmaking strategies. Many of the nonprofit organizations that we each fund in order to improve the quality of life in our state are directly impacted by budget and policy decisions made by the General Assembly. Understanding these decisions provides important context for the conversations we each have with potential grantees.

Please join us in-person or via webinar on February 6 for Georgia General Assembly 2020 Insights: How It Works, What to Watch, Ways to Engage.

Over the course of the next few months, the GGA Policy Committee will be sending out periodic updates on pending legislation that we believe is of strategic importance to Georgia grantmakers, focusing particularly on four areas of interest:

- Education (birth to career)
- Health and Mental Health
- Child & Family Well-being
- Environment and Natural Resources (ad hoc)

Understanding that there are many other sources of information on the activities of the General Assembly, the GGA Policy Committee will carefully curate which legislation to include in our updates. Our updates will not be comprehensive of all legislation that is being introduced; nor are they intended to be real-time "calls to action." What they will attempt to provide is context to better understand why the pending legislation "matters," including an assessment of the opportunities and challenges that the legislation may create in addressing the issues that are of importance to Georgia grantmakers. We will not advocate pro or con - we intend to educate and inform.

For those of you who want access to a more comprehensive and real-time listing of pending legislation, a summary of other policy update sources, some of which will be more oriented toward advocacy, can be found here.

Also, for those of you who might want to get a head-start on understanding some of the important issues that will be addressed by the General Assembly this year, we are providing links to the reports issued by several legislative study committees:

- House Study Committee on Maternal Mortality
- House Study Committee on Infant and Toddler Social and Emotional Health
- House Study Committee on Innovative Financial Options for Senior Living
- House Study Committee on Workforce Housing

As always, if there is any legislation that you would like us to track and report on, you are welcome to send us an email.

Sincerely,
The Georgia Grantmakers Alliance Policy Committee

Bobbi Cleveland (Chair)
The Tull Charitable Foundation

Lydia Clements
Director, Georgia Grantmakers Alliance

Danielle Gray
R. Howard Dobbs, Jr. Foundation

Bonnie Hardage
Jesse Parker Williams Foundation

Erik Johnson
Woodruff and Whitehead Foundations

Pat Lunnus (Steering Committee Chair)
Sartain Lanier Family Foundation

Clare Richie
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Christine Reeves Strigaro
The Sapelo Foundation

Yvonne Whitaker
NCR Foundation

For more information or questions regarding the Georgia Grantmakers Alliance, please contact GGA staff liaison, S.E. Spencer.