



Frequently Asked Questions About the Catalyst Fund

- Q. What types of initiatives do you fund?**
- A. We fund groups of organizations to create corridor-wide strategies that address issues of affordable housing, a strong local economy, vibrant transit-oriented places, and effective coordination. We also fund individual - or groups of - organizations to create learning and implementation projects that support these strategies.
- Q. How much money is the Funders Collaborative planning to raise and spend throughout the project?**
- A. The Catalyst Fund has a goal to raise \$20 million over ten years. We have raised \$5 million to date.
- Q. Do you expect to add new Catalyst Fund members, and thus increase your overall investment over time?**
- A. We would welcome new members at any time. These members will help us achieve – not increase – our \$20 million goal.
- Q. What percent of the investments made by the Catalyst Fund are planning related and what percentage will go to actual implementation of things like affordable housing options?**
- A. We do not have a set goal for investments in planning vs. implementation. Over the life of our Collaborative, our intention is to primarily support implementation. We believe planning is a necessary first step to implementation and thus planning will likely receive a great percentage of our investments early on.
- Q. How do the Catalyst Fund investments relate to the investments of the individual member foundations? Are you replacing foundation giving, adding to?**
- A. The Catalyst Fund provides timely, flexible investment capital that can be used to create joint strategies and catalyze implementation projects. It is designed to supplement, not replace, members' existing funding. On larger projects, we may provide early funding, but require a match from other sources. Individual member foundations are not precluded from being one of those matching sources.

Q. How does one apply for funding from the Catalyst Fund?

A. The Catalyst Fund proactively seeks opportunities for funding. This means that we initiate the invitation and jointly develop projects with our partners. We do not have set deadlines and do not accept uninvited proposals. If you have an idea for funding that you believe fits our vision and outcomes, please contact the Funders Collaborative director: jonathan@funderscollaborative.org or 651-280-2384.

Q. Who makes funding decisions for the Catalyst Fund?

A. Investment decisions are made jointly by all members of the Catalyst Fund.

Q. How often do you make investments?

A. We make investment decisions as projects are ready. Again, unlike more traditional foundation funding, we do not have set proposal deadlines.

Q. What has the Funders Collaborative funded to date?

A. We have made 11 investments worth over \$800,000, including investments in research, national consultants, planning, and implementation. Our investments have ranged from \$3,000 to \$400,000. A complete list of grants can be found on the [Investing page on our website at www.funderscollaborative.org](http://www.funderscollaborative.org).