



**The Philanthropy Project
ECONOMY SURVEY RESULTS**
(April 2009)

Total Number of Responses =

36

1. How does your organization's 2009 GRANTS BUDGET compare to your 2008 grants budget? **35**

About the same	37.1%	13
Budget is slightly smaller (5% to 15%)	25.7%	9
Budget is considerably smaller (16% to 45%)	31.4%	11
Budget is drastically reduced (46% or greater)	0.0%	0
Budget is slightly larger (5% to 15%)	0.0%	0
Budget is considerably larger (16% to 45%)	2.9%	1
Budget is drastically larger (46% or greater)	0.0%	0
Other:	2.9%	1

- a) Despite the fact that that our endowment dropped around 40%, the grants budget has dropped about 19% since the payout is calculated on the market value of endowment, averaged monthly thru 2008.

2. Do you anticipate doing any of the following in 2009? (Select all that apply) **31**

Making fewer, larger grants/gifts	35.5%	11
Changing priorities/focus areas	29.0%	9
Using a screening process to invite requests	9.7%	3
Other:	51.6%	16

- a) Retaining breadth, making smaller grants, avoiding mega grants.
- b) Not accepting any new grant proposals.
- c) Fewer multi-year grants.
- d) Giving to few organizations we have not funded in the past. Making more contributions to human need focused orgs.
- e) These actions reflect our current practices and will continue.
- f) We are doing a community profile unrelated to the downturn in the economy. We hope that it will provide us with clear priority need areas in our community.
- g) Adding priority areas.
- h) More emphasis on emergency services, but funding in all areas.
- i) Our granting program will be about the same as this year.
- j) Fewer capital grants and very few grant increases over last year.
- k) May award additional emergency grants.
- l) Same number of grants, but likely larger on avg.
- m) Reducing grant sizes; fewer new grants.
- n) Shoring up our core grantees.
- o) Not accepting proposals from new organizations.
- p) No big capital grants.

3. Nonprofit sustainability and capacity building are of increasing importance during these tough economic times. Do you currently or do you plan to use any of the following strategies to address the issue? (Select all that apply) **31**

Increase funding for general operating support	48.4%	15
Support staff/board nonprofit leadership development	41.9%	13
Conduct programs on capacity building for nonprofits	35.5%	11
Facilitate and/or support nonprofit mergers	25.8%	8
Offer one-on-one consulting	35.5%	11
Help with strategic planning	38.7%	12
Other:	35.5%	11

- a) We always help with consulting. Given the fact that many foundations have suspended capital grantmaking, we are one of the few that are concentrating on capital grants.
- b) Collaborating w/other funders to do offer capacity building.
- c) We have always funded general operating support and will continue to do so.
- d) N/a at this time.
- e) We have built a framework that encourages grantee partnership. our grantees will be meeting on a regular basis.
- f) We don't directly fund in these areas, however, we plan an initiative to help non-profits increase energy efficiency, thereby lowering overhead costs
- g) Have always funded these areas.
- h) Increase overall grantmaking.
- i) No changes in this area.
- j) We are limited to programs and initiatives only.
- k) Rural Philanthropy Days, CRC Leadership Scholarships.

4. If your organization is making any changes to the TYPES of support it is offering in 2009, please indicate NEW OR EXPANDED TYPES OF SUPPORT. (Select all that apply)

Project/Program support	33.3%	5	15
Loans and/or program related investments (PRIs)	13.3%	2	
Technical assistance support	46.7%	7	
Challenge and/or matching grants	26.7%	4	
Multi-year support	26.7%	4	
Capital support	6.7%	1	
Scholarships	6.7%	1	
Advocacy	26.7%	4	
Other:	33.3%	5	

- a) Medical research.
- b) N/a - no new or expanded types of support - same programs, just fewer dollars going into them.
- c) Coalition development for grantees and funds to support.
- d) Energy efficiency info.
- e) Expanded general operating support.

5. How would you describe the VOLUME OF REQUESTS (letters of inquiry and/or full proposals) that your organization is currently receiving? **35**

Inquires/requests have stayed about the same over the past year	45.7%	16
Inquires/requests have increased moderately over the past year	28.6%	10
Inquires/requests have increased dramatically over the past year	17.1%	6
Inquires/requests have decreased over the past year	5.7%	2
Unsure	2.9%	1

6. Please describe any additional actions you have taken to address increased community needs during the past 6 months?

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- a) Given the recession, organizations that seek capital support often present a more complicated picture, including phasing, different forms of borrowing, more in-kind support. So we are spending much more time on reviewing proposals and projects. In addition, most of our grants are challenges, many of which have not been met in the agreed upon timeframe. This is requiring extensions, partial payments, and even some cases, payment of the grant before all the funds are raised. Basically, we are trying to help grantees and potential grantees achieve success in a reasonable time period.
- b) \$500,000 in unsolicited grants to direct service providers in healthcare \$155,000 in unsolicited grants to direct service providers in aging \$500,000 in unsolicited grants to Jewish community nonprofits.
- c) Doing some research on hunger and food banks locally, as need has increased and may increase giving in 2009.
- d) The majority of our funding goes to arts and culture organizations. In the course of our interactions with those groups, we are assessing what kind of support is most needed and directing our funding accordingly. In addition, we are in very close communication with other entities who support the arts--Denver Office of Cultural Affairs, SCFD, Colorado Business Committee for the Arts, Arts for Colorado, to share information and leverage our efforts.
- e) The Board has designated a portion of unrestricted dollars to an Executive Director Discretionary Rapid Response Fund that allows immediate funding of emergency assistance needs.
- f) We have slightly refocused in one area in which we give. We re-named our "Community Development" focus to now be "Economic Sustainability." We're re-directing funds we provided in affordable housing toward jobs training/creation/readiness and green jobs training.
- g) Reduced overhead and staffing to assure that maximum dollars go to charitable giving.
- h) We are continuing as before especially in underserved locations. A new effort is focusing on the Arkansas Valley anticipating intense spay/neuter services for dogs and cats over the next two years.
- i) Increase of about 20% in first 3 1/2 months.
- j) Worked closely with key partner/grantees to assess immediate and longer-term challenges.
- k) Provided scholarships to Colorado Nonprofit Association educational and training programs.
- l) We are providing funding to organizations that we consider vital to the nonprofit work that matches our priorities. It is important that these organizations be sustained through this downturn.
- m) Trying to identify and shift more support to immediate basic human services.
- n) Focus more funding on health and human service organizations.
- o) We are evaluating which programs can demonstrate the most value and impact and we are limiting our funding to those groups.
- p) We have been active in meeting with grantees with individually and working groups to discuss strategy, collaboration and capacity. We are active in advancing strategic discussions between capacity building organizations, state agencies and higher education. We have increased support for basic human services.
- q) Participation in the Our Sector Summit; increased support for CNA and other capacity building agencies.