



# PHILANTHROPY MISSOURI



The **Show-Me Philanthropy Statewide Conference** is a can't-miss opportunity for all Missouri funders, grantmakers, and partners to tap into the most up-to-date sector thinking that is **timely, relevant, and actionable**.

Philanthropy Missouri (PhilMO) **offers a conference learning experience specifically tailored to Missouri philanthropy**. Join funders from across the state to collaborate, amplify promising practices, and build enthusiasm for the future of philanthropy.

## REQUEST FOR PROPOSALS

Philanthropy Missouri will be hosting the **Show-Me Philanthropy Statewide Conference** on **October 28-29, 2026**. We are requesting proposals for hour-long breakout sessions on Thursday, October 29. The event will be held at Delmar DiviNe (5501 Delmar Blvd., 63112) in tech-enabled spaces.

## CONFERENCE FOCUS AREAS

The **Show-Me Philanthropy Statewide Conference** features meaningful, interactive experiences and breakout sessions that reflect the complexity of today's philanthropic landscape. **The Conference explores how philanthropy can lead with purpose, adapt to change, and drive greater impact in Missouri communities.**

We invite session proposals that spark new ideas, challenge assumptions, and offer practical pathways forward. Sessions should be designed to engage philanthropic sector participants across roles and functions – advancing both individual practice and organizational effectiveness.

**Grantmaking Skills & Strategies:** Advance core competencies for philanthropic practice, such as grantmaking strategies, community engagement approaches, evaluation design and implementation, etc.

**Sector Advancement:** Highlight innovative, best/promising practices that shape the field overall, including capacity building, cross-sector collaboration, community and coalition building, governance and board development, etc.

**Topic Exploration/Case Study:** Explore timely issues or real-world examples that provide practical lessons and replicable approaches to highlight what's working, what's been learned, and how strategies may be adapted across contexts.

## ADDITIONAL CONTENT THEMES

As you consider your session proposal, be advised of the following ways PhilMO Members invest in Missouri and organize themselves into Networks:

**Funding Interests:** Aging & Older Adults, Animal Welfare, Arts & Culture, Children, Youth & Families, Community & Economic Development, Disability & Accessibility, Disaster & Emergency Response, Diversity, Equity & Inclusion, Early Childhood, Education, Entrepreneurship, Environmental & Sustainability, Faith-Based & Religious, Food Security, Health, Housing, Immigrants, Refugees & Foreign-Born, Impact Investing, Indigenous & Native Issues, Legal Issues & Criminal Justice, LGBTQ+, Mental Health, Public Policy & Advocacy, Racial Equity, Rural, STEAM, Veterans, Violence Prevention, Women & Girls, Workforce Development

**Networks:** Corporate Funder Network, Family Foundation & Donor Advised Fund Network, Public Policy & Advocacy, Early Childhood Funder Network, Rural Funder Network, Geography-Based, and Identity/Role-Based Staff Networks (Executive, Funders of Color, Program Staff, and Operations Staff)

## PROPOSAL CONSIDERATIONS

We seek dynamic, engaging proposals that reflect the energy and urgency of this current philanthropic landscape. In preparing your session proposal, please be advised that we:

- **Prioritize In-Person Experiences:** Proposals for in-person sessions in which one or more speakers are present in the room will be prioritized.
- **Flexible Formats Encouraged:** Sessions can be formatted in a variety of ways, including: lecture, panel discussion, small group discussion, interactive, etc.
- **Collaboration Welcomed:** We encourage proposals that bring together funders, community partners, and/or PhilMO Members, modeling the cross-sector collaboration needed to drive meaningful impact.


- **Design for Relevance & Action:** The strongest proposals will be **practical, timely,** and **thought-provoking** for all participants.


PhilMO encourages Missouri funders to bring their teams—large or small, new to the field and experienced, and across professional disciplines— to participate in the **Show-Me Philanthropy Statewide Conference**.


Please note: Conference sessions are learning spaces. By submitting a proposal, you agree not to use the session to promote and/or make direct fundraising or business solicitations.

## PRESENTER BENEFITS

As a presenter, you'll not only share your expertise – you'll help shape the future of philanthropy in our state. Interact with an audience of 100+ engaged, impact-driven, Missouri changemakers at the **Show-Me Philanthropy Statewide Conference**.

 **PhilMO Members:** In appreciation for your contributions to the Conference, Members who have a session proposal accepted will receive a registration discount.

 **Non-Member:** Participation in the full Conference is restricted to PhilMO Members or non-Member Funders. Accepted presenters who are non-Member Funders are eligible for a discount off the Non-Member Early Bird pricing (excluding add-on experiences).

 **Conference Sponsors:** We invite our sponsors accepted to present to engage more deeply through curated opportunities tailored to their support.

## SESSION DEADLINE & PROCESS

To submit a session proposal for consideration, please complete the form: [Show-Me Philanthropy Statewide Conference Session Proposal - Philanthropy Missouri](#) by **5:00 PM on May 29, 2026**.

Direct questions to [chelsey@philmo.org](mailto:chelsey@philmo.org) and include "Session Proposal" as the subject line when emailing.

Proposals will be carefully reviewed in June 2026 by the PhilMO staff and Conference leadership. PhilMO will contact proposal submitters to advise of the proposal status on or before July 15, 2026.

# ABOUT PHILMO

Philanthropy Missouri (PhilMO) is a statewide membership association of funders and philanthropic partners who envision a thriving and equitable Missouri served by a collaborative, purpose-driven, and effective philanthropic sector. PhilMO...

- Strengthens philanthropy and promotes community impact by providing events, research, and professional development opportunities to grantmaking organizations in Missouri.
- Provides grantmakers with networking opportunities to connect with their peers and community leaders to share information and resources, build understanding, and work together on topics of interest.
- Offers high-quality information, tailored research, and skill-building programs to ensure effective and accountable use of charitable dollars.
- Enhances regional leadership by informing grantmakers on community needs and best practices in philanthropy, and fostering collaborative action to help address Missouri's most pressing issues.

**Mission:** To equip, connect, and energize our Members and partners for thoughtful action and greater impact.

**Vision:** PhilMO envisions a thriving and equitable Missouri, served by a collaborative, purpose-driven, and effective philanthropic sector.

**Values:** PhilMO lives out its mission and advances its vision through key values: Belonging, Equity, Impact, Courageous Leadership

Visit [Become a Member](#) for membership eligibility.

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