

LEARN. SHARE. INVEST.



ABOUT THE NETWORK

Launched in late 2012 by a group of committed local funders and the Federal Reserve Bank of Dallas, North Texas AFN is a collaborative effort that brings funders together to share and learn around the topics of asset building & financial capability.

The network is comprised private, family, community and corporate foundations as well as financial institutions from across the region. Involved funders support opportunities that promote the economic stability and mobility of low-wealth individuals and families in the North Texas in a variety of ways, including: helping families build and access credit, build savings, invest in higher education, a home, or a small business, as well as programs that integrate financial stability and asset building across sectors such as workforce and early childhood programs.

North Texas AFN increases the capacity of its members to effectively leverage philanthropy to promote economic opportunity and financial security. The activities of the network focus on supporting the following desired outcomes:

- Funders and practitioners engage in joint learning; obtaining new insights, tools, resources and contacts to leverage, advance & accelerate their organizations' efforts.
- Facilitating regular communication between interested grantmakers to promote sharing of ideas, increased collaboration & integrated strategies among grant makers.
- Increasing investment in the region and attracting new funders.
- Elevating and illuminating grantmaker efforts and impact through national partners and forums.

ACTIVITIES & ENGAGEMENT

Over the past 6 years North Texas AFN has explored a range of asset building topics with representatives from more than 75 foundations and well over 150 area nonprofits. These topics include: Credit and Small Doallar Lending; Two Generation Approaches; Children's Savings Accounts; The Education/Assets Connection; the Health/Wealth Connection; Women and Assets; and Integrated Services.

Area funders and the organizations they support are taking action on the insights and ideas obtained through North Texas AFN. Nonprofits report that they are now leveraging new strategies such as financial coaching and credit building as well as thinking about integrating savings tools and other financial services into client services. Funders are becoming increasingly collaborative with coordinated joint investments in a new Financial Coaching Network, replication of an integrated service delivery model for working families, and expanding lending circles across the region.

STEERING COMMITTEE

North Texas AFN activities are guided by a steering committee of area funders. Topics and activities are selected in response to local needs and opportunities.

2019 Steering Committee members are: Rose Brradshaw, North Texas Community Foundation; Grant Coates, The Miles Foundation; Denise Mason, BBVA Compass; Sarah Cotton Nelson, Communities Foundation of Texas; Allison Salas Fasy, The Mike and Mary Terry Family Foundation; Susan Hoff, United Way of Metropolitan Dallas; Dena L. Jackson, Texas Women's Foundation; Alfreda B. Norman, Federal Reserve Bank of Dallas; Kathy Smith, Meadows Foundation; Michelle Thomas, JP Morgan Chase & Co.; and Dora Zapata, Wells Fargo