

Community foundations are tax-exempt public charities that seek to meet the various needs in their specific locales. The most recent numbers from the Foundation Center show there are more than 700 community foundations nationwide with a \$4 billion estimated giving.

With the help of our previous work, these public charities have improved their giving - many now provide significantly more for lower-income communities, racial and ethnic minorities and other underserved populations.

## **Related Publications**

[Community-Based Public Foundations: Small Beacons for Big Ideas](#)

by Rick Cohen  
January 2004

This report takes an in-depth look at community-based public foundations, from their various grantmaking practices and payout policies to leadership and staff diversity.

**Community Foundations and the Disenfranchised: A summary Report on Ten Top Community Foundations' Responsiveness to Low-Income and Other Historically Disenfranchised Groups in American Society**

November 1994

This seminal report shed light to the need for community foundations to prioritize equity and empowerment of underserved communities in their giving. For a copy of this report, please contact [info@ncrp.org](mailto:info@ncrp.org).

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