

*Note: NCRP offers the draft public statement below as a customizable template. Please feel free to modify it or compose one in your own words. At a minimum, your statement should contain the following sentence (or its equivalent in your own language): “Our foundation will [dedicate/continue to dedicate] [at least] 50 percent of our grant dollars to benefit underserved communities and [at least] 25 percent of our grant dollars for social justice grantmaking [within/for at least the next three years].”*

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**[YOUR ORGANIZATION’S LETTERHEAD]**

**[TITLE OF PUBLIC STATEMENT]**

Whereas foundations, as responsible stewards of wealth for the public interest, are not only legally required to promote the public good but also ethically obligated to do so in a maximally effective manner;

Whereas our own foundation has found that helping to empower underserved communities through social justice grantmaking has been a very effective tool in helping us promote the public good and achieve our organization’s mission; and

Whereas a compelling and growing body of research now makes clear that this type of grantmaking promotes philanthropic effectiveness;

The [Name of Your Foundation] pledges to [achieve/continue to achieve/exceed] the following grantmaking goals [within/for at least the next three years]:

1. Provide at least 50 percent of our grant dollars to benefit underserved communities, examples of which include:
  - economically disadvantaged persons;
  - racial or ethnic minorities;
  - women and girls;
  - people with HIV/AIDS;
  - people with disabilities;
  - aging, elderly, senior citizens;
  - immigrants and refugees;
  - crime or abuse victims;
  - offenders and ex-offenders;
  - single parents;
  - rural communities; and/or
  - LGBTQ persons.
2. Provide at least 25 percent of our grant dollars for social justice grantmaking, a category that includes advocacy, organizing, civic engagement, public-interest litigation and other strategies to promote equity and help empower the disadvantaged.

Publicly available data at the Foundation Center will verify fulfillment of these goals. The [Name of Your Foundation] will take appropriate steps to ensure that these data accurately reflect our grantmaking.

As a responsible steward of wealth for the public good whose grantmaking affects the public, we make our goals as transparent as possible and that is one reason we make this public statement for the Philanthropy’s Promise initiative. We also hope this statement will contribute to the discussion within philanthropy about how we, as a sector, can best promote the public good.

[YOUR SIGNATURE]

[YOUR NAME]

[JOB TITLE]

[NAME OF ORGANIZATION IF STATEMENT IS NOT ON LETTERHEAD]

[DATE]