



DIASPORA PHILANTHROPY SUMMIT

November 2-3, 2017

REQUEST FOR APPLICATIONS



DIASPORA PHILANTHROPY SUMMIT

ABOUT:

The Diaspora Philanthropy Summit seeks to bring together groups and individuals who have a specific US- or Canada-based diaspora group they are engaging with to inspire cross-border giving in support of charitable activities in their home communities or countries of origin.

We define diaspora broadly as a people who are living in the United States and/or Canada who are away from an established or ancestral homeland and want to give back philanthropically and tax-effectively to that homeland.

Delegates will share their plans to engage and inspire the diaspora group of their interest while learning from CAF America's, CAF Canada's, and other delegates' various models and programs for focusing tax-effective support towards vetted charities and projects in the established or ancestral homeland chosen by the delegate.

WHEN:

November 2-3, 2017

WHERE:

Washington, D.C. (Alexandria, VA.)

DEADLINE:

All submissions must be completed and returned by **12 Noon EST on September 8, 2017**

APPLICATION:

Please refer to the Application Form

SUBMISSION:

Applications should be submitted to diaspora@cafamerica.org.

SUMMIT DELEGATES:

Participation in the Summit is by invitation. Delegates will be selected based on Applications submitted in response to this RFA.

This is an important opportunity for:

- (a) Those who believe in the transformational power of diaspora communities,
- (b) Diaspora groups that have a proven interest in joining efforts to support their homeland of origin
- (c) Foreign organizations connected with their diaspora members in the US or Canada, and
- (d) Domestic or foreign entities invested in supporting diaspora engagement.

For more details on who should apply, please see the "Who Should Apply" section below.

Selected applicants will be invited to join this exclusive two day Summit with full access to our original programming, including:

- Participation in all presentations, discussions and group work hosted at the CAF America's Offices
- Access to the Diaspora Philanthropy Summit's Exclusive Reception hosted at an Embassy in Washington D.C.
- Networking breakfasts and lunches throughout the two-day Summit

A maximum of two delegates are allowed per proposal

(exceptions will be considered on a case-by-case basis).

Financial support facilitating the participation of delegates in the summit may be available and will be determined on a case-by-case basis. Please refer to the "Bursary" section.

BACKGROUND:

Diaspora giving has always been a feature of dispersed communities; however, recent technological innovations have made it easier to strategically support such trends. Historically, divided communities have maintained close ties to their native communities by sending money back home to family members and communities -- a trend that continues to this day. The power of remittances to maintain connections and to bolster community development is proven by years of research; however, the same research suggests that support from diaspora communities needs to be more concerted, focusing strategically on the development of their countries of origin. CAF America recognizes this need, and has committed itself to facilitating diasporans' impact on furthering the development of countries of origin through engagement in philanthropic giving.

The Diaspora Philanthropy Summit aims to establish a forum of like-minded individuals and organizations that represent corporate, private and nonprofit actors united in a belief that diaspora communities have considerable potential, and have demonstrated interest in becoming a driving force for the development of their countries of origin.

As a leader in global giving, CAF America has developed extensive experience in diaspora giving throughout its 25 years of operation. More recently, we have entered into a tri-sector partnership as the lead of an exclusively diaspora-focused project, the Diaspora Gives Bangladesh program (DGB). This program, however, represents just one model for diaspora engagement. Others are either currently in the planning phase or being implemented by other organizations. The Diaspora Philanthropy Summit proposes to serve as an incubator for the development of new models of diaspora engagement.

SUMMIT FRAMEWORK:

The Diaspora Philanthropy Summit is an exciting opportunity for you and your organization to join the conversation around engagement with US- and Canada-based diaspora communities.

The Summit is designed to provide a forum for organizations invested in motivating giving from US- and Canada-based diasporas to learn about new strategies, share ongoing efforts, and connect with their peers. We will be hosting a wide range of professionals to add their expertise and perspectives to the conversation, however the intention is for this to be a working conference where the participants gain the most useful information from each other.

The program will include a series of presentations and working sessions discussing existing models for diaspora engagement (such as the DGB) as well as new models presented by the Summit Delegates.

Key questions include:

- How can organizations outside the US and Canada create networks to leverage giving from diaspora communities?
- What are the strengths/weaknesses of the various strategies being utilized to reach members of North America-based diaspora communities?
- What are barriers preventing diaspora communities from actively supporting causes in their home communities?
- How can diaspora members invested in supporting their country of origin collaborate to increase their impact?
- What are mechanisms available to facilitate diaspora engagement in philanthropic giving?
- What are some of the successful models?
- What similarities can be drawn across distinct groups?
- What are some of the lessons learned from difficulties experienced by previous diaspora engagement programs?
- How can cross-sector partnerships facilitate diaspora engagement?

OUTCOMES:

Participants in the Diaspora Philanthropy Summit will have the opportunity to:

- Become an active member of the diaspora engagement incubator
- Present their own model for diaspora engagement
- Engage in constructive dialogue and strategic planning for working with diaspora communities
- Learn from local and international experts in the field of diaspora philanthropy
- Network with other organizations and like-minded professionals working in the space of diaspora engagement
- Learn from experts in the field about best practices and different models for inspiring diaspora giving and engagement
- Learn about mechanisms for tax-effective international giving from the US and Canada
- Develop new ways to overcome barriers to diaspora engagement and cross-border giving
- Gain valuable exposure to peer feedback on models for diaspora engagement and hear about the work of others in the US and Canada.

WHO SHOULD APPLY:

We invite all relevant organizations to submit a proposal for attendance; we especially welcome domestic (US & Canada) and international charities that have either ongoing engagement with diaspora communities or concrete plans to develop it. These could include:

Diaspora: Diaspora groups that have a proven interest in joining efforts to support their home communities

Community Associations or Foundations: Domestic (US & Canada) community associations that organize based on diaspora identity, have an ongoing engagement with a diaspora community, or have the reasonable capacity to develop one.

Private, Corporate, or Family Foundations: Foundations that seek guidance on seeking donations and making grants to countries with relevant diaspora communities in the US and Canada.

Corporations: Corporations involved in CSR activities relevant to engagement with diaspora communities.

Non-US or Canada-based NGOs, Charities, Nonprofits, Associations, or other CSOs: Any foreign civil society organization currently engaging - or looking to engage with - US or Canada-based diaspora communities to encourage charitable giving to countries of origin.

Cultural Institutions: Domestic or foreign cultural institutions working in fields such as the arts, sciences, or religion.

Individuals: Philanthropic advisors or other relevant experts or practitioners with exposure to diaspora-based charitable giving.

Governments: Ministries, departments, or centers seeking to stimulate US- and Canada-based diaspora engagement to their home country.

Special consideration will be given to organizations or individuals who can clearly demonstrate:

- A pre-existing relationship, or a reasonable capacity to develop one, with a diaspora community in the US or Canada;
- A history of receiving, facilitating, or inspiring charitable donations from US- or Canada-based diasporas; or
- A time-sensitive need for diaspora giving in their country of origin (eg. natural disaster, famine, economic crisis)

BURSARY:

If needed, a bursary to assist with travel and other expenses will be considered in the amount of \$1,000 (plus hotel accommodations will be provided to those receiving bursary support) per person. You must apply telling us why you are unable to cover the expense of attending the Summit.

ABOUT CAF AMERICA:

CAF America is a global grantmaking organization assisting corporations, foundations, and individuals. For 25+ years we have streamlined the grantmaking process to eliminate risk and administrative burden. Through our work, we help donors support great causes by assisting them in making strategic, effective, and tax-advantaged grants internationally and domestically.

CAF America's work with diaspora giving is organized under our flagship initiative, the Diaspora Gives Program, which aims to facilitate charitable donations from diaspora groups residing in the US and Canada to countries of origin across the world with the goal of promoting sustainable development.

For more information, or to answer any questions, please contact us via email or give us a call at our offices:

diaspora@cafamerica.org

202-793-CAFA (2232)
