

Peer Networks Overview

Peer Networks are spaces for MCF members who work at the same type of foundation type or have similar job responsibilities or social identities to come together to connect with their peers, exchange information and learn from one another. MCF support for peer networks is a member benefit.



What does a peer network look like?

- **How to Participate:** Connect in-person at network meetings and online through the Hub
- **Meeting Frequency:** 1 – 4 meetings per year
- **MCF's Role Includes:**
 - Coordinate and schedule network meetings
 - Solicit meeting topics, develop agendas, facilitate and host meetings
 - Recruit members to share content, facilitate or host meetings
 - Promote meetings and take registration
 - Manage MCF's Collaborative Philanthropy Hub
 - Share relevant materials and opportunities and encourage members to do the same
- **Member Leadership Includes:**
 - Volunteer to share knowledge and/or lead a discussion at a network meeting
 - Start conversations and share opportunities via the Hub
 - Host a network meeting
 - Encourage others to join the network
- **Who can Participate:** MCF members only
- **Cost:** Included as a member benefit
- **Guidelines for Starting a Peer Network:**
 - Expressed Interest from 5+ members from different foundations
 - Potential audience is sufficiently large (10+ additional members can be identified that may be interested)
 - MCF has the staff capacity to support a new peer network

If these guidelines are met, MCF will organize a pilot meeting. If the audience and interest is sustained after three successful pilot meetings, MCF will formalize the network.
- **Guidelines for Sunsetting a Peer Network:** MCF will discontinue peer network meetings if attendance and interest wanes (regular attendance of less than 6 members). The peer network will continue to live on the Hub; MCF will sunset the group on the Hub if there is no activity for a year or at MCF's discretion.

