Thanks For Being The One!
A message from CEO Debra Jacobs

Ours is a region that has grown to thrive on the super-abundance created when people come together to raise the level of humanity. By creating opportunities for anyone to be a philanthropist, the Giving Challenge has demonstrated the power of people with positivity to create possibilities through philanthropy.

In celebration of the Giving Challenge’s decade of generosity, more than 46,000 donors provided over 83,000 total gifts during the 2022 Giving Challenge. In just 24 hours, these donors contributed more than $16 million to 669 regional nonprofit organizations. This total includes $6 million in matching funds from The Patterson Foundation, which provided a 1:1 match on all unique donations between $25 and $100 per donor, per nonprofit.

Meet The Patterson Foundation’s 2022-2023 Fellows Cohort

The Patterson Foundation is excited to welcome Indiana University Lilly Family School of Philanthropy at IUPUI students Kellie Alexander [L] and Rachel Ploss [R] to become the newest members of its Fellows Program. The pair of Master of Arts in Philanthropic Studies graduates will participate in a year-long opportunity for aspiring philanthropic leaders to gain experience and learn innovative philanthropic principles while contributing to initiatives strengthening people, organizations, and communities.

Through the Fellows Program and its partnership with the Lilly Family School of Philanthropy — the world’s first school dedicated solely to the study and teaching of philanthropy — The Patterson Foundation aspires to share the knowledge and insights gained through its collaborative work.
organization — with no cap on the number of individual matches from unique donors a nonprofit organization could receive. Those unrestricted funds will strengthen regional nonprofits in ways that will boost their capacity to do good and their agility to navigate the unexpected — a necessity that has come into even greater focus in recent years.

Such wide participation, especially amid a time of emotional and financial strain for many, shows that giving has become an essential value.

“Each talented TPF Fellow brings their unique background and experience to the table...,” said Debra Jacobs, president and CEO of The Patterson Foundation. “The Patterson Foundation contributes to each fellow’s personal and professional evolution while providing opportunities for them to make their invaluable mark through our work.

The NetHope Effect – Collective Impact: A renewed sense of shared purpose and ambition across the NetHope community

By Lance Pierce, CEO, NetHope

NetHope, like many organizations who count their history in decades, has had stronger and weaker ties and gaps in its involvement with its original founding community over the years. We wanted to find a way to reconnect with these legacy partners and founders at the 20th Anniversary Summit and show that the community itself was committed to the next generation of work through NetHope. Thus was born the Collective Impact Fund challenge.

The idea was simple: let’s create a fast and straightforward way for the NetHope founders, and community as a whole, to show their support for NetHope’s continuing value to their membership organizations’ and partner companies’ impact programming.
In August of 2021, with the thoughtful guidance of The Patterson Foundation (TPF)—NetHope’s longest continuous foundation funder—we developed a three-pronged challenge. We sought to raise a fast $500,000 in the run-up to the 20th Anniversary Summit in November—that would constitute a community vote in support of the next generation of work by and through NetHope and would help fund capacity at NetHope to do more intentional program development with members. The Patterson Foundation would stand up the first $100,000, and the last $100,000, and NetHope would raise the additional funds from the broader NetHope community; on the order of $100,000 from the membership, $100,000 from the corporate partners, and $100,000 from philanthropy, which would unlock the final TPF contribution to complete the fund.

By the time of the 20th Anniversary in November—NetHope’s largest ever event featuring international policy leaders, corporate tech, nonprofit CEOs, and more than 1,800 practitioners from more than 100 countries—we were within $80,000 in pledges. By December, we had achieved 100% of the target. By spring 2022, all the funds had finally been received and the pledges fulfilled.

As a rallying cry for the community, a celebration of 20 years of collective impact, and a vote for the future, the fund has been a success. Many NetHope members contributed outside of their regular budget cycles to make the target, including all seven of NetHope’s original NGO founders (CARE, Catholic Relief Services, Children International, Mercy Corps, Save the Children, Winrock International, and World Vision), and two of the companies who rallied in the early years to help launch and scale NetHope, Accenture and Microsoft. All of NetHope’s board members and many member organizations contributed, as did NetHope Fellows, former CEOs and executive directors going back to the beginning, and many others.

Building further on the momentum in the wake of the 20th Anniversary, Cisco, another company present at the founding of NetHope, came to us in confidence in January about their making a large and catalytic grant to launch NetHope into the next phase. That funding, the recently announced Digital Breakthrough Initiative, builds on the success of the Collective Impact Fund and totals $15 million over five years to help NetHope redesign legacy work, launch new programming in support of our members, and build new capabilities in monitoring and evaluation, communications, and new innovations to better highlight the learning and successes of the community.

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We welcome your thoughts. Connect with us at thepattersonfoundation@gmail.com

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