Sampling of Our Network’s Recent Policy Actions

Federal Executive/Administrative/Regulatory
- We secured an unprecedented victory by persuading the Office of Management & Budget to adopt an historic mandate in federal rules: requiring that any government – local, state, tribal, and federal – using federal funds to hire nonprofits must pay nonprofits their indirect costs, thereby correcting a serious injustice that undermined nonprofit sustainability and effectiveness.
- We aggressively opposed – and the IRS ultimately withdrew – a proposed rule for nonprofits to substantiate contributions they received by collecting and reporting donors’ Social Security numbers. Our network successfully mobilized many of the more than 37,000 comments filed in opposition leading to the withdrawal.
- We kept the nonprofit community informed about the Department of Labor’s Overtime Final Rule through special alerts, research, and state-specific information, as state associations conducted more than 150 trainings.

Congress
- We initiated the campaign to permanently protect federal tax incentives for charitable giving, ending the practice in which separate groups had to seek temporary extensions each year. To secure the permanent fix, we brought together key players to create a coalition that successfully mounted a unified campaign.
- We spoke out forcefully for nonprofits about fiscal matters, including the fiscal cliff and government shutdown, and illuminated the subtle yet painful ways that governments have been shifting their responsibilities to nonprofits and funders.
- When the House and White House left nonprofits out of the Affordable Care Act, we successfully protected nonprofits by beating the drum to have nonprofits included in the final version.

State Executive/Administrative/Regulatory
Recognizing that the nonprofit community earns a third of its revenue through government grants/contracts, we’ve provided nationwide leadership for reform of government-nonprofit grantmaking and contracting systems to secure cost savings and efficiencies for nonprofits and the public. State associations are utilizing quality data and analyses to address problematic policies, practices, and procedures that needlessly waste resources, inhibiting services to people in need and exacerbating inequity.

Judicial
We went to court to protect nonprofit rights by writing an amicus curiae brief for the Washington Supreme Court to prevent extending the reach of a state’s Public Records Act from just government entities to also apply to the books, records, and computer files of independent charitable nonprofits and private foundations. (Decision pending.)

Legislative
- We proved the power of our network’s collective strength at the state level by defeating attempts to limit charitable giving incentives in multiple states, preserving more than half a billion dollars in donations for charitable work in local communities (and counting).
- In multiple states across the country, we’ve prevailed in protecting nonprofits, including constitutional rights of nonprofits, nonprofit independence, and the assets of nonprofits to advance their missions.

Local Executive/Administrative/Regulatory
We’re working to implement the federal law mandating payment of indirect costs, making sure that the OMB Uniform Guidance is followed by state and local governments and correcting misinterpretations that limit nonprofit effectiveness and sustainability.

Legislative Branch
In addition to helping nonprofits win their battles, we’ve been changing the debate on taxes, fees, and payments in lieu of taxes (PILOTs) to focus on nonprofit impact in communities and government dependence on the work of charitable nonprofits.