



# SCHOOL of PUBLIC AFFAIRS

## AMERICAN UNIVERSITY • WASHINGTON, DC

### Information about the American University Grant Seeking and Grant Making Study

**What is the Purpose of the Study:** The Grant Seeking and Grant Making Study is a parallel survey of nonprofit organizations and foundations. The purpose of the study is to examine both the effectiveness of grant-seeking behaviors of nonprofits and the recent challenges foundations face when distributing their grants.

The Grant Seeking Survey will collect data on 450 nonprofit organizations' capacities and processes for grant-seeking, as well as data on which grants they apply for, what amounts they request, and the final outcome of those attempts. The parallel Grant Making Survey of 300 foundations will contribute to our understanding of the current challenges faced by philanthropic leaders, such as increasing competition for their grants, and how foundations are responding to those challenges.

**What Organizations are Included in the Study:** Nonprofit organizations that are included in the Grant Seeking Survey were randomly selected from organizations operating in the top twenty largest metropolitan areas in the United States who are also serving in areas related to aging, youth or homelessness. The Foundations included in the Study were selected based on relevance to these three service areas as well as their acceptance of grant applications from these metropolitan areas.

**When is the Study being Conducted:** Surveys will be distributed to organizations and foundations in the sample during June 2014, and the survey will be close during July 2014. The survey will be distributed via online and print format. Preliminary results from the Study will be available in July 2014.

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