



IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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Philanthropy Delaware Members Join the Proximity Project – a Racial Justice, Equity Program

*Philanthropic and Education Leaders join the first cohort aimed
to close the gaps between decision-makers and communities of color*

WILMINGTON, DE – Last week, TeenSHARP announced its first cohort for [The Proximity Project \(TPP\)](#). The eight-week program to close the gap between community leaders and the people of color they serve.

Through the program, philanthropic and educational leaders closely connect to the students, families, and community leaders whose truth and insights inform participant's reflections and actions. Connecting through TPP will provide leaders with the opportunity to examine and reform how they interact with and serve communities of color.

Of the 48 individuals, ten individuals are current Philanthropy Delaware Members in the cohort,. These philanthropic leaders have a focus on the education sector. The following organizations are Philanthropy Delaware Members and are represented in the cohort:

- Delaware Community Foundation – Sarah Grunewald and Yolanda Rushdan
- Laffey-McHugh Foundation – Patty Hoffman
- Longwood Foundation – Thère du Pont and Maria Stecker
- Rodel – Mark Baxter and Nancy Millard
- United Way of Delaware – Schlonn Hawkins
- Welfare Foundation – Chris Grundner
- WSFS – Kristin Moore

[Click here to see all participants.](#)

Each of the eight weeks, participants will meet for two-and-a-half hours to discuss assigned readings, complete organizational and leadership assessments, learn from guest speakers, and connect with other institution leaders working toward equity and racial justice.

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About The Proximity Project (TPP): TPP is an eight-week cohort experience for leaders in education institutions (teacher, school, nonprofit, and district leaders) and education philanthropy who want to examine and reform how they interact with and serve communities of color. The Proximity Project is not an isolated, intellectual exercise — leaders connect closely with students, families, and community leaders whose truth and insights inform participants’ reflections and actions.

About TeenSHARP: TeenSHARP is a regional organization headquartered in Wilmington, DE that is on a mission to prepare talented low-income, African American, and Latino students to attend and thrive at the nation’s top colleges. This mission is in service of a bold vision that one day the diversity of those occupying our nation’s highly-skilled jobs and highest leadership positions will be as rich as the diversity of our population. Founded in 2009, TeenSHARP has evolved into a leading provider of innovative, at-scale college access and success support in the Delaware Valley region (including Delaware, Philadelphia, and southern New Jersey). TeenSHARP has achieved incredible results over the last ten years: 100 percent of TeenSHARP scholars successfully pursue a 4-year college education, with 95 percent of the scholars being admitted to selective colleges and universities every year.

About Philanthropy Delaware: Philanthropy Delaware advances philanthropy in the first state by connecting key stakeholders to drive meaningful impact for all Delawareans. As the statewide association of grantmakers, Philanthropy Delaware has established a deep commitment to diversity, equity, and inclusion as one of our key values and continues to increase philanthropic and community learning about diversity, equity, and inclusion.

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