The San Francisco Foundation: The foundation, a leading agent of Bay Area philanthropy, is an incubator for community investment, original ideas, and passionate leadership.

The Secretaries’ Award for Public–Philanthropic Partnerships 2014

The San Francisco Foundation

HOPE SF

Launched: 2009
Public Partners: The City of San Francisco, Mayor’s Office; the County of San Francisco; Consumer Services and Housing Agency; and the U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development

HOPE SF is the nation’s first large-scale public housing revitalization project to invest in high-quality, sustainable housing and broad-scale community development without displacing current residents. HOPE SF represents a unique public-private-philanthropic partnership committed to ensuring that revitalizing public housing transforms both where people live and the quality of their lives.

In 2010, stakeholders formed a public-private partnership of public, philanthropic, business, and community members. The partnership identifies, supports, and coordinates strategies focused on disrupting systemic poverty and isolation faced by residents and on improving the community in the intersecting areas of economic mobility, education, and health. The Steering Committee, comprising public, private, and philanthropic partners, meets monthly and oversees governance, fundraising, grantmaking, evaluation, and program design. The Leadership Committee includes high-profile local and national leaders who bring expertise, fundraising connections, and financial support to the campaign. The presence of national foundations on the Leadership Committee ensures the transferability of learnings throughout the region and the nation.

Three managing partners—The San Francisco Foundation, the City and County of San Francisco, and Enterprise Community Partners—make up the core project team through its staff and ongoing operational support. At each of the four HOPE SF locations, a lead nonprofit organization partners with the core project team to implement the program strategies on the ground.

Creating an environment where all sectors are at the table strategizing solutions to community problems has helped build consensus in the HOPE SF community and support for this effort in the broader funding community. It has also had the impact of philanthropic funders leveraging other funding resources to HOPE SF-aligned programs delivered by community nonprofits, thus deepening the impact of the initiative and the level of services provided to residents. To date, $7.8 million has been committed to HOPE SF.