

Thursday, April 3, 2025

Newsletter

Not-Quite-as-Creative Fundraising: Please Support NEPC



While <u>Tuesday's newsletter</u> about NEPC's creative fundraising was obviously our annual April Fool's satire, it speaks to a critical issue facing a key part of NEPC's work. There is indeed a funding crisis currently causing havoc for community-engaged research, and NEPC's community-engaged researchers may soon have no support to continue that work.

DONATE

While funding NEPC's publication work remains on solid ground, our community-engaged research typically depends on grants from foundations. Those grants keep our research staff and graduate students:

- Leading projects like the <u>Price of Opportunity</u> and the <u>Research Hub for Youth</u> <u>Organizing;</u>
- Developing accessible research tools that inform communities working to increase school funding in states around the country; and
- Working directly with school districts and teachers to engage high school students in school- and district-level plans and decisions.

These same staff help us quickly respond to questions from community members and others about research on pressing education policy issues.

This work is in a precarious situation because of the combination of the federal budget freezes and cuts, the chaos of executive orders, the very limited private foundation dollars available for this type of work, and the extraordinary pressure being put on private philanthropy at this moment.

To ensure that this work continues, our goal is to raise \$300,000 by July 1st. Over the past decade, we built an effective infrastructure to partner with communities in their locally directed efforts. We now need to maintain that resource.

If you value our work and can help sustain us during this difficult time, please consider helping. Any amount you can give directly is sincerely appreciated. Also, if you know of others who may want to help, please connect them with us.

While NEPC always welcomes donations, we do not typically call out for such support. This is only the second time we have done so, and it is prompted by an urgent need.

Tax-deductible donations can be easily made through our website: <u>https://nepc.colorado.</u> <u>edu/support</u>.

NEPC Resources on Research Issues

This newsletter is made possible in part by support provided by the Great Lakes Center for Education Research and Practice: <u>http://www.greatlakescenter.org</u>

The National Education Policy Center (NEPC), a university research center housed at the University of Colorado Boulder School of Education, sponsors research, produces policy briefs, and publishes expert third-party reviews of think tank reports. NEPC publications are written in accessible language and are intended for a broad audience that includes academic experts, policymakers, the media, and the general public. Our mission is to provide high-quality information in support of democratic deliberation about education policy. We are guided by the belief that the democratic governance of public education is strengthened when policies are based on sound evidence and support a multiracial society that is inclusive, kind, and just. Visit us at: http://nepc.colorado.edu