FEATURED DISCUSSION

CONVERGENCE: Philanthropy
The S2i Team

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What is S2i?

S2i seeks to advance **transformation** in mental health for all by supporting and furthering leading collaborations and strategic interventions. Drawing on our networks in philanthropy and beyond, we are committed to:

- Integrating mental health policy and program reform with aligned efforts in other sectors
- Helping philanthropy identify and support both immediate interventions and the long-term strategic reform arc
- Articulating and helping to address difficult issues that impede mental health policy and practice transformation.

S2i is housed at the Jed Foundation.

For more information on S2i, please visit our webpage at: [https://www.jedfoundation.org/what-we-do/the-mental-health-strategic-impact-initiative-s2i/](https://www.jedfoundation.org/what-we-do/the-mental-health-strategic-impact-initiative-s2i/)
Philanthropy and Mental Health: Under-Resourced and Misunderstood

- Wildly under-funded:
  - 1.3% of all philanthropic funding (CHIP)
  - Only 5% of health care funding
  - Yet interconnected to major philanthropic priorities (economic mobility, racial justice, criminal justice reform, K-12 improvements, workforce) AND COVID

- Philanthropic challenges for engagement:
  - Size and complexity: difficulty to access and gain traction in philanthropic time frames
  - Conditions for engagement: institutional, data/project, leadership/innovation
Philanthropy and Mental Health: Potential Opportunities and The Case for Crisis

- Case to be made:
  - ROI
  - Racial Justice
  - Momentum (stigma decline, broader constituency involvement, COVID consequence)
  - Seedlings of change

- Crisis as Opportunity: Looking for Goldilocks
  - Advantages: big ("enough"), opportunities (988), and right forms of complexity
  - Challenges: multiple systems and complexity, down-payment question, and narrative
The Front End Project

- **Project Concept:** Use a public health lens to identify and advance how communities can effectively respond to mental health emergencies and crises without centering the criminal legal system.

- **Project Goal:** To contribute to policy and practice reform in both the criminal legal and mental health systems.

- **Partners:** S2i, Fountain House, the Technical Assistance Collaborative (TAC), the Center for Court Innovation, and The W. Haywood Burns Institute.

- **Funding:** The project is supported by the Ford Foundation.
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“I want a job, a house and a social life.”
CrisisNow.com
988 and Extended Crisis Care