

Funder Safeguarding Review: What Works?

The Funder Safeguarding Collaborative (FSC) believes that funders have an important role in strengthening organizational cultures and practices that keep people safe, and that we need a space to come together to learn and harmonize approaches.

The Collaborative and Elevate Children Fundraising Group have commissioned research to help guide the work of the Collaborative and contribute to learning across the sector. The research will examine:

How can funders promote cultures and practices that keep people safe, within their own organisation and within the organisations they fund?

- How have funder approaches to safeguarding changed over the last 2 years?
- What has had the greatest impact and why?
- How does this vary depending on the size, location and priorities of the funder?
- “What works” and what can be done to promote positive change in the future?

How can we support greater alignment between funders whilst respecting the unique priorities and practices within different organisations?

- Where are existing areas of alignment and where are the greatest differences?
- Which areas of alignment are likely to have the greatest impact and why?
- What are the barriers to alignment?
- How can alignment be achieved whilst respecting the different size, location and priorities of funders?
- “What works” (or might work!) to promote greater alignment in the future?

The research will be conducted by Karen Walker-Simpson and builds on her doctoral research examining the role of safeguarding standards and donor requirements in supporting an effective response to child abuse by NGOs in East Africa.

Contributing to the Review

The first step in this research is a **Cross-Sector Survey** to gain an overview of ‘what works’ (and what doesn’t!) through gaining feedback back from funders, practitioners and experts.

We welcome responses from anyone interested in improving safeguarding. The survey can be completed anonymously.

- **Survey for Funders:**
<https://www.surveymonkey.co.uk/r/FunderSFGSurvey-Funders>
- **Survey for others in the Sector:**
<https://www.surveymonkey.co.uk/r/FunderSFGSurvey-Sector>

We will then conduct a series of interviews to obtain a deeper understanding of potential changes which could enhance the role of funders in improving safeguarding. If you are interested in participating in the interviews, you can share your contact details at the end of the survey.

Deadline for responses to the survey is Friday 2nd October 2020.

If you would like any further details about the research, please contact k.walker-simpson@outlook.com

About the Funder Safeguarding Collaborative

Over the last 2 years, Trusts and foundations have also come together to explore their role in relation to safeguarding, resulting in commitments aimed at greater collaboration to address key challenges. The Funder Safeguarding Collaborative (FSC) builds on all of these initiatives with the goal of promoting collaboration, listening, and learning among funders and implementing organizations in order to strengthen organizational cultures and practices that keep people safe.

We will do this through:

- Forging collaboration among funders to accelerate shared learning
- Engaging organizations – both funders and practitioners – representing perspectives outside the Global North.
- Catalyzing networks committed to advancing safeguarding practices.
- Pooling funding to support locally led initiatives to advance safeguarding.
- Taking proactive steps to promote the harmonization of funder approaches
- Commissioning and sharing research on safeguarding practices globally.
- Offering holistic support to funders through our Policy to Practice Exchange.

Policy to Practice Exchange

The Policy to Practice (P2P) Exchange offers a holistic solution for funders who want to access high-quality, flexible, and affordable safeguarding expertise. It allows funders to share information and harmonize approaches, reducing the administrative burden on implementing organisations to ensure that service delivery is never compromised by Funder demands. Every time a funder joins the P2P Exchange, impact increases: everything we learn is shared with members and income generated is reinvested to support efforts to strengthen safeguarding globally. Proposed services include:



Want to know more about FSC? Please get in touch: uktrust@globalfundforchildren.org