



Agenda: Rural Funders of the Southwest Peer Learning Session

October 22, 2020
 11:00 AM – 12:30 PM CDT
 Via Zoom

Welcome	Tony Fundaro , President & CEO, Philanthropy Southwest
Briefing on the Organizing of Rural Philanthropy <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Conversation on the findings of Exploring Rural Multi-Funder Collaboration 	Dr. Bob Reid , Former CEO, JF Maddox Foundation; CEO, Edge Philanthropy, LLC; and Michelle Monse , President, Carl B. & Florence E. King Foundation
Texas Rural Funders' Example <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Expanding Access to Rural Broadband Internet • Rural Capacity Building • <i>The Future of Rural Texas Virtual Symposium</i> (Nov. 9) by the <i>Texas Tribune</i> 	Ellen Ray , Executive Director, Still Water Foundation; Chair, Texas Rural Funders
Roundtable on Other Ways to Partner <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Efforts in Arkansas around Census Data Collection and Accessing Line of Credit • Rural Philanthropy Days • How can PSW be helpful to supporting rural philanthropy? 	Michelle Monse , President, Carl B. & Florence E. King Foundation



Panel Speakers: Rural Funders of the Southwest Peer Learning Session



Michelle Monse

President, Carl B. and Florence E. King Foundation

Michelle joined the Foundation in 2005. She has previously served as a grants officer and fundraiser for a community foundation, administered a corporate foundation, directed a capital campaign for a historically black college, taught in three law schools, and practiced law in a Dallas law firm. She earned her B.A. at Texas Tech University and J.D. from The University of Texas School of Law. She spends much of her free time gardening, cooking, and dog wrangling.

Ellen Ray

Executive Director, Still Water Foundation; Chair, Texas Rural Funders



Ellen Ray is the Executive Director of the Still Water Foundation. A private family foundation, Still Water is based in Austin and primarily supports organizations in Texas. The Foundation's main areas of concentration include the arts, education and the environment. Since 2014, the Foundation has been actively engaged in West Texas, partnering with rural communities in the Permian Basin and the Trans Pecos. Ellen currently serves as Chair of the Texas Rural Funders (TRF), a group of funders dedicated to bringing additional attention and resources to rural Texas. TRF's three signature issues include rural broadband; capacity building; and its partnership with The Texas Tribune to host a biennial symposium, The Future of Rural. Prior to joining Still Water, Ellen was involved in the arts community in Houston, serving as the Executive Director of FotoFest, an international photography festival, and working at the Museum of Fine Arts, Houston. A long-time trustee of St. Stephen's Episcopal School, she most recently served as Executive Chair of the Board. She is also on the board of the Austin Community Foundation and is the founding President of mindPOP, an organization dedicated to expanding creative learning in classrooms across Austin. Ellen graduated from Princeton University with a B.A. in Art History

Bob Reid, PhD

Former CEO, JF Maddox Foundation; CEO, Edge Philanthropy, LLC



Bob Reid is the former CEO of JF Maddox Foundation, which is a place-based private foundation in Hobbs, New Mexico and current CEO of Edge Philanthropy, LLC. His foundation grant making experience has largely focused on education reform, higher education, workforce training, community and economic development, social services, access to healthcare, and substance abuse. He is also engaged in global development work in South America and Africa and is involved in research on organizational behavior and private philanthropy. Previously, Bob had a successful career in turning around underperforming healthcare institutions and managing a network of hospitals including both acute care and behavioral health facilities. Bob's research has yielded important insights and implications for both management practitioners and policymakers. In his executive leadership roles in philanthropy and business, he has developed strategies for enhanced organizational leadership and effective governance.