Shena Ashley, a vice president at the Urban Institute, has expanded the Center on Nonprofit and Philanthropy’s policy research and programmatic initiatives through visionary leadership and strong financial management while maintaining an active portfolio of rigorous academic scholarship. For more than 20 years, the center has been a critical resource for credible, nonpartisan, and accessible data and insights on nonprofit and philanthropic activity. In addition to policy research, the center provides technical assistance and philanthropic advisory services to advance more effective and equitable nonprofit and philanthropic practice. Before joining Urban, Ashley held academic positions in the Department of Public Administration and International Affairs in the Maxwell School of Citizenship and Public Affairs at Syracuse University and in the Andrew Young School of Policy Studies at Georgia State University, where she taught courses on the nonprofit sector and quantitative research methods and advanced a research agenda focused on grantmaking effectiveness and nonprofit management. At the Annie E. Casey Foundation’s Atlanta Civic Site, Ashley was director of research and policy and developed innovative tools for community engagement in performance measurement.

Elizabeth Boris became the founding director of the Center on Nonprofits and Philanthropy at the Urban Institute in 1996. The center researches the role and impact of nonprofit organizations and the policy issues that affect them. The center also hosts the National Center for Charitable Statistics, which builds and maintains the nation’s largest research database on nonprofit organizations. From 1991 to 1996, Boris was founding director of the Aspen Institute’s Nonprofit Sector Research Fund, the first grantmaking program devoted to supporting research on the nonprofit sector and philanthropy. Before her tenure at the Aspen Institute, Boris was vice president for research at the Council on Foundations, where she developed the research program and directed it for 12 years. Boris is actively involved as an advisor and board member for various organizations in the nonprofit sector. In 2006, she received the Distinguished Achievement and Leadership Award from the Association for Research on Nonprofits and Voluntary Action. She was named a member of the NonProfit Times Power and Influence Top 50 nonprofit leaders nine times. The author of many research publications on nonprofits and philanthropy, she edited Nonprofits and Government: Collaboration and Conflict, with C. Eugene Steuerle, and wrote Working in Foundations: Career Patterns of Women and Men, with Teresa Odendahl and Arlene Kaplan Daniels. Boris holds a bachelor’s degree from Douglass College at Rutgers University, graduating with honors and Phi Beta Kappa, and master’s and doctoral degrees in political science from Rutgers University.
William Browning serves as chief strategy and transformation officer for United Way Worldwide. He is responsible for driving the business model transformation for the United Way ecosystem. In this capacity, he leads digital services, including the implementation of the Salesforce Philanthropy Cloud product. Browning was most recently the chief strategy officer for Mile High United Way, where he provided leadership for development, marketing, and evaluation. Before joining United Way, Browning founded Rebound Solutions, which focused on delivering professional services for government, nonprofit, and commercial clients. Browning has a wide range of expertise in delivering large-scale private- and public-sector engagements, including multimillion dollar statewide and national level programs. Over the course of his career, he has supported over 150 organizations with strategic planning, conflict resolution, and generative governance, including helping more than 100 nonprofit organizations improve their brand and performance. Browning has a master’s degree in coaching and consulting for change from HEC/Oxford University and a bachelor’s degree in English from the University of New Mexico. He completed the exclusive University of Oxford Strategic Leadership Program in May 2016 and the Corporate Social Responsibility Executive Program through University of Colorado at Denver. As a three-time graduate of Colorado Outward Bound School, he believes in serving the community. Browning has served as board president for both KIPP Colorado Schools and Hunger Free Colorado.

Bryan de Lottinville is the founder and CEO of Benevity Inc., the leading provider of cloud-based software that powers purpose-driven business for hundreds of iconic brands, including Apple, Google, Microsoft, Nike, SAP, and Workday. The innovative platform connects over 550 enterprise companies to almost 2 million causes in 190 countries, in 17 languages and 14 currencies, making doing good around the globe fast, easy, and cost effective. Known for espousing a democratized approach to corporate "goodness," de Lottinville provokes ideas that provide better social and business returns while tackling some of the biggest struggles in the social impact landscape. He is a recognized thought leader, Forbes Technology Council contributor, frequent speaker at industry events, and fervent believer that providing people with more choice and opportunity to do good will ignite an inherent desire within today’s socially conscious employees, communities, and customers to become an extraordinary force for good that will change our world for the better.

Chris Jarvis is a cofounder and chief strategy officer of Realized Worth, a global agency focused on the design and implementation of employee-led volunteering and giving programs. His work with companies around the world helps mobilize employees to make meaningful contributions in the communities where they live and work. Widely known for his thought leadership in employee volunteering, workplace giving, and corporate social responsibility, in 2011, Jarvis was asked by the United Nations Office of Partnerships to design and launch the first private sector-led initiative to achieve their postmillennial sustainable development goals through corporate volunteering. Jarvis serves on the board of IMPACT 2030, the only business-led effort designed to unite companies in their corporate volunteering efforts to address the United Nations’ Development Agenda. In 2015, Jarvis and his partner, Angela Parker, launched the RW Institute, a think tank focused on advancing the practice and theory of corporate citizenship through innovative projects, research, analysis, and public policy change. RW Institute is comprised of an association of stakeholders committed to removing existing barriers and promoting the practice and theory of corporate volunteering
on a global scale. The goal is to help practitioners be more successful, whether they are clients engaged formally or not. Jarvis believes practitioners’ work, as part of corporate citizenship, is critical to addressing the huge social and environmental issues facing our global society.

Benjamin Soskis is a research associate in the Center on Nonprofits and Philanthropy at the Urban Institute, where he develops public-facing content based on the center’s research. His work explores the intersection of historical inquiry with contemporary philanthropic practice. He is especially interested in the relationship between philanthropy and democratic norms and institutions. A historian and journalist, Soskis is the coeditor of HistPhil, a web publication devoted to the history of the nonprofit and philanthropic sectors. He was a fellow at the Center for Nonprofit Management, Philanthropy, and Policy at George Mason University. He is also a consultant for the Open Philanthropy Project and a frequent contributor to the Chronicle of Philanthropy and the Atlantic online. His writing on philanthropy has also appeared in the Washington Post, Guardian, New Yorker online, Stanford Social Innovation Review, American Prospect, and the Foundation Review. He is coauthor of The Battle Hymn of the Republic: A Biography of the Song That Marches On, which was a finalist for the Gilder Lehrman Lincoln Prize; coauthor of Looking Back at 50 Years of US Philanthropy; and author of The History of the Giving While Living Ethic. Soskis has taught at the George Washington University and the University of California, Washington Center. He received his doctoral degree in American history from Columbia University.

Beth Tyson is the Senior Vice President of Campaign Services and Member Relations at EarthShare, a national philanthropy organization that addresses environmental issues by connecting people, resources, and America’s most respected conservation nonprofits. Beth has been involved in the workplace giving industry for more than 15 years, including with America’s original workplace giving organization, United Way Worldwide. She joined EarthShare in January 2018 to make a positive impact in the world of environmental protection by engaging workplaces and people as active participants in that mission. With the power of a 600-member strong network of environmental and conservation organizations, EarthShare provides impact and engagement opportunities that forge strong community connections, improve our environment, and ensure a sustainable future for all. At EarthShare Beth oversees workplace giving campaign relationships, strategy, and execution while providing support to EarthShare’s nonprofit members. Over the course of its 30 year history, EarthShare has delivered more than $300 million to fuel the mission and program work of nonprofits that protect our air, land, water, wildlife, and health. Before joining EarthShare, Beth served as both Manager and Director of Corporate Relations at United Way Worldwide with responsibility for overall execution of global relationship management, strategic engagement, and revenue generation from Fortune 500 companies within the United Way Global Corporate Leadership program.
Jennifer Zisser is an experienced leader in the fields of philanthropy, innovation, and employee benefits. She is director of The Greater Give, a nonprofit organization founded to compel more giving by cultivating a movement of shared responsibility in the workplace. She is an innovation leader at Total Administrative Services Corporation, the nation’s largest privately held third-party administrator of employee benefits. Zisser also serves as executive director of the Dan & Patti Rashke Family Foundation, a private foundation that strives to be a catalyst for community growth, and as board chair for The River Food Pantry, Dane County, Wisconsin’s busiest food pantry, serving over 1,000 households every week. Jennifer has a bachelor’s degree in business administration from Lakeland College and a master’s degree from the University of Wisconsin–Whitewater.