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Privacy vs. Transparency

There are important questions to consider in the tension between when transparency should be the abiding principle and when privacy ought to be protected. I guess one might as well ask: in this age, is anything ever private anymore? And does it matter?

[Read Diana's blog](#)

April 2015

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No matter where you live or the language you speak, The Coca-Cola Company brand rings a bell. With the strategic priorities of “Water, Women, and Well-Being,” the foundation is

THREADS ARE CROSSING AMERICA!

Community Conversations Centered on the Trends Shaping Our Sector



Last month, we held our first Threads event at the Ford Foundation in New York. It was exactly what we had hoped for: an incredibly dynamic conversation, with leaders from organizations of every size discussing what it will take to build a stronger future for our communities and sector.

In early May, Threads head west to Detroit, Chicago, and Los Angeles. Then the conversation moves around the country to Minnesota, Miami, Boston, Silicon Valley, Oakland, Spokane, Seattle, D.C., and Phoenix.

Registration is currently open for all Threads, though space is limited and offered on a first-come, first-served basis. We hope you'll bring your ideas and voice to one of these important community conversations.

[Register now for the Threads event nearest you!](#)

IS NEWS

Join Us for a Facilitated Discussion About Financial Security for Your Organization and Your Employees

tackling three critical issues in 200 plus nations worldwide.

Lisa M. Borders, chair of IS member, Coca-Cola Foundation says The company's philanthropic commitment has practical roots. "Our company can only be as strong and sustainable as the communities we serve," says Lisa, while stressing that the company and foundation walk on parallel tracks so as not to mix the commercial with the charitable.

Lisa says she is honored to lead Coca-Cola's philanthropic efforts and pleased to be a part of the Foundation's long history with Independent Sector. "There is strength in numbers. We benefit so much from your critical thinking, your ability to represent, your conferences, and your trainings, your policy insights and work on impact. It is a privilege to support IS."

[Read More.](#)



The IS Affinity Program is a curated collection of offers delivered by partners committed to helping charitable organizations carry out their critical missions. [\[More offers.\]](#)



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Special Rates on Registration and Compliance Services

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We're Hiring!

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Independent Sector has partnered with TIAA-CREF Institute and the United Nations Foundation to host an interactive, facilitated discussion about financial security. On April 29, 2015 we are inviting senior executives from across the charitable sector to join us at the United Nations Foundation to share best practices and discuss actionable strategies related to financial security for both your organization and your staff. Don't miss this chance to gain insight on what is one of the most important issues for organizations in the charitable sector. [Click Here for Registration and Details!](#)

NOTE: If you won't be able to participate in this discussion, hopefully you will join us for C-Suite Sessions New York on June 12, 2015, where we will discuss how cultural competency and the impact of the intergenerational dynamic can affect staff recruitment and retention within charitable organizations.

Independent Sector's 2015 American Express NGen Fellows Program

Independent Sector's NGen: Moving Nonprofit Leaders from Next to Now program is looking for a new crop of applicants for its 2015 Fellows cohort.

[Apply today](#) and take the next step in leading the sector of the future as a 2015 American Express NGen Fellow. You'll join a cohort of exceptional peers from across the charitable sector to learn the practice of adaptive leadership and participate in Independent Sector's work by collaborating with an IS member organization to solve a unique leadership challenge.

Do you know any dynamic leaders under 40 who can benefit from this great professional development opportunity? Tell them to [apply by May 1st!](#)

Coming to EMBARK This Year? Early-Bird Rates Won't Last Long!



We hope you are as excited about this year's national conference as we are! There are some incredible speakers and sessions lined up and best of all, your ticket to the nonprofit sector's biggest networking event is available for a fraction of the cost with our early-bird rates. Purchase your tickets by May 15 and [save as much as \\$1050 of your registration!](#)

Conference Exhibitors: Join Us in Miami for the opportunity to target the organizations that match your interests; market to your leads before, during, and after the conference; present a product demonstration in the Innovations Pavilion; gain maximum exposure to over 1,000 leaders representing over 600 organizations in the nonprofit and philanthropic sector. See [full details](#) and [exhibit packages](#) (see left side tab) for more information on this exciting opportunity. [Register now](#) to guarantee your participation in this premiere event.

Become a Conference Partner: Each year, Independent Sector partners with umbrella organizations to provide special conference registration discounts for their network members. Get involved with the IS Partner Program and be a part of this year's largest gathering of leaders from foundations, nonprofits, and corporate giving programs. Contact [Liz Culkin](#) for details – and extend special conference rates to your network. **There is no cost to join our Partner Program** – only benefits for your network!

[Find out more about this year's conference.](#)

below.

[Chief Development Officer](#), Resource Development

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[Manager, Financial Reporting and Analysis](#), Operations

[Assistant, Programs and Operations](#), Operations

Visit Independent Sector Online



Connect With Fellow Independent Sector Members and Build a Stronger Peer Network



The C-Suite and NGen Online Communities on LinkedIn provide a space to network, engage in peer support and problem solving, and exchange ideas about sector trends and best practices online. The NGen Online Community provides a forum for leaders under age 40 to share professional and leadership development resources and showcase their own best practices for social change, while the C-Suite Online Community provides a peer support network for seconds-in-command who are advancing the missions of their organizations while also managing the day-to-day operations or programs of the organization.

[Click here](#) to join the **C-Suite Online Community**

[Click here](#) to join the **NGen Online Community**

ISSUES IN NONPROFIT GOVERNANCE

Discussing Executive Compensation in the Nonprofit Sector with Georgetown CLE (April 22, 2015)

Get ready to connect with nonprofit practitioners, industry experts, government officials, accountants, and leaders in the nonprofit community. This program, co-sponsored by Independent Sector, features leading compensation consultants and lawyers. Join us for an information-packed conference that will expand your knowledge of executive compensation and will give you practical takeaways that you can immediately implement in your organization. It's a great chance to reconnect with colleagues and meet some new ones too! Extended networking sessions along with quality educational panels make this one of the best nonprofit conferences you will attend all year! We hope to see you April 22nd, 2015 at the Ritz-Carlton Tysons Corner in McLean, VA

As Independent Sector members, you enjoy a special discount on registration which gives **\$175 off the full price** of the conference!

[Register and Learn More About the Conference!](#)

POLICY NEWS

IS Members Meet With Senate on Tax Reform Priorities



Advocates from IS member organizations joined our policy team last month for a series of meetings with Senate Finance Committee members, sharing with lawmakers the sector’s priorities regarding [comprehensive tax reform](#). Also shared was a [joint letter](#) urging the Senate to take immediate action on the House-passed [America Gives More Act](#). The Committee recently launched a bipartisan working group process to craft policy recommendations related to broad areas of the tax code, which includes review of charitable contributions made by individuals and businesses and the operation of exempt organizations. Independent Sector will submit official comments to the appropriate groups by the April 15 deadline, and we invite IS members to [send us your input](#).

Lawmakers Approve FY 2016 Budget Resolutions

Last month, the House and Senate approved separate budget resolutions for the upcoming fiscal year that adhere to the \$523 billion and \$493 billion [statutory caps](#) on defense and non-defense spending, respectively. Despite speculation about its possible inclusion, language was omitted that would have paved the way for passing [tax reform](#) legislation with just 51 votes in the Senate, rather than the 60-vote threshold generally required to advance legislation in the upper chamber.

IRS Plans Second Draft of Political Activity Rules to Cover All Exempt Groups

IRS officials revealed last month that a forthcoming revised rule to govern the political activity of 501(c)(4) social welfare organizations may be expanded to regulate such activity for all tax-exempt organizations. The agency planned to release this second draft in the first quarter of 2015, after its [initial proposal](#) in November 2013 drew significant public criticism. Among the more than 160,000 public comments the IRS received on the rule were [those](#) from Independent Sector and our partners, expressing deep concern about its implications for nonpartisan voter engagement activities and other flaws. Meanwhile, the tax agency recently formalized a [streamlined approval process](#) that allows 501(c)(4) applicants to receive faster IRS review in exchange for certifying that their past, current, and future political activities do not exceed 40 percent of total hours and expenses each year.

House Bills Advance to Repeal Estate Tax, Change IRS tax-Exempt Processes

The House Ways and Means Committee continued its active agenda this year under the new leadership of Chairman Paul Ryan (R-WI), by voting along party lines to repeal the [estate tax](#). The Committee also approved seven [separate bills related](#) to IRS administration and operations, including those to require 501(c)(4)s to register with the IRS upon formation, waive gift tax laws for these and other tax-exempt groups, and provide for the termination of IRS employees who take certain official actions for political purposes. The House is expected to hold floor votes on these bills upon returning from a two-week recess the week of April 13.

Join the Strategy Call on Key Charitable Giving Legislation

Join IS and sector leaders tomorrow, **Wednesday, April 8 at 3:00 p.m. ET**, for an interactive strategy call on how you can help build support in the Senate for taking immediate action on the America Gives More Act. This House-passed legislation will improve our collective ability to serve families and individuals in communities across the country.

Interested in joining the call? [Email us](#) and share with your networks!

MEMBERSHIP NEWS

New Member Announcements

The members of Independent Sector are nonprofits, foundations, and corporations with giving programs

that share our values and that recognize our sector is stronger and more effective when we work together. We welcome these groups, both new and returning, to our ever-expanding and increasingly diverse membership.

- [Association on American Indian Affairs](#), Rockville, MD
- [Communities Foundation of Texas](#), Dallas, TX
- [Dance/USA](#), Washington, DC
- [Foundation Relations at Indiana University Foundation](#), Indianapolis, IN
- [The Salvation Army Alaska Division](#), Anchorage, AK

[Read more about our new members.](#)

Skid Row Housing Trust’s Newest Site Provides Innovative Supportive Housing with a Unique Architectural Design

[Skid Row Housing Trust](#) celebrated the grand opening of Star Apartments this past fall, a new site providing innovative supportive housing to 100 individuals with a history of homelessness. The Star, which first opened to residents in 2013, represents a new public/private partnership between the Skid Row Housing Trust and the Los Angeles County Department of Health Services (DHS), with DHS referring homeless individuals who have frequently used emergency health care services to be housed at the Star and providing funding for on-site case management services.

“Moving individuals out of costly emergency room visits and hospital beds and into apartments with services that are tailored to their needs will save the tax-payer millions of dollars annually,” said Skid Row Housing Trust Executive Director Mike Alvidrez.

The location implements innovative architectural design by Los Angeles-based architect Michael Maltzan, and incorporates LEED certified construction. Natural air and light encourage a feeling of community in communal spaces and in the modern facilities such as a library and exercise rooms.

The unique building and the partnership it represents are a continuation of the Skid Row Housing Trust’s ongoing efforts to support permanent supportive housing solutions that lower costs for tax-payers and address effective solutions to homelessness.

The new building was recently featured in [Fast Company magazine’s March 2015 issue](#) and by [California’s KCET](#).

Atlas Corps Joins White House Initiative

[Atlas Corps](#), in collaboration with the U.S. Department of State, officially launched “Emerging Global Leaders Initiative (EGLI)-Atlas Corps Fellowship” on January 22. This exciting event celebrated a new and innovative partnership between the U.S. Department of State and Atlas Corps.

The EGLI-Atlas Corps Fellowship advances President Obama’s ground-breaking Stand with Civil Society Agenda, launched in September 2013, to support, defend, and sustain civil society. Over the next two years, some 100 individuals will take part in the fellowship, and spend six to 18 months focusing on leadership development, social justice, access, diversity and many other topics through intense on-the-job training and development experiences.

To date, Atlas Corps has engaged more than 300 Fellows from 70 countries who have served 6 to 18 months at organizations in the United States, including American Express, American Red Cross, InterAction, and Points of Light, amongst many others.

If you are interested in learning more about hosting one of these talented global leaders at your organization, please email partners@atlascorps.org.

Lawyers’ Committee for Civil Rights Under Law Welcomes Asian Americans Advancing Justice as a New Partner for the First Generation Civil Rights Fellowship

The [Lawyers’ Committee for Civil Rights Under Law](#) joined with their two other partners to welcome [Asian Americans Advancing Justice | AAJC](#) (Advancing Justice | AAJC) as a new partner in the First Generation Civil Rights Fellowship (FirstGEN) program. The 10 week summer program for undergraduates is for students who are the first in their families to attend a higher education institution to support them in the pursuit of their passion for careers in social justice and civil rights. The fellows experience direct work on civil rights issues as interns in public policy and advocacy and receive additional training including sessions led by social justice leaders.

“By working together we are able to create new opportunities for aspiring social justice advocates. We have worked with Advancing Justice (AAJC) on many issues over the years and we look forward to beginning a new chapter, as we team-up on the FirstGEN program.” said Barbara R. Arnwine, IS boardmember and Lawyers’ Committee’s president and executive director.

Mee Moua, President and Executive Director of Advancing Justice said, “Advancing Justice (AAJC) has benefited from the skills, talents, energy, and enthusiasm of students, and we are proud to engage them in our policy advocacy. We are very excited about partnering with the Lawyers’ Committee and other civil

rights organizations to bring first generation college students into our work and support them at the start of their careers in social justice.”

[Read more about the program here.](#)

Thank You to Our Member Plus Contributors

IS gratefully acknowledges members who have supported our shared goals with additional contributions through the Member Plus program this year. These additional contributions enable Independent Sector to devote even more resources to programs that support the nonprofit and philanthropic community.

- [Allegany Franciscan Ministries, Inc.](#)
- [BBB Wise Giving Alliance](#)
- [Carnegie Corporation of New York](#)
- [Church Communities Foundation, Inc.](#)
- [The Coca-Cola Company](#)
- [DuPont](#)
- [Empire Health Foundation](#)
- [Flourish Talent Management Solutions, LLC](#)
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- [Incourage Community Foundation](#)
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- [McGregor Fund](#)
- [Gordon and Betty Moore Foundation](#)
- [Charles Stewart Mott Foundation](#)
- [Open Society Foundations](#)
- [National Child Labor Committee](#)
- [The New York Community Trust](#)
- [Points of Light](#)
- [Quantum Foundation](#)
- [The Rockefeller Foundation](#)
- [United Way of the Bay Area](#)

To find out how your organization can support Independent Sector through Member Plus, please contact [Troy Adkins](#).

NEWS FROM THE FIELD

From the Gates Foundation, Direct Investment, Not Just Grants

Quotes Dr. Susan Desmond-Hellmann, chief executive officer of IS member, Bill & Melinda Gates Foundation

The New York Times

The Bill & Melinda Gates Foundation, which has distributed billions of dollars in grants to improve health and living conditions in developing countries, is increasingly expanding its tool kit, using some of its capital to invest directly in companies that could help advance its goals.

[Read More.](#)

The Soros Principle: A Billionaire's Plan to Change the World

Mentions George Soros, founder and chairman of IS member, Open Society Foundations

The Ottawa Citizen

At 84, George Soros, the Hungarian-born billionaire, has certainly made his mark on the business world. But he is more than his investment funds. Soros is also a philanthropist with a huge agenda.

[Read More.](#)

New LIVESTRONG CEO: It’s About the Mission

Quotes Chandini Portteus, incoming president and CEO of IS member, LIVESTRONG

NBC News Austin (KXAN)

The LIVESTRONG Foundation has a new president and chief executive officer. Chandini Portteus, 36,

comes to the Austin cancer charity after nearly 10 years with Susan G. Komen, most recently serving as their chief mission officer.

[Read More.](#)

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