MISSION: IMPACT

5 THINGS YOU SHOULD KNOW

NCF is committing to 100 percent mission-aligned investing.

MARCH 2018
WHO IS NCF?

Rooted in the Jewish tradition of social justice, the Nathan Cummings Foundation is committed to creating a more just, vibrant, sustainable and democratic society.

We are focused on finding solutions to the two most challenging problems of our time – the climate crisis and growing inequality. We’ve provided nearly $500 million in grants over the last 27 years to support social movements, organizations and individuals pursuing justice for people and the planet.

WHAT ARE WE ANNOUNCING TODAY?

Today we are announcing that, after a thoughtful process with our Board, staff and advisors, we will align 100 percent of our nearly half-billion dollar endowment with our mission.

We think times like these require visionary thinking and bold action and we are committed to using all of our resources – our investments, our grants and our voice – to make a difference in the world. Joining a growing movement of philanthropic leadership, we are one of the largest foundations to commit 100 percent.

WHY ARE WE DOING THIS?

We believe this is the future of philanthropy – we have a responsibility to use all of the resources in the public trust to create the change we want to see in the world.

Our decision to go all-in on mission-related investing is aligned with our belief that strong performing companies deliver environmental and social returns along with financial profits. We believe that harnessing the full potential of our assets will work alongside our grantmaking to remove barriers in the market, further our mission and accelerate the work of our partners.
HOW WILL WE DO THIS?

Our target is 100 percent and we will reach it over time. As we move to full alignment, we will use the broadest definition of our mission to open up the widest opportunity set in the marketplace, using all the tools available to achieve market-rate returns.

We have a long history of pushing companies to effectively manage the risks and opportunities associated with environmental and social issues through active ownership. This work will continue as our strategy evolves.

WHAT’S AHEAD?

We have been inspired by the philanthropic leaders and networks who helped us come to this decision, and we want to similarly encourage others and advance the broader marketplace for impact investing by sharing what we are learning along the way.

Our investment team has already started the process of looking at all of our investments to determine alignment and developing a pipeline of aligned investment strategies across all asset classes. Impact reporting will be an integral part of our strategy. We will provide an update on our progress at the end of 2018.