

Anti-Hate Policy (Policy)

Napa Valley Community Foundation (NVCF) will not process grants to organizations that NVCF knows or has reason to believe support or engage in hateful activities. NVCF will implement this policy through due diligence to ensure that hateful activities are identified and steps are taken to avoid any NVCF support for them.

Hateful activities is defined to mean activities that incite or engage in violence, intimidation, harassment, threats or defamation targeting an individual or group based on their actual or perceived race, color, religion, national origin, ethnicity, immigration status, gender, gender identity, sexual orientation or disability. These activities are contrary to NVCF's mission and its charitable purpose.

NVCF relies on the Southern Poverty Law Center's (SPLC) Hate Group database to determine if a nonprofit falls into one of these categories, which is managed by SPLC, frequently updated and widely used by organizations such as ours.

NVCF believes that philanthropy should always be a force for good. Regardless of differing world views, we believe that there is never a place for hate in philanthropic work, and we will not process grants directed to hate groups. Specifically, we will not participate in support of organizations engaged in "hateful activities" that incite, or engage in, violence, intimidation, harassment, threats, or defamation targeting an individual or group based on their actual or perceived race, color, religion, national origin, ethnicity, immigration status, gender, gender identity, sexual orientation, or disability.

Napa Valley Community Foundation supports our Donor Advised Funds (DAFs) in avoiding making grants to organizations considered to be hate groups by referencing the Southern Poverty Law Center's list of hate groups as the first step of our due diligence. If we find that a proposed grant is to an organization designated as a hate group, we will alert the DAF Fundholder and work with them to find a better solution to meet their funding goals.

Decisions regarding grant distributions made from a DAF, and the investment of assets, are made at the sole discretion of NVCF in furtherance of its charitable mission.

This policy is adopted by NVCF's Board of Directors on August 26, 2020 and may be amended over time as additional resources become available.

More information:

I. Process

Fund Development

NVCF will make sure that any new DAFs are in alignment with the NVCF anti-hate policy by:

- Sharing the anti-hate policy in potential DAF meetings as one of the ways we support our clients in our due diligence work;
- Including the anti-hate policy as an attachment to the DAF agreement.

Grantmaking

- Upon receipt of a grant recommendation to a new organization, in addition to IRS due diligence, NVCF staff will review the organization against the SPLC's most current external database to determine if it is a hate group designated by the SPLC.
- If a staff member finds that the Donor Advisor is proposing a grant to an organization designated as a hate group, they will alert the Vice President of Community Impact and President, who will perform further research.
- Once it has been determined that the organization could be reasonably considered a hate group, staff will alert the Donor Advisor.

If a Donor Advisor recommends a grant to an organization determined to qualify as a hate group, we will inform the client in writing that, as part of our due diligence, we found that the organization is considered a hate group (and include detail on why it's considered a hate group), and tell them we have an organizational policy of not supporting hate groups. We will work with them to learn more about their goals for the grant and look for other solutions to meet their goals.

Frequently Asked Questions (FAQs)

Q: But how do we know it's really a hate group?

A: We will review the materials provided on the Southern Poverty Law Center's website, as well as the organization's website or other materials, before alerting the board. If that does not prove sufficient, we will engage in further research, as appropriate.

Q: What if a DAF wants to award a grant to an organization that is not on the SPLC list, but appears to be a hate group?

A: Our policy is to not fund hate groups as defined in our policy. The SPLC is a resource we will use to help identify groups, but if we find through other due diligence that an organization can be reasonably considered to be a hate group we will not process a grant to that organization.