***Innovation +***

CONFIDENTIALITY AND CONFLICT OF INTEREST AGREEMENT

**Confidentiality**

The ***Innovation +*** Investment committee seeks to engage in honest and open dialogue on the pros and cons of each applicant and choose organizations that fit best with ***Innovation +***’s model. We rely on and respect the knowledge and experience that others have in our community to effectively address community and social issues. We want to protect the integrity of our process and show respect for the information we receive from an organization, from experts in the community and from each other. To that end, we require that funding discussions be held in strictest confidence.

**Conflict of Interest**

***Innovation +*** Partners, or a spouse or other immediate family member, are often active in the community and may volunteer, serve on boards or be employed by organizations submitting grant applications. This experience and knowledge may enhance the Investment Committee’s discussions around particular issue areas and organizations. However, ***Innovation +*** needs to maintain an open, competitive process where no one Partner has, or can be perceived as having, undue influence over ***Innovation +***’s funding decisions for an organization where they have a conflict.

In order to maintain the integrity of the process for the organizations being evaluated and to ensure every Investment Committee member feels comfortable sharing their views openly, ***Innovation +*** *requires committee members to announce if they have a relationship with an applicant organization that may constitute a real or perceived conflict of interest*. There is a conflict of interest when a committee member, or spouse and/or immediate family member:

* is a major donor of the application organization (5% or more of the organization’s income);
* currently serves on the Board or any adhoc committees of the applicant organization
* is employed by the applicant organization;
* was/is involved in preparing the application.

Committee members who disclose a conflict of interest will adhere to the following rules during the Investment committee process:

1. Those with conflicts will not review the Letter Of Inquiry of the group they are affiliated with.
2. During the final grant decision meeting, those with conflicts will be excused from the room *only* during discussion of the organization they are affiliated with. (For all meetings up to the finalist stage, those with conflicts are welcomed and encouraged to participate in the discussion regarding their affiliated organization.)
3. Those with conflicts will abstain from voting for the organization they are affiliated with. This will be adjusted for in the final vote tally (i.e., the organization will not be penalized because one or more committee members were not able to vote for them.)

**I agree to honor and abide by the statements of confidentiality and conflict of interest described above.**

\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

Name Signature

Organization(s) in conflict