

Learning journeys

Entering a new cause area is a significant decision. It typically requires engaging with technical experts, fellow philanthropists and foundations, and leading organizations in the field to build sufficient context. Coefficient Giving streamlines this time investment by providing learning journeys to philanthropists looking to better understand and evaluate new cause areas.

For example, in early 2025, a philanthropist reached out to ask about expanding their giving to a new area: global health. The philanthropist shared Coefficient Giving's appreciation for using quantitative frameworks to help guide tough giving decisions. Although they had funded adjacent work, they had never deeply engaged in the global health space and wanted to increase their knowledge base while also learning more about our approach.

After an initial call to better understand the donor's interests and priorities, the Coefficient Giving team created a learning journey syllabus covering core components of the field and our approach to philanthropy. After consulting internal and external global health experts, we consolidated materials to address the following questions:

- What are the most important issues within global health?
- What does the current funding landscape look like, and where are the gaps?
- How do funders in the space evaluate progress?

The learning journey spanned eight sessions — some in person, some virtual — with Coefficient Giving staff and leading external global health experts. Sessions covered overviews of various areas of global health and delved into different theories of change. As we gained a better understanding of the donor's priorities, we tailored subsequent sessions accordingly. The learning journey concluded with a customized giving portfolio recommendation based on their interests, to be managed and executed by our team.

We recommend learning journeys for major philanthropists who want to deeply explore a cause before committing significant funding — either to Coefficient Giving's funds or directly to grantees in the space.