Coming Soon to a Neighborhood Near You: Catalogue for Philanthropy Strengthens Nonprofit Collaboration

WASHINGTON, D.C.—<u>The Catalogue for Philanthropy</u>, which is proud to be *the only local guide to giving in the greater Washington region*, is doubling down on its effort to be a powerful local resource by convening nonprofits in its network for the purposes of collaboration, skill sharing, and community building.

As the Catalogue begins celebrating its 15th year, its "Know Your Neighborhood" series aims to galvanize nonprofit leaders from the nearly 400 vetted organizations that are now part its network. Convening them by zip code, with a neighborhood host organization providing the space, the goal is to create productive dialogues and new opportunities for partnership.

The first convening will occur in D.C.'s Logan Circle/U Street neighborhood on <u>Wednesday, May 31 from 1–3 p.m. at Joy of Motion Dance Center</u>. The Catalogue currently includes <u>30 nonprofits in the 20009 ZIP code</u>.

"While our region faces many challenges – some of them new, and others anticipated – we also know that it has tremendous resources, and nonprofit organizations working on the front lines of change are shining examples of the good work that is being done right here in the national capital region. But good is no longer good enough — we need more collaboration, better partnerships that can leverage the work that is already being done, the ability both to share small things – a skill here, a meeting room there – and also to think big by thinking together to create really dynamic change," says Barbara Harman, president of the Catalogue for Philanthropy. "These trusted, community-based nonprofits are eager to address the complexity and range of challenges facing our communities. This is a way for them to leverage their knowledge."

Organizations in the Catalogue's network include those that work in the environment, arts, education, and human services (homelessness, food insecurity, youth development and job training, among others). The neighborhood-based events will allow nonprofits to get to know those who work near them, share what they consider their greatest assets as well as their areas of need, and identify the best partners for their ongoing work. The pilot group, to be followed by a second pilot group in the Adams Morgan neighborhood, will help design the follow-up phase of the program.

"Nonprofits often get siloed and just focus on what they do best, but this is a great opportunity to connect across fields and disciplines," says Steve Barberio, executive director, Joy of Motion Dance Center. "We are grateful to the Catalogue for making it happen...it's really the connector among all of us in this area."

The Catalogue for Philanthropy, which focuses on nonprofits with budgets below \$3 million, provides its services entirely for free. It charges no fees for nonprofits to apply or be featured, no fees for its print Catalogue (mailed to 30,000 households and available upon request), and no fees for its training and collaboration programming. It also charges

no administrative or handling fees for distributing donations. A public charity, it raises funds separately to support its work. The Catalogue has raised since its inception in 2003 over \$38 million for nonprofits that are part of its network.