Claire Knowlton, Director

Claire leads NFF’s work on full cost with nonprofits, funders, and government partners. She also leads several major initiatives, including NFF’s work to improve the flow of revenue and capital to organizations combating the homelessness crisis in Los Angeles County, and a six-year effort that combines anti-racism, capacity building, and funding to develop new nonprofit arts models. Prior to joining NFF in 2014, Claire led a community-based art center in Los Angeles from financial distress to a model of excellence in programming and organizational management. She worked as an auditor and tax-preparer for nonprofits, which included performing federal single audits for multi-site human services organizations and federally qualified health centers. She also co-founded and served five years as board chair for a nonprofit working to end extreme global poverty by directing resources from wealthy individuals to highly effective interventions overseas. Claire holds a Bachelor of Arts from University of the Pacific with a double major in economics and religious studies.

Her relevant publications include:

- [Why Funding Overhead is Not the Real Issue: The Case to Cover Full Costs](#)
- [The Smartest Way to Promote Diversity: Pay for Overhead at Charities Led by People of Color](#)
- [Why Grantmakers Need to Break Their Restriction Habit—Permanently](#)