

UPSTATE NEW YORK DELEGATION TALKING POINTS
FOUNDATIONS ON THE HILL
MARCH 5, 2008

1. Foundations - Part of the Fabric of our Upstate New York Communities

- We work closely with nonprofits, business and government to help those in need and build social capital.
- We act as responsible stewards of monies in public trust and strategically invest them in our communities.
- We believe that the field of philanthropy provides a strategic and long-range approach to solving problems.

2. National Movement for Responsible Nonprofit Management and Governance

- The Panel on the Nonprofit Sector has provided a road map to help the nonprofit sector meet the highest ethical standards through a carefully integrated set of actions by the sector, Congress and the IRS.
- We encourage you to review *Principles for Good Governance and Ethical Practice* to assess potential legislation (www.nonprofitpanel.org).

3. Public Good IRA Rollover Act of 2007

- Although this legislation expired at the end of 2007, the President's fiscal year 2009 budget includes the IRA charitable rollover at a cost of \$3.32 billion. We urge you to support this legislation, including a provision to allow distributions to donor advised funds to qualify for the incentive.
- IRA charitable rollovers in 2007 provided Upstate New York community foundations with over \$500,000 of new capital to benefit their communities.
- The 21 community foundations of Upstate New York (1% of the total foundations) distributed 10% of foundation charitable giving in 2006. Thousands of donors give to their communities each year through our community foundations. We encourage support of measures to increase their ability to attract gifts and endow our communities.

4. Join the Congressional Philanthropy Caucus

- Belonging to the Congressional Philanthropy Caucus will keep you and your staff informed about foundations and the roles that they play in their communities and around the globe.
- Caucus members will discover the common interests they have with foundations and learn how legislation affects the charitable sector.
- We encourage you to join Rep. Louise Slaughter and support philanthropy by becoming a member of the caucus.

5. Positive Legislation

- The extension of the IRA charitable rollover and the flat 1% excise tax on private foundations are examples of legislation which benefits the taxpayers and the nonprofit sector, but costs the government relatively little to sponsor. We encourage your support of these measures.