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Generosity Commission Welcomes Blackbaud President and CEO Mike Gianoni as Co-Chair

Gianoni joins forces with Aspen Institute Vice President Jane Wales to lead the effort, which is focused on reimagining generosity and how it supports a thriving democracy

McLEAN, Vir. (August 9, 2022) —The Generosity Commission, an independent project of the Giving USA Foundation™, announced today that Mike Gianoni, president and CEO of [Blackbaud](#), the world’s leading cloud software company powering social good, will be taking on the role of co-chair.

Gianoni joins Jane Wales in leading the Generosity Commission’s work, which includes conducting fresh research on current trends in giving, volunteering, and other forms of civic engagement; and hosting public conversations to gather insights from everyday givers and volunteers about how they are reimagining giving, volunteering, and community, what inspires them to act, and what gets in their way.

The Generosity Commission will develop recommendations for government policy, business practice, and organized philanthropy by its conclusion in 2023 to help make giving and volunteering easier and more accessible for all.

A first-generation American, Gianoni brings almost 30 years of corporate experience to the role. For nearly a decade, he has led Blackbaud in supporting the global social good community with cutting-edge technology serving nonprofits, higher education institutions, K-12 schools, healthcare organizations, faith communities, arts and cultural organizations, foundations, companies, and individual change agents. Gianoni’s background in business and technology adds to the deep expertise of the Generosity Commission and its task forces, which bring together over 60 individuals with backgrounds across sectors.

“Mike shares our conviction that everyday givers and volunteers are a powerful collective force for good and an outsized contributor to a resilient society,” said Jane Wales, co-chair of the



Generosity Commission and Vice President of the Aspen Institute, who extended the invitation to Gianoni. “His leadership at Blackbaud has expanded our understanding of generosity’s many forms and has streamlined people’s ability to give their time and resources in ways that align with their values. His deep knowledge of how and why people give and volunteer—and what would ease the process—will be of enormous value to our work.”

Gianoni added, “The Generosity Commission’s mission to listen to and support everyday givers aligns directly with my personal passion for philanthropy, as well as Blackbaud’s vision to power an Ecosystem of Good® that builds a better world. I am honored to accept this invitation and look forward to working with Jane and the Generosity Commission members to listen, learn, and enable action to better support generosity in America.”

Upcoming research supported by the Generosity Commission includes:

- A project led by the University of Pennsylvania’s School of Social Policy and Practice on current trends in volunteering and giving.
- A study by The Do Good Institute at the University of Maryland’s School of Public Policy that will explore the correlation between giving, volunteering, and the social connectedness needed for a resilient society.

Completed commissioned research includes:

- [“Nonprofit Trends and Impacts”](#): a study by the Urban Institute, American University, George Mason University, and Independent Sector on the impact of current giving trends on community-based and social service organizations across the U.S.
- [“How We Give Now: Conversations Across the United States”](#): a study led by the Stanford Digital Civil Society Lab and the Stanford Center on Philanthropy and Civil Society that assesses the breadth and scope of generosity in America and how people express their generosity. The study resulted in the book “How We Give Now: A Philanthropic Guide for the Rest of Us.”

About the Generosity Commission

The Generosity Commission is a nonpartisan group of leaders from across the charitable sector committed to celebrating and supporting Americans’ spirit of generosity as expressed through everyday giving, volunteering, and other forms of civic engagement. Launched in October 2021,



it is an independent project of Giving USA Foundation™, whose mission is to advance research, education, and public understanding of philanthropy.

Through research and conversations online and in person, the Generosity Commission will contribute to national understanding about how individual givers and volunteers are reimagining generosity in powerful and positive ways, strengthening our society and democracy in the process.

The Generosity Commission will conclude its work in Fall 2023 with recommendations based on its findings. These recommendations will focus on ways that the business, nonprofit, and policy sectors can support and enable everyday giving and volunteering. Ultimately, the Generosity Commission seeks to foster a culture of individual and collective generosity in the face of the social and economic challenges our society faces today.

For more information, visit www.thegenerositycommission.org.

Michael Gianoni's Biography

As President and CEO of Blackbaud, a Fortune Change the World company and repeat Forbes Most Innovative Growth Company, Mike Gianoni focuses on delivering unmatched value and cloud innovation to organizations that make the world a better place. Under his leadership as a top 50 SaaS CEO, Blackbaud is building a new legacy that reaches far beyond its position as the leading cloud software company powering social good—a legacy that puts customers first every time, connects them in unique ways, and puts information and innovation in their hands at a level of quality and speed that no other vendor can provide.

A first-generation American with a passion for veterans' initiatives, animal welfare (especially dogs), and exploring the U.S. coastline either by sailboat or motorcycle, Mike currently serves as chairman of the board of directors for Teradata and serves on the board of directors for the International African American Museum. Mike is a former member of the board of directors for LibertyHealth System (New Jersey), the American Red Cross Southeast County (Massachusetts) and the University of New Haven.



Jane Wales's Biography

Jane Wales is Vice President of the Aspen Institute. She formerly served in government as Senior Director of the National Security Council and Associate Director of the Office of Science and Technology Policy. Prior to her government service, she was Chair of the Program on International Security at the Carnegie Corporation of New York, and Directed the Project on World Security at the Rockefeller Brothers Fund. She is the founder of the Global Philanthropy Forum and former host of the weekly radio show WorldAffairs, produced by KQED-FM and distributed over the NPR network. She serves on the boards of OpenCorporates, Idinsight, the Center for a New American Security, and chairs the board of FSG, a nonprofit management consulting firm.