



Knowledge Designs Certificate Series™ **for Philanthropy Professionals**

Today's philanthropy practitioners are increasingly adopting an engaged approach to knowledge work -- one that centers "shared meaning making" as the heart of knowledge strategy. The *Knowledge Designs Certificate Series™* is more than a skill-building exercise. It is about connecting knowledge practice directly to organizational success and to philanthropic missions that seek to contribute to positive social change. The series is designed from within the sector -- by a knowledge professional, with input from knowledge professionals, specifically for knowledge professionals!

For more information, contact: angela@kd2change.com
To book a discovery call: <https://calendly.com/akf-kd2change/30min>

Frequently Asked Questions

What is the certificate series about?

Knowledge work is both an expanding function and an emerging field within philanthropy. Across many titles, knowledge approaches are sometimes grounded in social research, sometimes in learning and evaluation, sometimes in information management and technology, sometimes in innovation and exploration, and sometimes in organizational development or archival purposes.

Whether you are new to knowledge work or looking to reflect and refresh your approach, the *Knowledge Designs Certificate Series™* will support you in expanding, deepening, and strengthening your knowledge strategy and practice in ways that directly align with philanthropic missions and are integrated with intentions of equitable change.

The *Knowledge Designs Certificate Series™* is intended to address some of the critiques of existing knowledge, data, and evaluation trainings that come from outside philanthropy. The series has been informed by, and created for, knowledge professionals in the sector.

Why is the series relevant right now?

Formalized philanthropy has never been more important to our communities, civil society, and even democracy. Professionals who recognize the essential role of philanthropy in social change are often overwhelmed, disappointed, or even frustrated with traditional forms of data activities, impact assessment, and evaluation. Standard approaches usually don't align with mission intentions and often bog down valuable organizational resources that could otherwise be directed toward innovation and change. The *Knowledge Designs Certificate Series™* involves adopting a purposeful approach to knowledge practice that directly contributes to philanthropic missions.

How is the series sequenced?

The *Knowledge Designs Certificate Series™* offers a self-paced curriculum with an action orientation. Each course builds on the last -- from understanding the context of knowledge work within the sector, to incorporating foundational concepts, to utilizing practice-based activities, and to advancing promising knowledge practice as both an organizational function and emerging field.

The courses encourage participants to:

- Embody foundational concepts
- Explore opportunities for shared meaning
- Embrace the power of decisions in knowledge process
- Engage with lived experience in and through analysis
- Activate knowledge practice across the sector

Each course includes online instruction, workbook activities, and review questionnaires. The successful completion of questionnaires is required to attain each stage of certification – KD (Foundations), KD2 (Practicum), KD3 (Field Building).

What about the cost and pacing?

The certificate series is priced to be affordable to philanthropy professionals through personal or organizational professional development funds. Each online course is \$450.00 and can be completed in a self-paced format. Participants must complete the initial course before moving on to the practicum courses, and complete at least one practicum course before moving to the field-building capstone. It is recommended that participants proceed through each course at a pace of approximately one module per month. This should allow for engaging with the content and beginning application in real time.

The certificate sequence can also be utilized as a framework for an organizational development process. In these cases, the pacing may be extended. To make it feasible for foundations of all staff sizes to build and implement an effective knowledge strategy, additional supports -- such as coaching, facilitation, or analysis can be obtained, on a contract basis, from Knowledge Designs to Change LLC.

What if...?

○ ***I need to demonstrate organizational benefit to access professional development funds.***

The *Knowledge Designs Certificate Series™* has been created to be immediately relevant to organizational practice and grantmaking. The framing, sequence, and activities were developed with urgency and integration in mind.

○ ***I prefer to learn together with co-workers or colleagues.***

The *Knowledge Designs Certificate Series™* can be pursued individually or as an organizational group or extended cohort. Reach out for more information about a staff team or colleague cohort process for building knowledge capacity.

○ ***I want to use the course to conduct a real-time knowledge project but need additional support.***

As a knowledge strategy partner, Knowledge Designs to Change works with organizations, collaboratives and networks who require planning, co-facilitation, or analysis support to advance their knowledge strategy. These services are offered on a contract basis and can be connected to the online instructional framework. Please reach out for more information.

What happens once I complete the certificate series?

Now is the time to create a knowledge practice that addresses our current times. Through the *Knowledge Designs Certificate Series™*, you will become part of a community of philanthropy professionals who embrace knowledge work as shared meaning making and adopt knowledge strategy as essential to sector success for a more equitable society.