

Hive Chicago FAQs

- *What is happening? What's the headline?*
 - In 2018, stewardship of the Hive Chicago Learning Network (the Hive Network) will transition from Mozilla to a new local non-profit dedicated to connected learning and digital equity in learning. The Hive Network will still be the Hive Network, a network member-driven program of the Chicago Learning Exchange (CLX).
- *Is there a chance that Chicago will also need to close in the future?*
 - Through CLX, the Hive Chicago has a strong future with funding into 2019. We are committed to continued fundraising to sustain the work we do in support of Chicago youth, educators, and organizations for years to come.
- *What's happening to your current staff?*
 - Although the core work of the Hive Network will remain unchanged, there will be changes in staffing of the Network. Both Brenda and Kenyatta have chosen not to pursue full-time roles with Hive in the new year. We are all indebted to them both and we will have an opportunity to celebrate them and their many contributions at the November 2017 Meetup and the Dec. 12 Happy Hour.
- *Will there be a Hive Chicago Buzz 2018?*
 - Yes, that is our plan. The event will be postponed from its originally scheduled date in March 2018 while we hire a full-time Hive Network Manager who will lead the planning of that event.

Questions about the Hive RFP

- *What's happening to the Hive Fund (<https://hivechicago.org/about/fund/>)?*
 - The Hive Chicago Fund for Connected Learning (the Hive Fund) at The Chicago Community Trust (CCT) has been an essential partner to the Hive Network. To date, the Hive Fund supported grantmaking and LRNG:CHI. The grantmaking has included the semi-annual Hive RFP and other connected learning projects and research. That grantmaking will continue, including the Hive RFP, but the name "Hive Fund" may not. This grantmaking will be one area of the new parent organization, the Chicago Learning Exchange (CLX).
- *What is the future for Hive RFP and the process for applying for and receiving grants?*
 - In the short-term and for the first round of the 2018 Hive RFP, the Hive Fund will remain at CCT. We expect to transfer grantmaking from CCT to CLX. We will keep the community updated regarding the timeline and changes in process.

- *Will projects be considered “Hive-funded” or “funded by CLX”?*
 - The Hive RFP will continue as one of the grantmaking initiatives of the Chicago Learning Exchange. Officially, CLX will become the funder, but the term “Hive funded” can still refer to grants given through the Hive RFP.
- *What’s happening to my work? For example, will portfolio pages and the website go down? Should I save my information?*
 - We remain committed to supporting your work. The Hive Chicago website (hivechicago.org) will continue to serve as a platform for member work. We also plan to maintain shared Google Drive folders. In the future, we are also exploring how to best transfer the Hive Network website, so that the brand identity is cohesive under our new parent organization, CLX.
- *Will there be a smaller pool of funding in RFP 2018 Round 2 and beyond?*
 - Grantmaking will remain an important part of CLX’s work. We are actively fundraising to ensure that the size of the grant pool (currently \$300,000 for 2018 for 2018 Round 2) will be sustained or even grow over time. Please keep an eye out for new special opportunities as well.
- *What is happening to the Hive’s Portfolio Strategist position? Who will provide ‘neutral’ consultations? What will happen to the current ‘separation of church and state’ when it comes to the Network and the Fund?*
 - Under Mozilla stewardship, the Hive Network maintained a Community Manager and Portfolio Strategist and the Hive Fund had a Program Officer. In the new organization those positions have been merged into a Program Officer and Network Manager. The Program Officer will provide consultations to Hive members on their RFP ideas, if desired. With your future input in the direction of the Hive, CLX staff, both the PO and Network Manager, would like to explore how to best serve Hive’s needs regarding impartial feedback on proposal ideation.

Questions about new organization

- *What is this new organization?*
 - The Chicago Learning Exchange (CLX) is being formed to ensure and increase the sustainability and impact of the work of the Hive Network and the Hive Fund. Its mission is to inspire and support innovation that equips digital-age learners and leaders to close Chicago’s opportunity gap.
- *What will change?*
 - The current stewards of the Hive Network (Mozilla) and the home for Hive Fund programs (CCT) will change. The new organizational home will be CLX. The

essential work of the Hive Network and the Hive Fund programs will remain unchanged.

- *Will there now be a stronger push for LRNG work within the Hive Network?*
 - LRNG: CHI is a program of the Hive Fund and will be one of CLX key initiatives, along with grant making and Hive Chicago. Its focus is on pathway development and has primarily been used in the context of workforce development with the One Summer Chicago program. As a partner project of CLX, we want to leverage its resources, as we do with other valuable resources in the Chicago ecosystem, like the Chicago City of Learning's platform for program discovery and mapping. While we encourage and would be happy to make connections to explore these and other tools, Hive Network members will not be forced to use any tool that doesn't make sense for them.
- *Will the mission and goals of the Hive Network change?*
 - The Hive Network's mission and goals will remain member-driven. Currently the mission of the member-driven Hive Network (<https://hivechicago.org/about/goals/>) is distinct from the mission of its new stewarding organization. Since the work of CLX is broader than the Hive Network, the mission is broader but still committed and aligned to directly teen-serving educators and organizations. We will engage members to decide how the mission of the Network should evolve in light of this change in stewardship.
- *What will membership look like under the new org stewardship?*
 - Hive membership will continue. Hive Network members and allies are organizations. That membership is currently maintained through Mozilla and will need to be established with the new organization. Further guidance will be sent to Hive Network organizations about that change.
- *What are the benefits for members that stem from this new stewardship?*
 - The benefits of membership will remain--access to partnerships, skill sharing, leadership development, ongoing peer professional learning, and funding, to name a few (<https://hivechicago.org/gohivechi/membership/>). Being locally run will help increase alignment and impact between the Hive Network and our parent organization.

Mozilla Foundation FAQs

- *What is Mozilla announcing?*
 - The Mozilla Foundation is spinning out or winding down Hive Networks and Clubs initiatives. While Mozilla will remain active in web literacy work through fellowships, research, and curriculum, it will no longer directly run local, on-the-ground programs.
- *Why?*
 - There are two reasons: 1. External funding for these programs is ending, in particular large multi-year grants from MacArthur and NSF, and 2. Mozilla is broadening its focus on Internet health and advocacy, which makes it impossible to sustain direct, on-the-ground web literacy programs, especially without outside funding. Unfortunately, funding changes such as these are not uncommon in the non-profit space.
- *What does this mean about Mozilla's community work?*
 - Building a global and diverse community has always been a part of Mozilla's work. It says so in the Manifesto – and it has been true in practice. Over the last 10 years, the Mozilla Foundation has worked closely with traditional Mozilla volunteer communities and helped build rich new communities that had never connected to Mozilla before--MozFest is a great example of this. We will continue to find concrete ways for people from our MozFest, Hive Networks, Clubs, ReMo, etc. communities to plug into our Internet health work. Same goes for the communities or interest we've built in science, journalism, policy, etc. It also means putting a much stronger focus outside North America.
- *What is happening with Hive Chicago?*
 - Mozilla's stewardship of Hive activities will end by December 31st. Hive Chicago has benefited from a strong long-term partnership with the Hive Chicago Fund for Connected Learning at the Chicago Community Trust. Thanks to that partnership and the ongoing support of core funders, Hive Chicago is able to seize this as a moment to merge efforts for greater sustainability and impact.
 - Mozilla will work with a new emerging organization in Chicago, the Chicago Learning Exchange, which is combining various connected learning initiatives including Hive, grant making and LRNG. We are also exploring how to continue to engage leaders we have cultivated in our work through funding, leadership opportunities and connection to the broader Internet health movement.
- *What is happening with Hive New York?*

- We will end Mozilla's stewardship of Hive Network activities by December 31st and work with partners to carry on aspects of the work in terms of continuing member convenings, connections to the education ecosystem in NYC for digital learning activities and archiving the learning from the Hive Network's efforts over the last 8 years.
- *What is happening with Hive Toronto?*
 - We will wind down Hive Toronto by December 31st and make broader Internet health opportunities like the network site, Mozfest and Fellowships better known to the community.
- *What is happening with the Clubs?*
 - Clubs as a staffed program that funds regional leaders and actively supports trainers will end by December 31st. However, we will continue to encourage and support people working on grassroots web literacy training through MozFest, the network web site and fellowships and awards. We will also actively seek ways to engage the Clubs community and others in our Internet health work through advocacy campaigns and Internet Health Report meetups.
- *How are we engaging the communities we've worked with through these programs?*
 - Mozfest is still the primary way in which we activate and interact with our community and programmatically we will be building out more engagement opportunities associated with the festival. We will continue to build out the Hive Network site to feature community work, highlight engagement opportunities and house curriculum assets created over the years. In addition we are working with long time partners for ways to continue local activities while also looking at how we can start to better support individual leaders.
- *Will there be less emphasis on internet-based projects?*
 - Mozilla's legacy and impact on Hive Chicago has been positive. Its commitment to working open, the importance of web literacy for online participation, and open innovation will remain important values for the Hive Network. While the Hive Network is not focussed directly on the internet health agenda, we intend to continue partnering with Mozilla to ensure that teens and educators have the skills and tools to read, write and participate online.
- *Will there no longer be stipends to travel to Mozfest?*
 - For more than five years, Hive Network members have been attending the annual Mozilla Festival and using it as a place for inspiration and action. We hope that participation will continue. This will depend on available funding.
- *With Hive NYC & Toronto sunseting in 2017 and Gigabit Hives sunseting in 2018, how will I connect with other education orgs in current Hive and Gigabit cities?*
 - One of the strengths of our connection to Mozilla's global Hive network has been our connection to other cities. Although Mozilla will no longer directly run local,

on-the-ground programs, we expect that local communities of organizations will remain. We hope to continue to maintain communications and partnerships with those cities.