

## Meet the Grantmakers in Westchester

*April 16, 2009*

### Profile Form

**ORGANIZATION/FOUNDATION NAME:**

New York State Health Foundation

**PANELIST NAME & TITLE:**

George Suttles  
Program Officer

**ADDRESS:**

1412 Broadway, Suite 2304  
New York, NY, 10018

**INTERESTS:**

**(e.g., Fields of interest, areas funded, types of support or service, geographic region, exclusions, etc.)**

The New York State Health Foundation (NYSHealth) has a broad mission to improve the health of New York State residents. In order to have a tangible impact, most of the Foundation's grantmaking is focused on three priority areas: expanding health insurance coverage, improving the management and prevention of diabetes, and encouraging the integration of substance use and mental health services.

The Foundation also recognizes that it can be an important resource if it is responsive to opportunities that fit our mission, but are outside our three priority areas. For this purpose, NYSHealth also expects to award grants as part of the 2009 Special Projects Fund. Special Projects Fund awards replace what were previously known as special opportunities grants, and should be considered one-time, non-renewable funding opportunities. Only in exceptional circumstances would NYSHealth consider making an additional grant for previously funded projects.

NYSHealth typically does not fund:

- Core support/organizational infrastructure. Core support includes baseline operating and administrative costs, board development, staff development unrelated to the project, and fundraising activities.
- Projects that involve the purchase, installation, or upgrade of health information technology systems, including electronic medical records.
- Projects that are primarily research-oriented.
- Projects that focus on lobbying or political activities.
- Capital expenses.

**CONTRIBUTIONS/SERVICE SUMMARY:**

**(e.g., 2008 disbursements, average grant size or range, summary of technical assistance etc.)**

2008 disbursements (estimate): \$13 million

Average grant size: \$250,000

## **PANELIST BIOGRAPHICAL INFORMATION:**

As Program Officer, George W. Suttles focuses on developing and managing grantmaking programs for the Foundation's Special Projects Fund.

Mr. Suttles came to NYSHHealth as a National Urban Fellow with five years of experience developing, implementing, and evaluating programs. Most recently, Mr. Suttles was a Technology Programs Associate at the National Urban League (NUL) where he managed three signature technology programs in partnership with Microsoft, the Verizon Foundation, and the AT&T Foundation. Mr. Suttles was responsible for developing communication and reporting protocols with Urban League affiliates so that program information could be shared with corporate partners. Most notably, Mr. Suttles helped to implement the NUL/AT&T Digital Academy Initiative at 12 Urban League affiliates nationwide.

Prior to working at the National Urban League, Mr. Suttles worked for Directions For Our Youth, a small nonprofit that develops and implements supplemental education programs for inner-city youth, where he played a lead role in the development of a youth leadership and empowerment curriculum for teachers and student activity coordinators.

Through the National Urban Fellows Program, Mr. Suttles received a Master of Public Administration degree at Baruch College's School of Public Affairs while working on assignment for the New York State Health Foundation. Mr. Suttles also holds a Bachelor of Arts degree in African American Studies from Wesleyan University.

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