

Some questions about caucuses and caucus funding

Paul Higgins

Since our rushed discussion in June about the caucuses, and our shared concern about finding a less punitive way to allocate caucus funds, I've been pondering how we relate to our caucuses, how we fund them, why they exist, and how we support them. In your packet you'll find a proposed allocation of funds for 2020, based on our discussion and the budget we set in June. This is an imperfect allocation that will be sure to disappoint.

Here are some questions that I presented to Josue and Manuel. I hope they stimulate your thinking and that we may have a richer discussion in Denver.

- ★ Is the process for caucus funding too complex?
- ★ Are we adequately supporting our caucuses?
- ★ Do we use the information from the caucuses to improve our work or that of the caucuses?
- ★ What do we hope to accomplish by having caucuses? Are we getting there?
- ★ Why do we require more work for an \$8,000 grant than others require for a grant several times that amount?
- ★ How important is accountability? What's an appropriate cost (in terms of time) to achieve an appropriate amount of accountability? Are there other ways to achieve accountability?
- ★ Is there a different structure or process that might better serve us and the caucuses?