## **A FORCE FOR IMPACT:** *Millennials in the Nonprofit Sector*



Millennials are the largest generation in the American workforce representing **1 in 3 workers** and expected to rise to **3 in 4** by 2025.



# WHAT MAKES A MILLENNIAL?

AS A GENERATION, MILLENNIALS ARE:



**DIVERSE.** Millennials are the most racially diverse generation in U.S. history. They are diverse in other ways as well, including the type of household in which they grew up.



**DIGITAL.** Millennials drive adoption of new digital platforms, such as mobile technology and social media.



**VALUE-BASED.** Millennials value quality of life, including staying close to family and friends; free time for experiences and recreation; and making a positive social impact.



**EDUCATED.** More Millennials have a college degree than any preceding generation, including more lowerincome and underrepresented minority students. **DEBT-LADEN.** The number of people carrying student loans is higher than ever before, and the amount of debt per borrower has increased.





FILLED WITH OPTIMISM AND HIGH EXPECTATIONS. Millennials tend to be more optimistic than other generations, and they also have high expectations for themselves.

**SINGLE FOR LONGER.** Millennials are delaying marriage and families longer than past generations.





## FACTORS INFLUENCING CAREER DECISIONS & WORK LIVES

- PURPOSE IS PARAMOUNT
- JOB SWITCHING IS ACCEPTED
- PAY STILL MATTERS
- FEEDBACK SHOULD BE ONGOING, NOT OCCASIONAL
- CAREER PATHS ARE NONLINEAR AND SELF-DIRECTED

- SECTOR LINES ARE BLURRED
- LEARNING IS A CONTINUOUS JOURNEY
- INNOVATION INFLUENCES EMPLOYER REPUTATION
- CAREER PROGRESS IS IMPORTANT
- FLEXIBILITY IS EXPECTED

### HOW CAN NONPROFITS RECRUIT, RETAIN & ADVANCE MILLENNIALS?



Build a culture of transparency and trust

managers in your organization

Make diversity and inclusion

Encourage ongoing feedback

Develop strong people

**Prioritize competitive** 

compensation

a priority



Prepare employees for their next opportunity

Identify projects that offer cross-functional work and leadership experience



Intentionally invest in professional development



Create opportunities for cross-generational engagement



Support flexible work practices

#### ABOUT PROINSPIRE

ProInspire develops leaders at all levels for the social sector through our fellowships, leadership development, and research. We catalyze social sector performance by expanding talent pipelines, developing professionals, and increasing diversity. Contact us to learn more about how we can help your organization with its talent development needs.



Full report available at: www.proinspire.org/thought-leadership/millennials-2015/

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