Preemption, Structural Racism, & Home Rule Reform:
How COVID-19 is Shaping the Legal and Political Landscape
A Virtual Funders Forum

May 29, 2020
12:00pm - 1:30pm ET
Via Zoom - Register Online

Work on COVID-19 has become front and center for all of us. That’s why we are asking you to join us in a timely and concise discussion about the connection between COVID-19 and preemption, and the effects of state interference on the ability of local governments to respond to and recover from the public health crisis.

Many states have preempted policies much needed now – paid sick leave, broadband and equitable housing policies, for example – and forced cities to start from behind in their response to the crisis. New preemption included in Executive Orders to shelter-in-place has hampered the ability of localities to do more than their states allow to protect the health and lives of their communities, worsening the health and economic inequities already hurting people of color, low-wage workers and women.

COVID-19 has also laid bare ongoing intergovernmental struggles over individual policies and the need to reform the fundamental balance of power between cities and states. We see daily reminders that the misalignment between city and state governments isn’t just theoretical – it has life and death consequences. Now more than ever, cities need all of the tools and power it will take to protect the health, safety and economic well-being of their residents and communities.

On Friday, May 29th, we would like to share with you examples of our response to the crisis, the work we have done with allies who share our concern about the worsening racial and gender inequity caused by the virus, and hear from you about how best to use our expanding hub of expertise, relationships, and networks during this time of crisis and recovery.

Register online today to receive Zoom login information. Please feel free to extend this invitation to your colleagues and other funders who would be interested in joining this conversation. We will follow up with an agenda, speaker list, and any pre-reading materials closer to the event. If you have any questions, please contact Dara Shackelford at dara@supportdemocracy.org.