

Elizabeth Myrick
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Elizabeth Myrick is a senior associate in the Community Strategies Group (CSG) of The Aspen Institute. Established in 1985, CSG designs peer learning opportunities that enhance the efforts of organizations to achieve lasting and shared prosperity in communities and to sustain funders' investments in those communities. Since joining CSG in 2000, Elizabeth has designed and managed learning initiatives for rural development practitioners, community decision-makers and philanthropic leaders that address economic development, resource stewardship, community capacity-building and organizational development issues.

Born and raised in the rural community of Guilford, Maine (pop. 1,500), Elizabeth has roots in and a passion for rural communities and people. Prior to joining CSG in 2000, Elizabeth worked first as program officer, then program director for the Maine Community Foundation (MCF), a statewide foundation headquartered in Ellsworth, Maine. While at MCF, Elizabeth led the foundation's assets-based discretionary grant program as well as the County Fund Program—an on-going initiative to build locally-raised, locally-controlled assets in Maine's most rural counties. Through partnerships with private foundations, she designed and facilitated training and capacity-building efforts for the foundation's eight rural advisory committees. In 1999, she managed MCF's strategic planning process and led program team efforts to enhance MCF's grantmaking, performance measurement and administrative systems.

Elizabeth graduated *magna cum laude* with a B.A. in political science and English from Bates College, Lewiston, Maine (1993), and holds a M.A. in political science from the University of Massachusetts, Amherst (1996). Since moving to DC from Maine in September 2000, she has served on the Stewardship and Capital Campaign Committees of Foundry United Methodist Church. An all-around sports fan, she is a casual hiker, a gradually improving cross country skier and a perennially disappointed Red Sox fan. Thanks to two older brothers, Elizabeth is also an enthusiastic aunt to three perfect nephews, William, James and Henry.

Married twice in 2002 (in both Hindu and protestant ceremonies), Elizabeth and her husband Prasad Sharma live in Alexandria, Virginia, with their cat Scout.