

2024 National Grassroots Organizing Grant Recipients



350 Sacramento

\$30,000/Yr; 2 Yrs.

General Support

Sacramento, CA

With a small staff and large, growing base of passionate, active volunteers, 350 Sacramento has a long history of environmental justice work in a strategic location: Sacramento, the capital of California, a state that leads the nation in progressive climate change action. 350 Sacramento pursues a comprehensive strategy, working to limit climate change in as many ways as possible at the local and state levels. They work with decision-makers, take direct action, educate at community events, and promote climate change legislation and policy. Given the urgency of the climate crisis, 350 Sacramento understands that their grassroots actions at the local, regional and state levels will have increasing importance in reversing global climate trends.

Their volunteer teams and programs include: the Climate Action Plans Team, the Electrification Team, the Community Event Organizing Team, The Legislative Team, the SEAT (Student Environmental Activist Training) Program, the Air Filter Program, and SMUD (Sacramento Municipal Utility District) Watch.

Activist San Diego

\$25,000/Yr; 2 Yrs.

General Support

San Diego, CA

Activist San Diego is a member-based, volunteer-run information, communications and mobilization organization networking for social justice. Through their Activist Center, the Internet, media and educational programs, ASD links volunteers with community organizations and facilitates the growth of grassroots efforts to grow a progressive movement for social change. Their multi-faceted, intersectional approach includes grassroots and grasstops organizing, coalition building, advocacy, monthly CommUnity education and discussion meetings featuring pressing topics, and running KNSJ 89.1FM community-powered radio. In tandem with local and national coalitions, ASD connects their membership and volunteers with action opportunities and provide leadership and support to many organizing campaigns in the region.

Adelante Student Voices

\$30,000/Yr; 2 Yrs.

General Support

Poughkeepsie, NY

Adelante Student Voices is a network of undocumented youth activists across New York State that brings together students, their families, educators, and other allies using a popular education model that centralizes the experience of undocumented youth from small towns and rural areas when identifying issues and solutions. Adelante's Youth Organizing Committee, called Vision Adelante meets monthly to develop their organizing skills, guide the younger students, and develop organizing campaigns. Young people become members as high school or GED students when they participate in Adelante's intensive Summer Program and/or their Youth Organizing Circle after school program. Adelante not only offers support to students when seeking access to higher education, but also provides the space and tools for the members to make social change through participation in campaigns and coalitions.

Over the next two years Adelante will continue to grow their leadership role in state and local campaigns and develop the power of young activists at the state level by spearheading an effort to develop a Youth Advocacy Day at the capital. Adelante envisions itself becoming the immigrant youth-led organization in upstate New York, and therefore a powerful partner for change within coalitions and larger movements.

Members choose to tackle issues that impact their lives, including educational equity for undocumented students and English Language Learners as well as campaigns outside of education, such as labor protections and the “New York for All” campaign to limit state cooperation with Immigration and Customs Enforcement. Funding will help Adelante build their staff capacity.

Alaskans Take A Stand

\$20,000/Yr; 2 Yrs.

General Support

Anchorage, AK

Co-founded and led by an African American woman and a Native Alaskan woman, Stand UP Alaska and Alaskans Take A Stand are collaborative organizations dedicated to fostering social and political change across Alaska. The coalition tackles a broad spectrum of issues including police accountability, governmental transparency, healthcare access, reproductive rights, climate action, voting rights, fair wages, housing, and more. Alaskans Take a Stand educates, advocates and organizes to elevate awareness and inspire action through various means including the Alaska Civics Academy, the creation and distribution of Voter Guides, Monthly Learning Exchanges, rapid response campaigns, and forging strong community partnerships. Their overarching goal is to knit together a community empowered to advocate for critical issues and amplify their voices.

Alyssa Rodriguez Center for Gender Justice

\$20,000/Yr; 2 Yrs.

general support

Brooklyn, NY

The Alyssa Rodriguez Center for Gender Justice (ARC Gender Justice) is a membership organization working in Pennsylvania, Florida, New York, and Georgia that strengthens movements for gender justice across prison walls, fights gender-based violence, and eliminates barriers to political participation for incarcerated survivors and other grassroots advocates. ARC Gender Justice is led by and for survivors and those vulnerable to gender-based violence who are underrepresented in mainstream feminist, LGBTQI+ and anti violence movements. That includes incarcerated, Black, Indigenous, people of color, disabled, neurodivergent, and chronically ill people who are also cis or trans women or femmes, nonbinary or Two Spirit people, trans or gender nonconforming men, who are survivors of gender-based violence. Their goal is to build collaboration, solidarity, and understanding across differences and their leadership works democratically as an inside-outside, multi-racial, cross-disability, intergenerational, and mixed-gender group.

Recognizing that incarcerated and marginalized advocates, many of whom are jailhouse lawyers, have done the most critical, ground-breaking gender justice work for decades with the least resources and support, ARC Gender Justice brings in more resources and support, so people can have even greater impact. Their work has three main parts:

- 1) Facilitating opportunities for gender justice advocates to learn from one another, build shared analysis, strategize, and collaborate to end gender-based violence;
- 2) Creating and distributing advocacy materials and other resources to support the gender justice work of jailhouse lawyer survivors and other advocates; and
- 3) Organizing to shift power through fighting for changes to court, administrative, and legislative procedure to make it easier for grassroots leaders, including incarcerated survivors, to participate politically.

Berkshire Interfaith Organizing, Inc.

\$10,000/Yr; 2 Yrs.

General Support

Pittsfield, MA

Berkshire Interfaith Organizing (BIO) is a faith-based membership-led organization that organizes with struggling residents and their allies to gain a voice in decisions affecting their lives in a region marked by a strong contrast between the lives of full-time residents and second-home owners while standing up for the entire county, neglected in state politics. BIO brings together people of faith and values by sharing stories to build relationships and strengthen community, increase power to act for justice, develop diverse local leaders and increase their effectiveness in the public arena, create systemic change on issues of common concern for their members, and ensure that those affected by the issues craft the solutions.

BIO is currently in a rebuilding phase after recently hiring a new director/lead organizer after a period without paid staff. They are working to build their community identified Transportation and Housing Justice campaigns.

Black Hills Clean Water Alliance

\$30,000/Yr; 2 Yrs.

General Support

Rapid City, SD

Black Hills Clean Water Alliance (BHCWA) is a membership-based grassroots alliance that protects the region's water by opposing new large-scale uranium, lithium, gold and rare earth mining in the Black Hills of South Dakota and Wyoming. Native and women-led, BHCWA focuses on environmental justice, especially for indigenous people, and is one of the few multi-racial organizations in an area that is deeply divided by race.

BHCWA utilizes direct action, training and mentorship efforts, organizing around environmental review processes, legal cases, coalition-building, social media, public events, and media outreach, to fight environmentally destructive mining proposals, and strengthen monitoring of exploration and mining in the region.

Beginning in 2025, tired of playing "wack-a-mole" with proposed mining projects, BHCWA will also work to build a national coalition to take action toward the creation for a Mineral Withdrawal for the entire Black Hills.

Black Lives Matter DC

\$25,000/Yr; 2 Yrs.

General Support

Washington, DC

Black Lives Matter DC is a member-based abolitionist organization working to free Black people from all systems of oppression to bring about collective liberation. BLM DC builds a broad base of active and empowered community members through leadership trainings, public education activities, direct action and community support. Monthly community trainings and political education workshops include CopWatch, Street Law 101 – Know Your Rights, Police Abuse and Complaints, Prison Letter Writing, and Policing 101. Public education and narrative shift activities include social media campaigns, video campaigns, community storytelling and sharing. Direct Action and community support activities include police complaint support, rapid response to incidents of police violence including rallies and protests, CopWatch, and Mutual Aid.

Black Workers Matter--Chicago West Side

\$30,000/Yr; 2 Yrs.

General Support

Chicago, IL

Black Workers Matter is an independent group of workers fighting discrimination/segregation in hiring and on the job in Chicago West Side industrial districts. Black Workers Matter is a movement made up and governed by worker-members that targets the "Segregationist Employment Model", a strategy to suppress wages by dividing workers--isolating and exploiting immigrant workers while practicing other discrimination against U.S.-born and Black workers. BWM gives attention to the discrimination against Black workers, while being committed to Solidarity—uniting workers of all identities—as the key to power. In the long term, BWM aims to end management domination by organizing cooperative control. Among the issues BWM are working on include Workplace Organizing/Union Democracy, Amazon Accountability, Community Hiring, and Equitable Development.

Boston Education Justice Alliance (BEJA)

\$30,000/Yr; 2 Yrs.

General Support

Boston, MA

The Boston Education Justice Alliance (BEJA) brings parents, students, and educators together for a better Boston Public Schools (BPS) system. BEJA works to build parent and student leadership to ensure public education resources and decisions are equitable and being made through an anti-racist lens. BEJA is made up of both organizational and individual members who develop multi-dimensional organizing

campaigns that address the needs of school communities and broader systemic policies. BEJA provides school budgeting education to families, and leadership development to school site councils, where parents have a vote on their school budgets.

BEJA has active campaigns focused on equitable and transparent school building decisions, fighting off state receivership threats, and electoral work around getting an elected school committee. Boston is the only city in the state that has an appointed committee. All of BEJA's campaigns are centered on fighting racism and on parent and student leadership.

In 2025 BEJA will continue to focus on Immediate/Crisis Response including: creating a parent and student-based vision for school buildings through Green New Deal school building plans; monitoring and holding Central Office leadership accountable to the Systemic Improvement Plan to prevent state receivership; and increasing the number of reading specialists and restorative justice coaches across the district. BEJA has also begun to push for restoring some of the foundational school positions that were cut due to the loss of federal covid funding, including librarians and school psychologists.

Their Long term and Ongoing Campaign Work includes: supporting school communities to fight school budget cuts, working to replace vital positions that have been cut; working to ensure special education inclusion plans are carried out with fidelity; working with other organizations to create an Independent Student Oversight Committee (ISOC); and supporting the Thrive Act through the Massachusetts Education Justice Alliance, which will shift state receivership policies to a model of support for struggling districts rather than the current punitive measures.

BRIDGE MARYLAND INCORPORATED

\$25,000/Yr; 2 Yrs.

General Support

Baltimore, MD

BRIDGE Maryland is a statewide, faith-based, grassroots organization that works to change the conditions that perpetuate inequities in the treatment of people who are marginalized and overlooked. An affiliate of the Gamaliel Network, BRIDGE Maryland uses intentional relationship building, organizing and intensive leadership development in order to strengthen community members, congregations and faith leaders to demonstrate and advance justice in the world. Those who have a stake in the outcome, drive the work of BRIDGE Maryland whose membership and Board of Directors is primarily people of color and low-income. Issues they are currently working on include: adequate and safe housing, clean water, free of toxins and pollutants, and positive programs to support, engage and uplift at-risk youth.

Brockton Workers Alliance

\$25,000/Yr; 2 Yrs.

General Support

Brockton, MA

The Brockton Workers Alliance (BWA) is an alliance of Cape Verdean, Haitian, and Latinx workers based in Brockton, MA that operates as a multi-racial, multi-lingual worker center built on a foundation of solidarity, collaboration, and self-agency. The BWA, led entirely by immigrant women of color, is working to build the power of immigrant workers in the city and state and at their workplaces.

BWA priorities over the next two years include:

Training and Education for Workers: Ongoing Know Your Rights (KYR) workshops where workers learn their rights, share their struggles, and begin to imagine solutions. BWA provides tools to collectively identify and address wage theft, discrimination on the job, injuries, sexual harassment and barriers to healthy and safe work in the City of Brockton and strategize with individuals and groups of coworkers about next steps.

Deferred Action: Support and help groups of immigrant workers obtain deferred action through filing labor abuses and exploitation of wage theft, discrimination, health & safety and injuries on the job. In addition to assisting these workers with their personal cases BWA will do work to actively engage them in their work and support them to become leaders in support of broader workers' rights and to inspire and empower other workers.

Fighting for Statewide Protection of Workers' Rights: With a collaboration of community organizations and unions BWA will work to pass two important pieces of legislation: A bill protecting workers from Wage Theft and another that strengthens the existing Workers Comp laws and provide protection for workers that are seeing compensation for injuries that occur on the job.

Driver's License Regulation/Outreach: In 2022 BWA played an instrumental role in getting the Family Mobility Act passed, which removed immigration status as a barrier to obtaining a driver's license. Activities: BWA will continue to be at the DMV one day a week to provide on-site assistance to people as they navigate the process of obtaining their license. We will also continue to conduct outreach and education in our community to inform people about their right to obtain a drivers license.

Coalition for Responsible Home Education

\$30,000/Yr; 2 Yrs.

General support

Stoughton, MA

The Coalition for Responsible Home Education (CRHE) is a nonprofit organization run by homeschool alumni that provides resources for homeschooled students and families, researches homeschool issues, and educates the public about the need for increased oversight of homeschooling to protect children and secure their right to a quality education in a safe home. Since the COVID-19 pandemic started, homeschooling's popularity in the U.S. has increased, with an estimated two million American children educated at home in 2016 and some recent figures suggesting the number is closer to five million today. While some parents homeschool to provide their children with a tailored, affirming, high-quality experience, others take advantage of lax homeschool laws to isolate, control, and abuse their children out of sight of mandatory reporters. As an organization founded and run by former homeschooled children, CRHE members know firsthand the power that homeschooling has in a child's life – both good and bad. Everything they do at CRHE is with one goal in mind: to make homeschool safe for children. CRHE are a small but energetic organization staffed by part-time employees, consultants, and volunteers. The Coalition for Responsible Home Education seeks to draw on the lived experience and collective knowledge of previously homeschooled students to combat harmful extremist rhetoric and advance their grassroots advocacy efforts in Michigan and Minnesota to protect homeschooled children. It is anticipated that this work will perpetuate a broader movement to affirm the rights of children, particularly those with marginalized identities.

Community Organizing Alliance

\$30,000/Yr; 2 Yrs.

General Support

Augusta, ME

Community Organizing Alliance (COA) is a social justice and civic engagement organization which educates, empowers and engages young people, centering Black and immigrant voices. Beginning in 2022, COA was founded and led by the youngest and first Somali-born person ever elected to Lewiston's city council. Born out of her experiences and barriers to becoming civically engaged and empowered, COA works to activate Maine's Black and immigrant youth through civic engagement and organizing activities. Leveraging momentum from the 2024 election, COA will spend the next two years growing their signature cohort-based experiential learning program called Listening, Educating, and Organizing (LEO) and expanding their Civics Action Program (CAP) to elevate youth leadership and expand and grow their fledgeling direct action organizing work around critical and timely issues identified by their constituents, including flavored tobacco, Housing Justice, Gun Violence, and Health Care for All.

Congregation Action Network (CAN)

\$30,000/Yr; 2 Yrs.

General Support

Washington, DC

The Congregation Action Network (CAN) is an interfaith network striving to create a Washington, DC metropolitan region where everyone, no matter their immigration status, has the same access to rights and resources. CAN amplifies the power of faith through community organizing to push just policies at the local, state, and federal level. CAN works closely with advocates, activists, faith leaders, and congregations to fight for a world where immigrants have decision-making power and everyone can thrive. Founded in 2017 as a project of Faith in Action and Sanctuary DMV, CAN has since organized faith communities across the Washington metro area, and grew into an independent organization in 2022. CAN accomplishes its goals by working to increase the political power of immigrants and refugees in MD, VA, and DC, by building an informed and empowered base of immigrants and refugees and connecting them with faith allies ready to follow their lead; Advancing policies that expand the rights and access to

resources for immigrants and refugees without permanent legal status in the US. These policies are identified by those immigrants who will be directly affected by them; Addressing the trauma that often gets in the way of successful organizing by providing training and trauma healing opportunities to its base.

Decarcerate KC

\$30,000/Yr; 2 Yrs.

General Support

Kansas City, MO

Decarcerate KC is a member-led grassroots organization rooted in the abolitionist movement and born out of the dynamic and transformative uprisings of 2020. Decarcerate KC focuses on challenging systemic police and carceral injustices in Kansas City, MO and works to raise awareness, build power, and create change by ending the reliance on incarceration and policing and building a safer Kansas City for all, centering the voices and experiences of those most impacted by these systems.

Funding will help support their "No New Jail" campaign and the development of two new initiatives: expanding community safety efforts and establishing a Bill of Rights for incarcerated individuals in KC. These campaigns are organizing to prevent the construction of a new jail in Kansas City by raising awareness and mobilizing voter participation, while simultaneously building harm-free zones and advocating for the rights of currently and formerly incarcerated community members.

Dignidad Inmigrante de Athens

\$10,000/Yr; 2 Yrs.

General Support

Athens, GA

Dignidad Inmigrante de Athens (DIA) is a grassroots immigrant rights organization of first- and second-generation immigrants who organize around stopping the criminalization of undocumented immigrants and their families and in support of their treatment as refugees and not as criminals or terrorists, and the recognition of the social, economic and cultural contributions that undocumented immigrants have made to U.S. society. DIA believes that discriminatory laws must be struck down and replaced with immigration reform that includes permanent protection for all undocumented immigrants, and that the rights to education, work, housing and family (love) be restored to all human beings regardless of their immigration status, religion, social class, race or gender. DIA works in partnership with other organizations at the local, state and national level to achieve their goals.

Continued funding supports DIA to: organize the Driving without Fear campaign locally, which seeks to change local policy to prevent the arrest of immigrants without a license and state policy to obtain driver's licenses for all; organize to prevent the evictions of vulnerable tenants in Athens and to demand safe and secure housing; provide Know Your Rights workshops for drivers and tenants, celebrate the contributions and culture of immigrants by organizing an annual Latinx Fest; and to provide an after school arts and culture program for young people.

Eastern PA Trans Equity Project

\$20,000/Yr; 2 Yrs.

General Support

Orefield, PA

Eastern PA Trans Equity Project (EPTep) is a volunteer and transgender-led grassroots organization that works to build resilience and resistance within the Trans community while advocating on its behalf across the state of Pennsylvania. EPTep provides direct services to trans people, community education and outreach programs, trainings for school, police and health care providers, and advocacy activities around issues that range from establishing gender-inclusive policies and legislation in schools, government, healthcare, and social services, to work on behalf of individuals – including incarcerated transgender people - who are encountering issues when seeking services, medical care or equitable treatment in employment, housing or public accommodation. EPTep works in coalition with other social justice organizations to advocate for inclusive laws in the state capital as well as working with parents' groups to push back on anti-trans policies in local schools. With over 600 pieces of anti-transgender legislation being introduced in statehouses across the country, harmful policies being promoted by Moms-for-Liberty and other hate groups in schools, and record levels of violence being reported (including the recent murder and dismemberment of 14 year old Pauly Likens), transgender people are under daily attack both

figuratively and literally. In 2025 Eastern PA Trans Equity Project is hoping to hire a Programs Manager to assist the ED and free up their time to focus more on the advocacy and outreach efforts. Ultimately and for sustainability, the organization aspires to have a paid ED as well.

Eco-Justice Collaborative

\$30,000/Yr; 2 Yrs.

General Support

Champaign, IL

EJC is a grassroots education and advocacy organization working to address urgent environmental issues through the lens of social, economic, and social justice. Since 2007, EJC campaigns have focused on environmental sustainability, social justice and the transition away from fossil fuels to a clean renewable energy future. They do this through sustained and creative approaches that leverage strong public influence in policy and regulatory decisions.

Industrial and fossil fuel interests, along with the help of massive federal subsidies, have latched on to carbon capture and sequestration (CCS) as the primary vehicle for addressing the climate crisis. This is fueling plans for a massive, nationwide network of public works projects, implementing technology that has never been tested at the scale proposed, without full environmental impact analysis, without a public engagement process and with dubious accountability. The net effect of this giveaway will be a prolonged reliance on fossil fuels and a diversion of much needed funding away from the more effective, efficient and sustainable paths of climate mitigation. Illinois is considered a prime location for carbon dioxide sequestration in the Midwest.

EJC helped found and is currently coordinating the work of a statewide coalition called the Coalition to Stop CO2 Pipelines. The Coalition is the **only** organized entity working in Illinois to educate residents and mobilize resistance to what is planned to be thousands of miles of interstate pipelines carrying high pressure CO2 to central Illinois for underground storage. The Coalition consists of landowners, residents, and 14 environmental groups, two of which are faith-based.

The Coalition's goal is to slow down the immediate implementation of CCS while bringing about a deeper public and political understanding of CCS and the significant trade-offs at play. This means putting current projects on hold, creating an informed decision-making process, and establishing a regulatory framework that ensures that whatever role CCS plays in our quest to curtail climate change, that its implementation is done with adequate protections and judicious application rather than for short-term political expediency and economic gain by the fossil fuel and corn growing industries.

Empowering Latina Leadership and Action

\$25,000/Yr; 2 Yrs.

General Support

Yakima, WA

Empowering Latina Leadership and Action (ELLA) is grassroots base-building organization working to change the political, economic, social and environmental landscape of Yakima County, with a Latin@ majority population but very little representation in key decision-making roles in both the private and public sectors. ELLA trains emerging leaders for public office so that Latin@s may change, reverse, and create public policy that most benefit their communities. ELLA also work with state agencies, holding them accountable to enforcing existing laws and regulations of the industries that are harming families and the environment. ELLA works to educate and empower community constituents to lead efforts in Yakima County to change the official public leadership and reverse the harm that the huge agricultural and dairy industries have caused in these communities of color. They have already successfully prepared and trained three new city council members, whom were elected through grassroots efforts, to bring Latin@ representation to what was an all white council and primarily white school board. ELLA canvasses their community, door-knocking to increase community civic education and get out the vote. ELLA is working to grow their focus on Environmental Justice, especially around contaminated water in the town of Mabton, WA and is developing a program to train 10 youth and 10 adult advocates to organize around this issue.

Erotic Service Providers Legal Education and Research Project

\$30,000/Yr; 2 Yrs.

General Support

San Francisco, CA

Founded and led by sex workers, ESPLER Project, Inc. (ESPLER) pursues the decriminalization of sex work (decrim). To achieve this end, ESPLER's day-to-day work advances worker rights, consumer privacy rights, and sexual privacy rights through organizing, education, research, and legal advocacy. ESPLER, also founded the Erotic Service Providers Union (ESPU), a decrim coalition. Ultimately, ESPLER hopes to change the legal status of sex workers, so that they are franchised into the American social compact. ESPLER educates erotic service providers, policy makers, and the public through funded, coordinated education, research, legal advocacy, and sex worker organizing, training, and street actions. ESPLER facilitates annual coalition-based public education campaigns in collaboration with other sex work advocacy groups that culminate in street actions for International Whore's Day (June), International Day to End Violence Against Sex Workers (December), and the Super Bowl (February). ESPLER's sex work decriminalization/gender justice work is driven by a labor movement analysis.

ESPLER supports the bodily autonomy of all workers. Decrim includes the elimination of laws criminalizing prostitution, loitering, solicitation, and vagrancy, eliminating laws that criminalize sex worker's bank accounts, their livelihood, their homes, their families, their collective organizing and working spaces, and their work online and offline. Decrim further includes upholding all worker's demands for housing, healthcare, fair wages, and other basic needs, with a stance of anti-carceralism and anti-racism with zero tolerance for partial criminalization strategies that perpetuate harm against sex workers under the guise of saviorism. Decriminalization is not an end goal, but a necessary step to reclaim the rights of sex workers and their rightful place in society. The Super Bowl's annually revived sex trafficking myth presents a highly concentrated example of how disinformation, combined with stigma, leads to the criminalization, arrests, and incarceration of sex workers. ESPLER's planned constituent-led, base building, direct-action organizing campaign for systemic change mobilizes 100 sex workers and allies around the decriminalization of sex work through online and in-person training in media security, social media for action, and direct action signage, leading up to direct action that educates the public, media, and policy makers about decriminalization at Super Bowl LIX in New Orleans, Louisiana in 2025.

Family Support Network

\$30,000/Yr; 2 Yrs.

General Support

Washington, DC

Established in 2018, the Family Support Network (FSN) is an empowering support system founded and led by people, especially Black women, who have family members and loved ones serving life sentences in Maryland. The founding principle of this support system is to provide a strong advocacy network. Through that advocacy FSN gives those on the inside, returning citizens, and their family members a voice that enables engagement with various activist and advocacy groups.

FSN is working to dismantle the current system and create opportunities for release and leads efforts to coordinate among partners to bring home people serving long sentences through advocacy and service that introduces people to civic engagement. FSN centers the leadership of people who have overcome the trauma of violence and lengthy incarceration, and centers the leadership of Black women.

Black people are only 30% of Maryland's total population, yet Black people make up almost 80% of Maryland's prison population. Maryland's racial disparities are the worst in the nation. Family Support Network in collaboration with the MD Second Look Coalition will build on the momentum that was garnered during the 2024 Maryland General Assembly Legislative Session for the MD Second Look Act. The Second Look Act would create an opportunity for all people in prison in Maryland who have served at least 20 years to go before a judge and seek a reduced or modified sentence. The Second Look Act builds on the Maryland Juvenile Restoration Act, which similarly grants an opportunity for resentencing to people sentenced to long terms of imprisonment as teenagers. FSN will continue spreading the message about the MD Second Look Act and work to pass MD Second Look for all legislation.

Hawai'i Workers Center

\$30,000/Yr; 2 Yrs.

General Support

Honolulu, HI

The Hawai'i Workers Center is Hawai'i's first and only workers center. Founded in 2020 by unions, low-wage workers, faith-based groups and community leaders, the HWC is a worker-led organization focused on organizing the low-wage workers of Hawai'i, serving as a hub for education, outreach, leadership development, and collective power building. They organize low-wage workers, primarily an immigrant/migrant population who strive to collectively organize and secure better conditions for themselves and their families, centering leadership among workers most affected, while targeting the root causes of inequality in the workplace.

The Hawai'i Workers Center has multiple membership-based Workers Associations formed based on job sector, common employers, shared geography and ethnicity, as well as a Maui Workers & Tenants Association, focused on a Just & Equitable Recovery after the devastating wildfires. The Hawai'i Workers Center focuses on issues chosen and prioritized by Hawai'i's workers—low wages, high cost-of-living, widespread wage theft, workplace abuses and discrimination.

Housekeys Action Network Denver

\$30,000/Yr; 2 Yrs.

General Support

Denver, CO

Housekeys Action Network Denver (HAND) is a member-based organization that was created by long-time organizers and people without housing to build the fight for housing from the priorities of houseless people. HAND fights as and with people who are, were, and may become houseless in the Denver community. HAND members do direct outreach to the houseless community where they gather priorities, share information, and engage people without housing across the city in this work. Based on the priorities voiced by those without housing, HAND's organizing campaigns are focused on No Freezing Sweeps, Master Leasing, and Social Housing. HAND also works to provide Know Your Rights education for their constituents, taking back public space for hygiene resources, advocacy training with case managers, easing paperwork for housing, creating grievance processes for shelters, advocating for better migrant shelters, a vacancy tax and fighting the criminalization of houseless people.

House Our Neighbors Education Fund

\$25,000/Yr; 2 Yrs.

General Support

Seattle, WA

Rooted in communities fighting for economic, racial, and housing justice, House Our Neighbors Education Fund (HONEY) has emerged as a dynamic, grassroots organization that recognizes the need for transformative change to stop the pipeline into homelessness. HONEY promotes the model of Social Housing as a necessary tool during a housing crisis through education, organizing impacted communities, and advocacy. Social Housing is housing that is removed from the speculative market, available to all incomes, permanently affordable and held as a public good in perpetuity. HONEY builds coalitions with individuals and groups across a wide array of focus areas, including housing justice, tenant rights, racial justice, abolition, labor, economic justice, and climate justice. Along with their small staff HONEY is powered by the partners, advisors, and volunteers who serve on committees and working groups that shape their work. In 2022, HONEY spearheaded grassroots activism in Seattle by launching citizen initiative 135 to create the nation's first Social Housing developer in the City of Seattle, which was passed by the voters by a 14 point margin in February 2023.

Funding was provided in support of their continued social housing education, coalition-building, and a new voter initiative campaign, Initiative 137, to create an excess compensation tax on wealthy businesses to fund the developer and make social housing a reality in Seattle.

Illinois Alliance for Reentry and Justice NFP

\$25,000/Yr; 2 Yrs.

General Support

Aurora, IL

The Illinois Alliance for Reentry and Justice (ILARJ) is a nonprofit organization led by a formerly incarcerated Black woman. ILARJ started in 2019 as a project of the Safer Foundation to build a statewide coalition to change the landscape of what reentry and justice looks like in Illinois and the country. ILARJ transitioned to an independent organization in 2023 with a statewide coalition of over 150 partners, including inside seven state prisons. ILARJ’s strength is in the 360-degree perspective offered by their coalition partners - currently and formerly incarcerated people, nonprofits, service providers, legal professionals, and advocates. They are working to develop solutions to the problems par partners are currently facing on both sides of the walls. ILARJ has three work containers: Redefining Reentry, Transforming Policies, and Public Mobilization. These containers carry out initiatives that focus on normalizing a new framework for reentry, utilizing policy work as a means of harm reduction and reparations, leadership development of directly impacted people, and shifting the power dynamics between marginalized communities and their government. ILARJ’s four initiatives include the Reentry Guidelines Initiative, the Judicial Accountability Initiative, Participatory Democracy Hubs, and the 50-State Strategy Voting Rights Restoration Working Group.

IMPACT

\$30,000/Yr; 2 Yrs.

General Support

Charlottesville, VA

The Interfaith Movement Promoting Action by Congregations Together (IMPACT) is a coalition of 23 racially, economically and religiously diverse faith congregations in Charlottesville and Albemarle County that work together to create systemic change through unified direct action. IMPACT is a multi-issue organization and DART affiliate, whose campaigns are informed by the needs that arise during their annual listening process. IMPACT provides a way for diverse groups of people to respond to needs in their own community through direct action that holds local officials accountable to resolve injustices and inequities.

Currently, IMPACT is working on two primary campaigns: affordable housing and public transportation. Their housing campaign is focused on seeing the creation of an Affordable Housing Trust Fund with \$10MM annually in Albemarle County. Their transit campaign has a goal of bringing down wait times on the most used bus routes in the community to no more than 15 minutes.

Impact Appalachia

\$22,000/Yr; 2 Yrs.

General Support

East Liverpool, OH

Impact Appalachia is a new organization born out of the environmental disaster caused by the Norfolk Southern train derailment in East Palestine, OH in February, 2023. Its founders are seasoned community organizers who had already begun coalescing around growing incidences of bigotry and violence toward marginalized communities in Appalachia. Impact Appalachia is Black, Queer, and Female led and uses multiple avenues of civic engagement as the base of their campaigns. Focusing on marginalized Appalachian communities and their desires, the overarching goal is to organize around LGBTQIA+ rights, BIPOC/Black voters, and young adults affected by the layered environmental degradation in the Appalachian Ohio River Valley. Working in several organizing capacities throughout the last decade, Impact Appalachia’s founders have built a large base that activates their community from within and places those most affected in the forefront of leadership and organizing positions.

In the past year, through 1-1s, surveys, and canvassing, Impact Appalachia found that LGBTQIA+, Black/BIPOC, and Appalachian youth communities were being largely ignored by elected officials. Identified campaigns that have resulted from this work include: LGBTQIA+ power building around issues of access to affirming healthcare, public safety, and mental health; Black and BIPOC Voter Engagement through barbershop outreach and GOTV activities; Youth-led organizing around a sustainable environmental future; and East Palestine: Environmental Campaign around resident-led advocacy for a vinyl chloride ban, holding Norfolk Southern accountable, advocacy for the Railway Safety Act and building power with railway workers for safer working conditions.

Kentucky Student Environmental Coalition

\$20,000/Yr; 2 Yrs.

General Support

Lexington, KY

Kentucky Student Environmental Coalition (KSEC) creates a political home for young Kentuckians, aged 14-30, looking to engage in environmental justice through leadership development, training, skill building and political education. Using peer-to-peer education models, KSEC engages members in intersectional environmental justice issues, including combatting new fossil fuel infrastructure, fighting new carceral infrastructure, and developing community solutions for energy and public infrastructure in communities treated as sacrifice zones. At campuses across the state and at Catalyst, their weeklong summer leadership training program, KSEC introduces young Kentuckians to systems-level thinking and helps them develop an understanding of organizing for systemic change. With a focus on building community among progressive youth, especially LGBTQIA+, BIPOC, and rural young people, KSEC works empower young people to overcome feelings of hopelessness and isolation and seeks to grow and unite their network to mobilize across a state that is often written off by progressives as too conservative and too rural for social justice organizing.

La Conexión

\$25,000/Yr; 2 Yrs.

General Support

Bowling Green, OH

La Conexión is a grassroots organization founded and led by Latinos and immigrants. La Conexión works to amplify the voices, foster representation, and champion the rights of their diverse and vibrant community in a rural region brought by an evolving immigrant landscape. With an ever expanding population hailing mainly from Central American countries, including Colombia, Venezuela, Cuba, Mexico, and now Haiti, La Conexión is composed of asylum seekers, unaccompanied minors, US Latinos, and the undocumented.

They are currently spearheading campaigns for equality and justice in education, language access, and legalization of undocumented immigrants. Their initiatives are rooted in three pillars: a) building power at the base; b) building solidarity in the community at large; and c) policy and institutional change. Through strategic partnerships with organizations like the NW Ohio Immigrant Rights Network and many others, La Conexión mobilizes individuals to confront the challenges head-on, ensuring that the voices of those most affected are leading, heard and respected.

Laru Beya Collective

\$20,000/Yr; 2 Yrs.

general support

Far Rockaway, NY

The Laru Beya Collective is Black-led, largely female led, grassroots organization, working at the local community level to fight the systemic inequities underlying the racial disparity in drownings. In Garifuna, "Laru Beya" means "on the beach." Laru Beya Collective exists to provide education and access for the historically excluded youth of Far Rockaway and NYC, as well as addressing the challenges to BIPOC surfers. Laru Beya are the co-founders of the Water Safety Coalition (<https://watersafetycoalition.com/>), whose mission is to make water safety an essential right for all in New York City and State. Racist instruction and unsafe learning environments are keeping the Black and POC community from learning water safety, and are worsening the gap between White and Black drowning rates. Black children aged 5-19 are 5.5 times more likely to drown than their white peers (CDC, 2014).

The two main vehicles Laru Beya has built to drive change are the Water Safety Coalition and healing justice work through surf therapy. They use surfing and their natural connection to the ocean as a community space for people to come together and build a base of support for the Water Safety Campaign and create 100% free and accessible spaces for historically excluded communities to enjoy the beaches, providing transportation, food, equipment, instruction, extracurricular mentorship, and a pathway to sustained community engagement. Laru Beya Collective's membership base is organizing to pass the Senate Bill S2545A and Assembly Bill A4846, which if passed by a majority vote in June 2024, would enable schools to provide water safety instruction to students in grades kindergarten through twelve. They

are also organizing for passage of Water Safety Commission bill (A.7734/S.7129), which would create a commission to investigate best practices in preventing childhood drowning as a first step towards demanding funding for water safety in New York City, including the Rockaway Peninsula which is an ocean frontline majority POC community. In addition to passing legislation, Laru Beya are advocating with their elected officials to get a pool built, as Far Rockaway does not have access to a public pool for water safety education.

March on Harrisburg

\$25,000/Yr; 2 Yrs.

General Support

Cheltenham, PA

MarchOnHarrisburg (MoH) is a nonpartisan, statewide, chapter-based, volunteer-driven grassroots organization working to move Pennsylvania from one of the most corrupt states in the United States to a functional democracy. To do so, MoH is building a statewide pro-democracy movement to get money out of politics and expand democracy through broad-based, moral fusion organizing and leadership development, marching, non-violent direct action, and community powered advocacy. MoH's four current campaigns are Money Out – working to pass legislation for a Gift Ban, House campaign finance reform, dark money transparency and a corporate dark money ban; People In – Ranked Choice Voting, open primaries and a National popular vote; Pennsylvania Action on Climate – organizing at the intersection of corruption and climate change; and the PA Poor People's Campaign – Student lunch debt abolition and drivers licenses for undocumented immigrants.

Missouri Justice Coalition

\$25,000/Yr; 2 Yrs.

General Support

Saint Louis, MO

Recently founded by a formerly incarcerated disabled black woman who is an experienced advocate, the Missouri Justice Coalition (MoJustice) is in its initial phase of start up with the goal of building a statewide prison advocacy movement. Missouri does not have an office of inspector general, or any systems of accountability or independent oversight of its Department of Corrections. In five of the last six years, more than 100 persons have died in the custody of the MoDOC, despite the fact that there are 25% less people incarcerated in that time than were incarcerated a decade or more ago. There are also other widespread, life threatening, traumatic, and deadly conditions present in the state prisons.

As there has never existed a statewide organized and empowered base of carceral systems impacted people in Missouri, MoJustice is positioned to serving as the unifying force across the state for this effort. MoJustice is bringing together individuals impacted by the criminal punishment system to educate, empower, and unite these community members, transforming them into a powerful advocacy base organized to drive meaningful reforms within the Missouri prison system, addressing the systemic injustices, inhumane conditions, and absence of accountability.

MO Equity Education Partnership

\$25,000/Yr; 2 Yrs.

General Support

St. Charles, MO

The Missouri Equity Education Partnership (MOEEP) is a volunteer-based network of concerned community members that works for equity in schools and communities throughout the state. MOEEP stresses the necessity of diverse, equitable, and inclusive leadership to empower citizens, fostering change towards a liberated society. The Leadership Academy provides comprehensive training and resources for advocates. The District Captain Leadership Program trains advocates who are passionate about supporting the teachers and students in local schools, both public and private, as well as colleges and universities to help deepen local institutions' commitments to Inclusion, diversity, equity, and accessibility (IDEA). The Let Them Learn Coalition began in 2021 in response to the attacks on critical race theory in Missouri. It is comprised of several statewide organizations and individuals who organize in Jefferson City to ensure state legislators are educated on the issues and bills they are presenting, as well as ensure a significant presence of pro-equity supporters to testify and advocate. When attacks began on LGBTQ+, especially trans, community members, MOEEP partnered with PROMO, Missouri's statewide

LGBTQ advocacy organization, to continue to fight for equity. By equipping communities with knowledge and skills, MOEEP aims to ensure active participation in shaping inclusive policies and promoting awareness to dismantle supremacy and pursue liberation effectively. Funding will help provide much needed financial support to enable MOEEP to pay staffers to continue to build out and expand its programming.

NAMI Alaska Incorporated

\$25,000/Yr; 2 Yrs.

General Support

Anchorage, AK

NAMI Alaska, a membership-based organization is one of 48 state organizations under the umbrella of the National Alliance on Mental Illness, the nation's largest grassroots mental health organization dedicated to building better lives for millions of Americans affected by mental illness. NAMI Alaska provides support, education, advocacy, and serves the entire state. With affiliate organizations in Anchorage, Fairbanks, Juneau, and the North Slope, NAMI AK provides resources, education, program trainings, advocacy leadership, and oversight. Together, they work to improve the lives of Alaskans affected by mental illness through education, support, and advocacy. NAMI Alaska serves as the statewide voice for advocacy efforts and has developed a strong contingency of leaders who have experienced mental illness, who work each day to raise awareness throughout the state advocating for issues and initiatives to end the stigma of mental illness.

Newtown Florist Club

\$20,000/Yr; 2 Yrs.

General Support

Gainesville, GA

The Newtown Florist Club (NFC) began in the 1950s in the segregated neighborhood of Newtown as a group of African-American women who collected money to provide funeral wreaths for bereaved families. As time passed, an increasing number of collections were required and members of the club, bearing roses, found themselves attending more and more funerals as a result of disproportionate environmental burdens in their community. Since 1990, NFC has worked to ensure social, economic, and environmental justice in Gainesville, Hall County, Georgia. After all these years, they remain committed to multi-issue community organizing on issues including the lack of affordable housing, high eviction rates, homelessness, education challenges, debtors' prison, police abuse of power, youth development, voter disenfranchisement and environmental injustice. In recent years, however, NFC's ability to engage as a strong, formidable force has been weakened by systematic changes in residential housing patterns caused by gentrification as more low-income people of color are "pushed out" from their historic communities resulting in a dismantling affect that requires critical, aggressive community organizing in order to effectively recover.

Over the next two years, Newtown Forest Club will work to strengthen their continued, organized presence in the community for over seventy-five years by developing grassroots leadership from the ground up through their emerging ReCONNECT US organizing initiative. ReCONNECT US is multigenerational and includes board members, staff, community volunteers, parents, young people, elderly, faith community, LGBTQ and differently-abled organizers. Through this initiative, NFC will organize inside twelve marginalized communities facing the decentralizing impact of gentrification. They will incorporate skills and capacity building training using a "boots on the ground" approach inside neighborhoods to strengthen local coalition building efforts. building a strong, lasting neighborhood response team model with four main components: relationship building, multi-issue organizing, training grassroots leaders and social media organizing.

Open Hearts Initiative

\$30,000/Yr; 2 Yrs.

General Support

New York, NY

The Open Hearts Initiative (OHI) builds community support for housing and services for homeless New Yorkers by organizing housed alongside unhoused community residents to advocate for housing justice in their own backyards. OHI's unique chapter-based organizing model offers opportunities for housed

residents to join with their unhoused neighbors in advocacy efforts, thereby strengthening the voice against NIMBYism. By centering the voices of unhoused neighbors and educating housed neighbors, OHI aims to build support for housing and services for homeless New Yorkers and work towards the ultimate goal of permanent housing accessible to all.

Together, these groups build a powerful unit that can challenge the narratives and policies that have allowed the homelessness crisis to grow. To this end, OHI seeks to impact and influence city, state, and federal policies and systems that create barriers to accessible permanent housing for all, and to strengthen a shelter system that serves as an emergency resource with supportive services in place that help individuals and families achieve housing stability.

Oregon Sex Workers Committee

\$30,000/Yr; 2 Yrs.

General Support

Portland, OR

Founded and led by sex workers, trafficking survivors, and marginalized communities, the Oregon Sex Workers Committee (OSWC) supports sex workers' autonomy and safety while challenging harmful societal stigmas. Their long-term goal is generating support for and passing a bill that would decriminalize consensual sex work in Oregon, thus leading the way for other states to implement legislation to the same effect.. OSWC's programs are designed to address the effects of living under criminalization and provide public education about the resulting impact. They are committed to addressing exploitation and systemic violence through an intersectional and trauma-informed approach, using outreach, community-led research, public education, and advocacy.

Shifting the focus from punitive measures to a rights-based approach is crucial to identifying and supporting trafficking victims across all labor sectors. Through engaging with local and national change-makers in this field OSWC promotes empathy and fosters a culture of inclusivity and care.

Parents United for Change - Community Organizing and Family Issues

\$30,000/Yr; 2 Yrs.

General Support

East St. Louis, IL

Parents United for Change (PUFC) builds the organized voice and power of low-income parents of color in Metro East IL (the African American city of East St. Louis IL and nearby towns – which are both African American and Latine) to advance campaigns they prioritize to improve the lives of children and families. PUFC was founded eleven years ago by a small group of East St. Louis mothers and grandmothers (all of them African American) to address two interconnected needs: a) improving learning, earning, and living outcomes of low-income children and families of color; b) engaging the leaders of these families as organized grassroots activists in improving systems they have determined are critical to increasing family well-being. PUFC was born out of the lived experiences of East St. Louis mothers as they found their paths to economic success and their children's paths to school success impeded by public officials who ignored them or depreciated their perspectives.

An affiliate of Community Organizing and Family Issues (COFI), PUFC employs The COFI Way of Family Focused Organizing (see www.cofionline.org), an evidence-based approach to leadership focused explicitly on low-income parents of color. This approach draws parents into community leadership by emphasizing the interconnection between their personal struggles and broader systemic issues.

Currently, priorities for PUFC action – identified from their own lives as well as via community outreach – are: a) increasing access to healthy, fresh, affordable food in the community, gaining a grocery co-op with some State funding; b) expanding mental health services and access to services for children and families; and c) increasing State investments in early care and education and immigrant healthcare.

People of Red Mountain

\$15,000/Yr; 2 Yrs.

General Support

Reno, NV

People of Red Mountain (Atsa Koodakuh wyh Nuwu, in Paiute) is an all volunteer committee of traditional knowledge keepers and descendants of the Fort McDermitt Paiute, Shoshone and Bannock Tribes working in coalition with allies to protect their sacred ancestral homelands from mining, specifically

lithium mining. People of Red Mountain fights to protect their ancestral homelands through educating their communities, posting billboards, holding ceremonies in honor of the ancestors, speaking at events, participating in a coalition to Protect the McDermitt Caldera, participating in legal appeals, and working to sway public opinion by telling their story.

People of Red Mountain are working to mitigate the mining already underway at Thacker Pass, a sacred mountain and site of the massacre of their ancestors in 1865 by the U.S. Calvary; prevent any additional proposed lithium mines in McDermitt Caldera; and protect and educate the community about the impending threat from man camps and large labor forces which are correlated to Missing and Murdered Indigenous Women Girls and Two Spirit (MMIWG2S).

Philly Black Worker Project

\$30,000/Yr; 2 Yrs.

General Support

Philadelphia, PA

The Philly Black Worker Project (PBWP) is an emerging organizing vehicle that utilizes collective action, policy change and community power-building to win quality jobs, reduce employment discrimination, and improve working conditions in low road industries that employ significant amounts of Black workers. PBWP is filling a niche in the existing worker organizing landscape by focusing on non-traditional workers, specifically Black workers in the temporary and gig worker industries. The industry erodes existing union standards and exploits the overwhelming Black (and often justice impacted) workforce they employ because there are, currently, fewer protections for temp workers. By focusing on a specific industry, the campaign for temp worker justice will provide a clear template for organizing in other non-traditional industries in the future.

Having adopted an expansive definition of Black Workers that allows them to organize with an intersectional approach and recognize the many identities Black workers hold, the Philly Black Worker Project is initially targeting temp workers in the food service and hospitality industries. PBWP has launched a Black Organizing for Power training series through which it will identify 25 project leaders and project builders to begin recruiting and organizing their fellow workers and community members. In service of building a base of Black workers employed in non-traditional industries who will fight for and win groundbreaking worker protections in Philadelphia, including the passage of a Temporary Worker Bill of Rights legislation.

Public Higher Education Network of Massachusetts - PHENOM

\$30,000/Yr; 2 Yrs.

General Support

Worcester, MA

The Public Higher Education Network of Massachusetts (PHENOM) is a grassroots, member-led organization that organizes for well-funded, affordable, accessible, well-staffed and democratically governed public higher education in Massachusetts. Uniting key stakeholders, including students, families, staff, faculty, alumni, and community members, PHENOM advances its goals with research, education, coalition-building, direct action, and advocacy. The first big success of this coalition was the 2011 effort to earmark a portion of projected casino revenue for higher education, at an estimated \$20 million per year. Now, PHENOM is positioning itself again as a national leader for its Debt-Free Future campaign which will guarantee free public higher education as a right to all Massachusetts residents. After successfully helping to pass the Fair Share Amendment ("millionaire's tax") in 2022, PHENOM is working to ensure new revenue is not cut and that funds are implemented as intended. PHENOM will continue campaigning for the CHERISH Act which would use a portion of the new revenue to create a state funded scholarship program based on income and eliminate the need for student loans for public higher education and ensure higher wages for faculty and staff. And will begin campaigning for The Endowment Tax bill which would tax private college endowments above \$1BB at a rate of 2.5%. Continued funding supports PHENOM's efforts to expand the organization to new campuses and focus its leadership development of young people.

RREPS (Recidivism Reduction Educational Program Services)

\$25,000/Yr; 2 Yrs.

General Support

Raleigh, NC

Founded and led by Kerwin Pittman, after serving 11.5 years in state prison, RREPS organizes people impacted by incarceration to lead and implement community organizing and advocacy campaigns aimed at abolishing racism in policing and parole policies and practices and transforming prison structures into centers for reentry and diversion services. RREPS works to build and develop a base of formerly-incarcerated people and people impacted by the criminal legal system who are reached through direct services, mentorship, and leadership development campaigns as well as partnerships with other organizations that serve justice-impacted and justice-involved people.

RREPS organizing strategies include: Leadership development and training programs for formerly incarcerated people to help them develop skills necessary to effectively lead organizing and advocacy campaigns; Direct Action to protest unjust policies and practices and demand change including rallies, vigils, marches, and protests; Civic Engagement including nonpartisan voter education and registration campaigns in communities impacted by incarceration; Community education engaging formerly-incarcerated people to educate and train communities throughout NC about the impacts of and opportunities to help overturn oppressive policies/practices and promote needed reforms in the criminal justice system; Advocacy leveraging relationships with criminal legal system stakeholders and decision-makers at the local and state levels to center the lived experiences of formerly-incarcerated people in direct advocacy for criminal justice reform; Outreach including reentry services which helps RREPS identify new organizers. Key organizing campaigns include: the NC Justice Parole Campaign, the Code Blue Campaign, Unlock Our Vote, Front Line Response, and the Decommision Prison Project which is advocating to convert the long shuttered Durham Correctional Center into a recidivism reduction and reentry center.

Radical Registrars, Inc.

\$20,000/Yr; 2 Yrs.

General Support

San Antonio, TX

Radical Registrars is a Black-woman-led, nonpartisan, grassroots organization dedicated to breaking down barriers to voting for marginalized communities, educating the voters on issues relevant to them, and rallying for voter registration within the BIPOC and LGBTQ+ communities in Central Texas. Radical Registrars works to empower and engage unlikely voters and communities most impacted by voting barriers through dynamic civic education and voter registration drives, and by organizing tailored initiatives and programs prioritized to reach marginalized communities--including bimonthly civic education classes inside the County jail--ensuring their voices are heard and their votes count. Radical Registrars believes that by breaking down barriers to voting, we can work to ensure a more equitable society.

Register Her

\$20,000/Yr; 2 Yrs.

General Support

Los Angeles, CA

Register Her's movement to build holistic political participation and gender and racial equity depends on a shared vision and collaborative effort with community-based organizations, advocacy groups, nonprofits, and social service and health organizations. Their coalition-based approach helps them actively access underserved women and rely on their experience and expertise to address and counter complex systemic barriers hindering their political engagement. Register Her empowers women who are hardest to reach: women of color, Indigenous women, LGBTQ+, and students to drive political conversations and engagement. Their strategies include grassroots organizing, coalition building, and voter engagement and education. Through strategic partnerships, Register Her provides training, voter registration toolkits and communications to social service providers, spread voter ID information (i.e Vote Riders), and hire and pay women to invite other women in their own communities to vote.

Register Her's women-centric model utilizes a multi-pronged approach to activate and register women who have not previously been invited to vote due to a host of societal barriers. Their strategy to reach

women authentically in 2024 will integrate relational organizing, partnerships with grassroots organizations doing similar work in target communities, community partnerships and digital outreach to engage women in six states that experience at least three of the following: a high percentage of people of color, low voter turnout, low numbers of registered voters, a high number of close elections, and momentum on the ground. Register Her have see firsthand the benefits of hiring community-based women leaders in underrepresented groups to steer appropriate resources and solve localized problems related to registering and voting.

Rivers Without Borders

\$23,000/Yr; 2 Yrs.

General Support

Port Townsend, WA

Rivers Without Borders (RWB) is a small conservation advocacy organization focused on several storied river systems flowing across the southeast Alaska panhandle and nourishing extremely productive marine estuaries. With diverse interconnected mountains-to-sea habitat, these watersheds boast off-the-charts conservation values, particularly for salmon and biodiversity, and RWB strives to sustain those values and local indigenous ways of life profoundly tied to them. With a veteran staff and an active, well connected Steering Committee, RWB uses outreach, organizing, and collaborative partnerships to campaign for the protection of the Chilkat River system, which is threatened by a proposed mine in Chilkat headwaters. Partnering with Tribes, communities, commercial fishing organizations, scientists, agencies, grassroots groups, NGOs, media, educators, etc. and hiring contractors with legal or technical expertise, RWB confronts the most pressing threats to ecological integrity and pursues the best opportunities to advance ecosystem-based stewardship.

Rochester Alliance of Communities Transforming Society

\$30,000/Yr; 2 Yrs.

General Support

Rochester, NY

The Rochester Alliance of Communities Transforming Society (RocACTS) is a multi-ethnic, multi-racial, interfaith community organization working to transform the community for the common good by addressing the issues that impact quality of life. A member federation of the Faith in Action Network, RocACTS connects, recruits, trains, organizes, collaborates and supports Greater Rochester Area faith communities and residents on mutual social justice initiatives to positively impact people with a special emphasis on dismantling systemic racism. RocACTS is a leader-led organization with a small staff responsible for supporting the organizing work of various task forces including:

Climate Task Force – working to fund a feasibility study for the establishment of a public utility service for the Rochester area, and an increase in more available building efficiency and electrification funds for low-income communities. **Poverty/Jobs/Housing Task Force** – in collaboration with the City Wide Tenant Union to advocate for the implementation of a Vacancy Rental Study and advocate for the amendment of Introduction 251 for Good Cause Eviction will continue. **Voting Rights Task Force** - collaborating with the League of Women's Voters (LWV), Rochester Metro Area, to administer voter education and voter registration and hosting community civic engagement events for youth, developing a partnership with the Monroe County Jail to introduce civic engagement classes inside of the jail, and host candidate forums for local elections. **Justice System Task Force** - provide representation for the NYS Coalition for Daniel Prude and serve on the Police Accountability Board Alliance.

Sacred Pipe Resource Center

\$20,000/Yr; 2 Yrs.

General Support

Bismarck, ND

The Sacred Pipe Resource Center (SPRC) is a Native-led community serving organization dedicated to engaging the urban Tribal Native American population of Bismarck-Mandan-Lincoln area by providing safe spaces in which they can connect with cultural knowledge, find healing, build community, and affect positive change. SPRC engages the Native community through the use of six Community Councils, groups of Native community members who want to affect positive change in the areas of Housing, Physical Health, Mental and Emotional Wellness, Civic Responsibility, Youth Support, and the Arts, all through the lens of healing and social and economic justice. Funding support is provided for an initiative

that stems from the work of the Housing Council. The Sacred Pipe Resource Center is working to organize a Native-led Tenants Rights Association to combat the predatory housing practices in Bismarck-Mandan-Lincoln that are causing evictions and homelessness among the Native American population to spike. There is currently no tenants' rights association in the area. It is anticipated that once established, the Tenants' Rights Association will spin off into its own organization.

The Outlaw Project

\$20,000/Yr; 2 Yrs.

General Support

Phoenix, AZ

The Outlaw Project is a grassroots, base building organization led by transgender and gender non-conforming people of color who are impacted by policing, the prison industrial complex and other forms of racial, social and environmental injustice in Arizona. Transgender people define their core values, identify and prioritize issues, and determine the appropriate course of action to solve them. The Outlaw Project is a cornerstone in resisting the numerous anti-trans policies and legislation coming up in the Arizona State legislature and they also campaign for the rights of trans people and sex workers all across the United States and as part of global actions for justice centering on the United Nations. The Outlaw Project invests time, training and resources to build cadres of trans people of color and sex workers in Arizona as these communities historically have not had access to civic and community engagement opportunities or positions of power. The Outlaw Project has created an organizing center in Tucson that includes housing for trans people and training spaces, surrounded by environmentally sustainable gardens to heal themselves and the land. From this safe space they are including everyone in the trans community, notably people with disabilities and youth/emerging advocates, in campaigns to address the attacks on their lives.

The People's Justice Project

\$30,000/Yr; 2 Yrs.

General Support

Columbus, OH

People's Justice Project (PJP) is a membership-based organization that works to build the power of Black and Brown people disproportionately affected by state violence, mass criminalization, and incarceration by centering community organizing and leadership development. People from communities most impacted by and vulnerable to over-policing and incarceration constitute PJP's active membership, lead the organization, and engage in organizing campaigns on issues that matter to them through direct action, civic engagement, and leadership development activities. PJP is working to implement a new framework for reentry developed using collective envisioning, researching, and educating to build a system of care and accountability designed and delivered by the community. PJP will use grant funds to support their 2024-2025 People's Safety & Police Accountability campaign, which centers and activates people and communities in Columbus who are impacted by excessive policing and over-investment in law enforcement to promote authentic, community-driven public safety policies and practices. Since Columbus is the state capital, this campaign has the potential for statewide impact.

Troy 4 Black Lives

\$30,000/Yr; 2 Yrs.

General Support

Albany, NY

Troy 4 Black Lives (T4BL) is an intergenerational nonhierarchical collective of organizers in Troy, NY mobilizing for Black Liberation across the many injustices their community faces. T4BL is igniting a new infrastructure for Black leadership by mentoring Black youth, hosting community events that offer healing, connection, education, and developing sustainable mutual aid networks. Since 2017, T4BL have been challenging the "Ol' Boys Network" that dominates local politics, including government, policing and nonprofits, while organizing within the community to transform this city into a place where Black Life matters and everyone can thrive. Troy 4 Black Lives provides political education and leads a City-wide multi-racial coalition to increase police accountability and transparency. Their goals include mentoring Black youth, expanding their local coalition with a new county campaign to overturn a dangerous and harmful "drug dealing" registry, and creating healing spaces and events for people to gather, connect, experience joy and organize with one another.

Urban Native Collective

\$25,000/Yr; 2 Yrs.

General Support

Cincinnati, OH

Urban Native Collective (UNC) is the largest, most representative, grassroots, collective in the region empowering Indigenous communities to restore sovereignty, self determination, sustainability, full health and liberation. UNC uses a regenerative and relational approach to organizing; creating United Indigenous Communities in order to build power to protect and defend their inherent rights as Native Peoples. UNC organizes action when the land and water is threatened, sacred sites are being denigrated, when racism impacts relatives and government policies impact children. UNC advocacy, education and support strategies create real and lasting change that uplifts the voices and experiences of Indigenous communities while challenging the harmful systems and structures that perpetuate inequality and injustice. The Urban Native Collective has a 100% Indigenous board and leadership staff. Located on the land of the Shawnee, Osage Nation, Myaamia, Shawandasse Tula, and Kaskaskia, their community center, resource library and base of operations serves Ohi'yo, Northern Kentucky, and Indiana lands. UNC fights the legacy of dispossession and systemic discrimination by nurturing and growing Indigenous community and connection.

Voter Choice Arizona

\$25,000/Yr; 2 Yrs.

General Support

Peoria, AZ

Choice Arizona is a non-partisan volunteer-based organization founded in 2019. Their focus is to improve the outcomes of the election system by bringing Ranked Choice Voting to Arizona. Ranked Choice Voting (RCV) ensures the winner has majority support, reduces negative campaigning, and increases the influence of an individual's vote. RCV increases the participation and representation of women and under represented minorities in the electoral process. Voter Choice Arizona is accomplishing this goal by building a movement to support Ranked Choice Voting in Arizona through the education of Arizona citizens and development an enactment campaign, toward the larger objective of launching, passing and then implementing a ballot initiative for a state constitutional amendment that will allow RCV at the municipal level in AZ. They are doing this by establishing regional chapters across the state, canvassing at events, speaking to groups and organizations, and holding meetings and events Voter of their own to educate voters and attract volunteers, endorsements and donations with a goal to place an election reform issue on the ballot in 2026. Therefore, 2025 and 2026 will be critical years as they focus their work in 6 areas: Education, Outreach, Coalition Building, Fundraising, Research, and Media.

Voter Empowerment Project

\$25,000/Yr; 2 Yrs.

General Support

Albany, NY

The Voter Empowerment Project (VEP) is a largely volunteer-led, technical assistance organization that builds the capacity of small state and local grassroots organizations that mobilize communities of color, first-time voters, new Americans, youth, rural communities, returning citizens, and others facing barriers to voting. VEP promotes civic participation by creating meaningful opportunities for volunteer service based on one's skills, talents, and interests. Volunteer experts provide remote technical assistance on tasks that include communications, content writing, graphic design, data analysis, marketing, fundraising, research, social media, video, volunteer recruitment, web design, and more. VEP is piloting a just, low-cost model for building grassroots capacity that has great potential to scale.

For 2025, VEP plans to focus on assisting their smallest Partners with critical capacity building activities while also aiding other Partners in growing to the point where they no longer need VEP's support. VEP will be paying special attention on activities to boost voter turnout where there are state and local races in 2025 and will build on the current momentum of enthusiasm to motivate existing volunteers to stay involved and recruit new volunteers for 2025 and 2026 civic participation.

We are Revolutionary

\$25,000/Yr; 2 Yrs.

General Support

Albany, NY

We are Revolutionary (WaR) organizes BIPOC communities historically marginalized and excluded from housing, employment, and educational opportunities in South Albany to advocate for themselves and work for changes in their community. WaR builds on the work of Black revolutionary groups of the 1960's and 1970's in South Albany that strategized ways to overcome oppression but were targeted by the police, government, and local politicians to prevent them from succeeding. Founded and led by directly impacted organizers, WaR uses "deep canvassing" and relational organizing to engage with people who have also been impacted by Adverse Childhood Experiences (ACEs) and who are uninvolved in civic life because they feel disempowered, hopeless, and disengaged from political processes. WaR meets people where they are at by providing experiential civic engagement education and outreach programs including door-knocking, family outings, library and school activities, legislative visits to the capital, and summer programs which bring elected officials out to meet with families.

In 2024, WaR's central focus is empowering the Black vote, educating the community about the importance of voting, and equipping individuals with the tools to identify strong candidates. WaR will identify and document support to 2,500 Black men with an emphasis on formerly incarcerated men who don't think they have the right to vote based on past felonies. This project will broaden civic engagement to diminish the often overlooked and alienated populations of men who are formerly incarcerated. This project also seeks to identify social context indicators that significantly contribute to voter registration to test a model for voter registration that can be adapted nationwide.

Wisconsin Climate Table

\$20,000/Yr; 2 Yrs.

General Support

Madison, WI

The Wisconsin Climate Table (WCT) is a network of more than 30 member organizations dedicated to equitably eliminating greenhouse gas emissions in Wisconsin by 2050. WCT works collaboratively to create tools and resources, educate their members, and amplify strategies that will help reach climate goals. Members of the Climate Table represent a range of expertise in environmental justice, renewable energy, public interest advocacy, interfaith organizing, grassroots organizing, public health, climate policy, conservation, and more. Committed to equity and environmental justice, WCT builds relationships with community-based organizations and is focused on increasing their capacity at the grassroots level. Areas of focus in 2023 and 2024 are: 1) equitable implementation statewide of the Wisconsin Clean Energy Plan; 2) supporting local governments in centering equity in climate planning and resilience strategies, and; 3) lifting the voices of frontline communities who bear the brunt of energy burden and risk to health and safety as a direct result of climate change. Funding will support grassroots organizing in Milwaukee to raise awareness, build advocacy efforts, and collect stories of the disparate impacts of climate change on low-income communities and communities of color. These impacts include high energy burden, risk of exposure to extreme heat and cold, and other risks to health and safety that have resulted from decades of disinvestment in communities on the front lines of climate change.