



GROUNDSWELL
ACTION FUND

2019

Groundswell Action Fund Docket





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**“We’re fighting because people literally are in harm’s way....
It’s getting really clear about what all of our roles [are]
in bringing people who are in harm’s way to the center
and saying every single strategy that we can employ
to ensure that your life is protected, we’re going
to employ those strategies.”**

— JESSICA BYRD, THE ELECTORAL JUSTICE PROJECT

Across the country, women of color—with Black women in the lead—are at the vanguard of progressive change, fighting for liberation, not just for themselves, but for all people. **Groundswell Action Fund (GAF)** supports some of the nation’s most effective and visionary leaders as they build the power of progressive, justice-based organizations to transform culture and shape political outcomes, including elections and public policy. We are committed to supporting work in communities historically ignored by funders and believe that those most excluded from our democracy should be at the center of transforming it. That’s why, of the 24 organizations included on this docket, 23 are women of color-led or co-led, ten are based in the South, and eight are led by Black women.

While 2019 may be an “off” year in terms of national electoral politics, there are no off years for Groundswell Action Fund-supported organizations.

This year, groups in Florida (New Florida Majority, Black Youth Project 100 Action Fund, and Black Voters Matter Fund) and Virginia (New Virginia Majority) continued their vital efforts to re-enfranchise returning citizens. In Florida, this meant protecting the tremendous victory of Amendment 4, which passed overwhelmingly on the November 2018 Florida statewide ballot to restore voting rights to 1.4 million returning citizens, but was immediately attacked in 2019 by the Florida Legislature. In Virginia, it meant continuing to support the painstaking process of re-enfranchising more than 150,000 returning citizens one at a time and working toward larger policy change.

In Michigan, the District of Columbia, Pennsylvania, and Mississippi, Care in Action fought to protect or pass laws that would both increase the minimum wage and end the lower minimum wage for tipped workers. In Chicago and San Antonio, Jobs with Justice, the Texas Organizing Project, and the Southwest Workers Union and their allies won municipal paid sick day laws and continue to work to win similar state-level laws.

While running effective policy campaigns, all of our grantee organizations have continued to build their base of supporters. They have nurtured new leaders, registered and activated voters, developed effective media campaigns (both traditional and digital) rooted in powerful new narratives that center justice, held elected officials accountable, and trained the next generation of candidates and campaign managers. They have learned how to build and use power, not just to win specific laws or elections, but to transform their communities and this nation—to free all of us.

But as these waves of liberation and justice are building, those who benefit from the relegation of the emerging majority—people of color, transgender and gender non-conforming (TGNC) people, young people, immigrants—to the sidelines of democracy are fighting to hold on to their power, knowing that time and demography are not on their side.

Across the country, especially in the South and Midwest, Groundswell Action Fund grantees are confronting an increase in voter suppression, including new laws that make it harder to vote and the ongoing purging of state voter rolls—and continuing to build strength and power. They know these laws are violent expressions of a white supremacist backlash aimed at stopping their communities from taking the power to which they are entitled.

In Tennessee, GAF grantee The Equity Alliance Fund's (TEAF) work contributed to historic Black voter turnout in the 2018 midterm elections—a 413% increase over 2014—and the state legislature immediately retaliated, passing a bill that would have placed severe restrictions on groups, such as TEAF, from being able to conduct paid voter registration drives and created criminal and financial penalties for any group out of compliance. The bill was signed into law, but its implementation has been stayed thanks to a legal challenge filed by TEAF and its allies. In late September, a federal court judge ruled the new law unconstitutional and its implementation has been stopped indefinitely. But for TEAF, and all our grantees, the attacks will continue.

Voter suppression and racism aren't the only elements that accompany a rise in fascism. It is nearly always fueled by a rise in patriarchy and a move to intensify control over the bodies of women, people of color, and LGBTQ people.

Murders of transgender women of color are at an all-high, as are attacks on the right of TGNC people to access nondiscriminatory health care, housing, employment, and other basic rights. In recent months, 13 states have passed laws to make it more difficult for pregnant people to get an abortion, with Alabama passing a law that makes abortion illegal in all circumstances, except when the person's life is endangered, and six other states (Georgia, Kentucky, Louisiana, Mississippi, Missouri, and Ohio) passed so-called fetal heartbeat laws that make abortion illegal after six or eight weeks, with few exceptions, even rape or incest. Similarly, Arkansas and Utah passed 18-week abortion bans.

None of these laws have been enacted yet, many have been met with strong public and even corporate opposition, and all face legal challenges. Virtually all of these states are in the South, and most of them are states that have been left out of mainstream political funding portfolios. In all of these states, people of color—and women of color especially—are underrepresented in the electorate, thanks to generations of state-sanctioned voter suppression and racism.

But victories are possible, even in the toughest places. After the heartbreaking passage of a November 2018 ballot measure that removed language in the state constitution guaranteeing all West Virginia women the right to an abortion, GAF grantee WV Free Action Fund used the moment to rally and engage the forces of reproductive justice. This year, WV Free Action Fund pushed the legislature and the governor to win a law that makes West Virginia one of only ten states that allow women to buy hormonal birth control over the counter, directly from a pharmacist. The organization also pushed for expansion of Medicaid and CHIP benefits to pregnant people; worked on local elections; and helped progressive, pro-reproductive justice candidates win majorities on the Charleston City Council and races in counties and smaller cities across the state.

A growing body of power-building work includes the historic campaigns to decriminalize sex work in New York and Washington, D.C., an issue that is edging its way into 2020 campaign discourse. There has been longtime organizing on this issue by sex workers for the past several decades, and recent movement on this issue in the media has increased in response to the passage of the Stop Enabling Sex Traffickers Act (SESTA) and Allow States and Victims to Fight Online Sex Trafficking Act (FOSTA) in 2018, legislation that conflates sex trafficking and sex work, and that makes sex workers even more economically and physically vulnerable to violence.

There is some good news on this front: In the summer of 2019, the Community Safety and Health Amendment Act, a bill that would remove criminal penalties from selling and buying sex in D.C., was introduced with the leadership of the DECRIMNOW campaign and Sex Worker Advocates Coalition (SWAC). Trans United Fund, a leading partner in SWAC and Groundswell Action Fund grantee,

will implement its Sex Worker Justice Voter program to engage thousands of voters to pledge their support for the bill and scale efforts to build significant public pressure to get the bill passed.

Attacks on immigrants and refugees also continue and increase: the militarization of the southern border, the continued separation of children (including newborn infants) from their mothers and families, and the imprisonment of refugees in inhumane conditions are all part of this right wing, white supremacist backlash. In response, Groundswell Action Fund grantees CHIRLA Action Fund, Mijente, MPowerChange Action Fund, Texas Organizing Project, and Southwest Workers Union, among others, are taking direct action to keep the tens of thousands of immigrants and refugees, both in and outside the United States, in the public eye and to demand an end to these racist, inhumane conditions and policies. These organizations and their allies are mobilizing immigrant communities to engage voters and register new ones in order to build the political power needed to transform U.S. immigration policy. They've made demands to make progressive, human rights-based immigration policy reform a central issue in the 2020 elections, and will ensure that these issues remain central during and after the election.

As the power of Groundswell Action Fund grantees and their movement allies grows and finds voice at the ballot box and in legislative bodies, attacks will come faster and harder.

The right wing will continue to use blatantly racist strategies to enact laws that punish and marginalize low-income, immigrant, LGBTQ+ communities and communities of color to solidify and mobilize its political base and power. Its goal is also to advance a corporate, anti-worker agenda of deregulation, tax breaks, and environmental degradation.

The only way the right wing can win is to stop the leaders and communities it most fears—including Groundswell Action Fund grantees and their allies—from building their power so it is commensurate with their numbers. This battle makes the work of our grantees even more important and resource-intensive than ever before. In

doing so, it forces rapid response strategies and defensive campaigns that redirect energy from proactive justice work and ongoing work on a variety of issues, from abortion to climate change to healthcare to immigration to mass incarceration to workers' rights.

Organizations must be ready to fight back immediately and at full throttle.

This is why our grantees and their progressive allies must advance and employ the 501(c)(4) strategies that allow them to enter the political fray without the legal restrictions that hamstringing nonprofit organizing and advocacy by progressive 501(c)(3) organizations.

This is why Groundswell Action Fund was created in 2017. For example, All* Above All Action Fund and its 501(c)(3) partner were created to build the power needed to lift bans on abortion coverage funding, including the federal Hyde Amendment. For five years, these organizations have worked with on-the-ground partners using culture shift strategies to change the narrative about abortion access and coverage—and this work has paid off. Until this year, the Hyde Amendment was a highly charged, political third rail that candidates avoided even discussing; but today, nearly every 2020 Democratic presidential candidate has committed to lifting the Hyde Amendment. This is a huge change, and one that will bring increased scrutiny to All* Above All over the coming months as the presidential campaign heats up. Many 501(c)(3)s will be forced to go quiet on the issue of abortion as the election draws closer due to IRS prohibition on any issue-based work that could be construed as partisan and thus electioneering. Having a 501(c)(4) arm and strategy will enable All* Above All to keep the issue alive during the 2020 campaign and, just as important, to hold elected officials accountable to the promises they make after the campaign is over.

The unprecedented climate of hate and fear in which our grantees organize reinforces the need for year-round, unrestricted funding.

As we've seen repeatedly, wins are paper thin and vulnerable without an organizing infrastructure that holds elected officials accountable and ensures implementation of policy victories. The wins are important, but the real goal is transformation and liberation, a sea change in what's

possible in this country. We also know that building power is not linear and that it's never over. That's why Groundswell Action Fund is committed to multiyear support of organizations to advance justice not just in election season, but year-in, year-out.

August 2019 marked the 400th anniversary of the arrival of 20 or more human beings stolen from their homes in Africa to Jamestown in the then-colony of Virginia. These people were sold into perpetual, inheritable enslavement to white settlers by the men who had abducted them. As many have noted in the sober, painful revisiting of U.S. history that this tragic, enraging anniversary has generated, this country was built on the most profound of contradictions: founding documents that proclaim that all white men (not men of color, women, or TGNC people) are born equal, but also codify the conditions of enslavement that ensnared the lives of at least 20 percent of the population.

Throughout history, people of color, women, and TGNC people—the people left out of the Declaration of Independence and diminished by the U.S. Constitution—have been the keepers of the flame of democracy, continuing to believe in the “American dream” even when it was denied them by law. Women of color, with Black women in the lead, and TGNC leaders blaze trails and innovate the field to ensure that democracy represents the will of the people for the long term. Funding and support of the myriad strategies to build power takes collaboration, commitment, and courage.

We invite you to join us on the liberatory path being built by the powerful organizations Groundswell Action funds and supports.



Courtesy of Advance Native Political Leadership Action Fund

2019 Groundswell Action Fund Grantees

Advance Native Political Leadership Action Fund | \$50,000

Advance Native Political Leadership is the only national Native American-led organization addressing the vast inequities that exist in funding and support for Native American-led, especially Native women-led, electoral work. It develops and implements national political power-building strategies for Native people living in both urban and tribal communities. Last year, Advance brought together more than 120 candidates, organizers, strategists, youth advocates, and allies for the first-ever national Native Power Building Summit, creating a multifaceted national network of people, organizations, and communities invested in building political power for Native peoples at the local, state, and national levels, especially in cities and states where they have inherent power because of population, natural resources, and economic capacity. In 2018, more Native people ran for office—and won—than ever before, including the first two Native women elected to the U.S. Congress. Over the next year, with Groundswell support, Advance will create a sustainable infrastructure to ensure that Native communities are engaged and included in important political strategies, nationally and locally, especially in states with significant Native populations. Advance will build the digital organizing capacity of Native communities; create the first national database of Native candidates, elected officials, activists, vendors, and consultants; and plan and host its second annual Power Building Summit for more than 200 leaders,

activists, organizers, and allies. Advance's long-term goal is to achieve political power and sovereignty for Native peoples and nations.

All* Above All Action Fund | \$75,000

Founded in 2014, the All* Above All Action Fund was created to build the political power necessary to lift all bans that deny abortion coverage, including the Hyde Amendment. It advances a vision of self-determination, dignity, and personal decision-making for all women, regardless of race, geography, or income level. At the national level, it supports the EACH Woman Act, which would give access to abortion care to all women, including those covered by insurance through the federal government, and require that all insurers cover abortion care, which would prevent local, state, and federal interference or prohibition. Over the next year, the Action Fund will sponsor its annual All* Above All Road Trip, featuring a truck emblazoned with its logo that will stop in key locations including debate sites, national conventions, and other important presidential campaign locations. It will carry out voter registration, and organize digital campaigns targeted to candidates, guerilla light projections, and rallies and other events with local partners. In late 2019, the Action Fund will host its annual Action Institute in Houston to provide activists and on-the-ground partners with the tools and support they need to ensure that ending any and all abortion bans is a key issue in the 2020 elections. The Action Fund centers the leadership of those most affected



Courtesy of Asian Pacific Environmental Action Network

by abortion bans, especially low-income women of color, and carries out research, including polling that informs strategies for moving policymakers and voters.

Asian Pacific Environmental Network Action (APEN Action) | \$50,000

Celebrating 25 years of organizing in 2019, APEN Action engages poor and working-class Asian American immigrants, refugees, and voters in California in their primary languages during elections and beyond. APEN Action discovered that mainstream political parties had failed to contact nearly three-quarters of Asian American voters in California, whose numbers had doubled between 2008 and 2016; to close that gap, it employed culturally and linguistically appropriate integrated voter engagement (IVE) strategies to reach them. APEN is part of a movement that has helped to increase turnout by 94 percent and helped to win and implement dozens of state and local environmental justice policies. Last year, APEN Action made more than 12,000 direct nonpartisan voter contacts and nearly 75,000 indirect contacts. It supported and won a range of local and state policies to advance equitable climate and clean energy solutions that promote clean air and create jobs and economic opportunity; promote rent stabilization and renter

protections; and protect children's health. Over the next year, it plans to connect with at least 16,000 voters; carry out public education and voter outreach in Asian American communities to support the Schools and Communities First ballot initiative, which would close a loophole in California's Prop 13 and increase corporate property tax revenues and funding for schools and community services; finalize and advocate for a state Green New Deal Policy Platform; and carry out voter education on climate, including support for 100 percent equitable, clean, renewable energy, electrification of transportation and goods movement, and climate solution investments in poor and working-class communities of color, as well as pressing for strong regulations to reduce local emissions of greenhouse gases. It will also work with the California Environmental Justice Coalition and other allies to press for a managed decline of oil and gas production in the state.

Black to the Future Action Fund | \$50,000

The Black to the Future Action Fund is a 501(c)(4) organization that transforms Black communities into constituencies that build Black political power in cities and states. Black to the Future enacts policies that improve the lives of Black people and elects Black legislators with progressive values who move progressive policies. In

2020, Black to the Future Action Fund will make Black communities powerful in politics by expanding, motivating, and activating the electorate through its voter program, Black to the Ballot. This will include registering at least 20,000 new Black voters in advance of the presidential primary and the presidential general election in 2020, with a focus on new constituencies (returning citizens, unlikely or infrequent voters, trans and gender nonconforming communities). Black to the Future Action Fund launched the Black to the Future Public Policy Institute in January 2020, which will build the capacity of Black communities to design, win, and implement policy in cities and states. The goal is to train 100 grassroots leaders through the Policy Institute.

Black Voters Matter Fund (BVMF) | \$50,000

BVMF was created to increase political power in marginalized, predominantly Black communities. In 2017, its first year of operation, BVMF supported 32 community-based organizations and scores of individual activists in largely Black regions of Alabama and Georgia ignored by mainstream political operatives and funders. Over the past year, BVMF continued to work in Georgia and Alabama, while expanding into Florida, South Carolina, Mississippi, and Tennessee. It launched a bus tour into those states, plus a stop in Houston, where it provided rides to the polls to students at Texas Southern University, an HBCU. In Georgia, BVMF, working with other organizations, fueled all-time high voter turnout and challenged a last-minute attempt to close 90 percent of the polling places in one majority Black rural county. It also supported work in Florida that resulted in huge increases in Black voter turnout, and in Tennessee, a state ignored by other national entities, BVMF organizing helped to increase Black voter turnout to levels never before seen in a midterm year. Over the next year, BVMF will expand into Virginia, rural Louisiana, Pennsylvania (specifically small cities and rural communities), and potentially Michigan, where supporters in Kalamazoo have already launched their own BVM chapter. In Mississippi, Georgia, Florida, and Tennessee, BVMF aims to increase Black voter turnout by 10 percent over 2018 levels. For groups in all of its partner states, BVMF will provide mini-grants of \$500 to \$5,000, training and strategy support, and ongoing connection and networking among partner organizations to support peer learning and end isolation. It will also continue and expand its successful bus tours, which register and activate voters, allow for on-site training and support, and help local

partners gain media attention. BVMF will also increase communications support, both digital and mainstream, to its partners. To support this dramatically increased work, BVMF is adding staff and building its own organizational capacity.

Black Women for Wellness Action Project (BWWAP) | \$40,000

Founded in 2017, BWWAP's mission is to build and exercise the electoral power of Black women in California through advocacy, and civic and political engagement. BWWAP, the only reproductive justice (RJ) 501(c)(4) in California, is rooted in the RJ framework of Black Women for Wellness, a Los Angeles-based organization that has served California's Black women and girls for more than 20 years. BWWAP's goals include building elected official accountability; researching, creating, supporting, and advocating for policy and candidates to improve the lives of Black women and girls; increasing voter education around issues that affect Black women and girls; and engaging in culture shift work that catalyzes social and political change. Over the next year, BWWAP will use GAF support to develop its own organizational capacity, including building infrastructure and a strong board; creating and advancing policies that address issues of importance to Black women and girls, particularly those that reduce or eliminate disproportionately negative health effects; and supporting cultural change campaigns—digital, print, video, mainstream media, and multimedia—that reimagine Black women's and girls' lives and advance political power.

Black Youth Project 100 Action Fund (BYP100AF) | \$40,000

Founded in 2013 in the aftermath of the acquittal of George Zimmerman for the murder of Trayvon Martin, BYP100AF is a national, member-based organization of Black activists and organizers, 18–35 years old, dedicated to creating justice and freedom for all Black people. It accomplishes this by building a network of activists engaged in transformative leadership development, direct action organizing, and advocacy and political education using a Black queer feminist lens. Headquartered in Chicago, BYP100AF has a membership of 200 young Black people across the country, including chapter-based members in Durham, NC; Detroit, MI; Jackson, MS; Milwaukee, WI; New Orleans, LA; New York City; Washington, DC; and Atlanta, GA, as well as national



Black Youth Project 100 Action Fund, Courtesy of Larry Bryant Photography

members in cities without chapters. Over the next year, BYP100AF aims to engage 10 percent of young unregistered Black people in its chapter cities, registering and organizing them to vote in order to advance the rights of Black women and girls, and gender nonconforming, non-binary, queer, and trans people. BYP100AF will mobilize its national and chapter-based members through a series of webinars and local meetings, and build a 2020 Electoral Team to create and run a digital outreach/engagement campaign coordinated with direct voter contact and registration efforts. It will develop and test persuasion messaging and different types of engagement (e.g., peer-to-peer texting, social media ad campaigns, and a digital newsletter). With GAF support, it will also acquire and use relational voter contact and mobilization technology to distribute issue and voter guides to its network; expand its #SlaytheVote campaign targeted to Black LGBTQ-identifying youth and elders; leverage cultural organizing through the Experience Black Joy tour, a series of member-curated place-based events and actions in communities across the nation; engage in in-person political education targeting Black clergy and students at community colleges and HBCUs; and offer free transportation to the polls by providing scooter codes to anyone it has registered to vote.

Black Progressive Action Coalition (BPAC) | \$75,000

BPAC is an independent progressive coalition committed to empowering Black communities through civic engagement, community mobilization, and campaigns that turn issues into policies that change peoples' lives. Anchored by a base of 150,000 individual supporters and activists across 21 states, BPAC is a hub for more than a dozen 501(c)(4) organizational partners around the country that rely on BPAC for qualitative and quantitative research, coordination, and strategic communications assistance. In 2018, BPAC and its partners connected with more than one million voters, and had multiple face-to-face conversations with 800,000 of them. In 2019, BPAC is engaging Black voters on the ground in Louisiana and Virginia, and supporting partners and members in issue-based efforts to keep voters engaged and motivated. BPAC is also launching a Black Citizenship in Action (BCIA) campaign to develop a core of 1,500 grassroots leaders and train at least 3,500 people via workshops in 12 states (California, Texas, Tennessee, Louisiana, Georgia, Kentucky, Illinois, Michigan, Ohio, Virginia, North Carolina, and South Carolina) that will then connect with at least 10,000 voters. BCIA workshops will be rooted in explicit challenges to anti-Black racism and will build the collective ability of Black people and Black communities to analyze and sharpen strategies for lifting up

and taking down the existential threat of anti-Black racism and understanding how those strategies can be used to build progressive Black power.

Care in Action (CA) | \$75,000

Founded in 2016 by Ai-Jen Poo and Alicia Garza of the National Domestic Workers Alliance, CA works on behalf of women of color, especially domestic workers, to build the civic power of this critical segment of the U.S. electorate, protect democracy, and advance policies that promote equity and justice. To accomplish this vision, CA is expanding its field program into 15 states in 2019 and 2020, using the strategies honed in Georgia for African-American voters and in Nevada for Latinx voters. It will also develop an ambitious, cross-organizational immigration narrative that motivates voters and brings its care agenda, particularly universal family care (UFC) and the federal Domestic Worker Bill of Rights, into the national election conversation. Women of color are among the most reliable voters for progressive values, but have not been given their seat at the table of electoral and power politics, nor provided with the leadership and resources necessary to increase their already-robust participation as voters and community leaders. CA's goal is to change that. To do so, over the next year, CA will launch and implement an ambitious program to bring women of color into political power, hiring more than a dozen staff to support canvassing and digital organizing in Georgia, North Carolina, Nevada, Virginia, Iowa, Wisconsin, Michigan, Maine, South Carolina, and Minnesota. CA will also provide regrants to partners on the ground in Iowa, Maine, Michigan, Minnesota, and Wisconsin to support its universal family care agenda, and organize a forum about eldercare, childcare, and care worker issues. It will improve its digital strategy and technology as well as its data infrastructure in order to create systems that reach its core constituencies efficiently and consistently, and increase voter turnout. By the end of 2019, CA will launch its expanded organizing efforts and a digital voter protection program, with a goal of talking to 923,704 voters and registering 34,000 voters. By 2020, CA hopes to add 500 temporary, part-time canvassers in order to talk to 2.5 million voters of color, register 100,000 voters of color, and make more than five million attempts to contact voters of color in targeted communities.

CHIRLA Action Fund | \$50,000

Latinx people are now almost 40 percent of California's population, but account for only 21 percent of its electorate. Founded in 2009, CHIRLA Action Fund's goal is to bring Latinx people into the electorate and build their political power to reflect their numbers, at every level, from local to state to national. Through its Immigrant Political Power Program, CHIRLA is working in seven targeted regions of California, including the city and county of Los Angeles, to contact Latinx voters, especially infrequent voters, using a mix of paid and volunteer staff who will make from four to seven in-language contacts with each person, on the phone, at the door, or at community events. This direct contact will amplify the impact of earned media and text messaging. Over the past year, CHIRLA Action Fund helped push the federal Dream and Promise Act, HR 6, which would protect and expand the DACA program. HR 6 passed the House overwhelmingly, with California's delegation voting 46-7 in favor. While the bill stalled due to Senate inaction, CHIRLA Action Fund is continuing to press for its passage. CHIRLA Action Fund is also opposing funding increases for the Immigration and Customs Enforcement agency (ICE) and the Department of Homeland Security that would lead to more deportations, raids, incarceration of immigrants, and family separations. It will also support the 2020 Schools and Communities First California state ballot measure that would reform Prop 13 by increasing property taxes for the largest corporations and increasing funding for schools and community services; CHIRLA Action Fund will provide signature-gathering support, voter education, and GOTV (get out the vote) campaigns. CHIRLA Action Fund will also be active in presidential and congressional races, and already hosted an immigration forum for presidential candidates held in Pasadena in spring 2019. Over the next year, CHIRLA Action Fund will contact almost 320,000 people on the phone and at the door, and identify almost 200,000 likely voters.

COLOR Action Fund (COLORAF) | \$40,000

Founded in 2017, COLORAF's mission is to enable Latinx families in Colorado to lead safe, healthy, and self-determined lives. It engages Latinx voters and their families and allies in reproductive health and justice issues to create a political climate that supports access for all people to the full range of reproductive health services; increases



Courtesy of COLOR Action Fund

the number of RJ champions elected at the local, state, and national levels; holds elected officials accountable; and changes laws and transforms systems to support these goals. Latina-led and focused, COLORAF will use GAF support to enhance its organizational capacity—building its board of directors and its candidate and initiative endorsement process infrastructure, as well as its field campaign capacity, and developing accountability strategy and mechanisms, along with a digital and media strategy aimed at supporting and protecting champions. It will carry out field campaigns in support of endorsed candidates, and is still in the process of determining whether it will focus on primary or general elections in 2020.

The Electoral Justice Project (formerly Movement for Black Lives Action Fund) | \$75,000

Founded in 2017, EJP's goal is to close the gap between Black political potential and Black political power. EJP works in partnership with Movement for Black Lives (M4BL) organizations to build the largest-ever political mobilization of Black people in the United States. By growing civic power and strengthening an affirming political vision, EJP equips local leaders and organizations with the skills and knowledge required to build the political power necessary to win in the short term, while developing a lasting Black-led electoral infrastructure for the long term. Last year, with Groundswell Action Fund support, EJP trained 12 Black organizers to manage electoral campaigns and develop and execute local electoral campaigns in 12 cities across

the country. Over the next two years, EJP will create and provide free, accessible, and sustainable educational tools and spaces to seed long-term community leadership and capacity in communities where Black people have limited access to fundamental voter and civic education, voter registration and rights education, and hands-on technical training in electoral work. EJP will recruit its second and third cohort of Electoral Justice Fellows, 10–12 individuals total, selected through a competitive process, who will receive 300 hours of training and a stipend. EJP will convene 200–250 town hall meetings and five to ten ongoing caucus structures in key states and communities, facilitated by fellows and staff, prominent movement leaders, and affiliate partners in the M4BL network. The caucuses will support capacity building and best practices around nonpartisan voter and civic engagement efforts on the issues important to each locale's Black constituency. EJP will host civic and voter education seminars using calls and webinars, as well as in-person sessions, and also staff a 24-hour help hotline to support organizers on the ground. EJP also will provide competitive micro-grants to grassroots organizational partners to support and sustain their work, including litigation to challenge voter suppression, transportation to the polls, training, and technology. Finally, in July 2020, EJP will organize and host a national Convention for Black Citizens from across the nation that will produce a state-by-state voter guide and a candidate tracker that will detail candidates' stands on issues that directly affect Black communities and individuals.



Courtesy of Mijente

Jobs With Justice (JWJ) | \$50,000

JWJ is a national network encompassing more than 30 coalitions in 25 states. JWJ believes that all workers should have collective bargaining rights, employment security, and a decent standard of living within an economy that works for everyone; it brings together labor, community, student, and faith voices at the local, state, and national levels to win improvements in people's lives and shape the narrative on workers' rights and the economy. JWJ builds the civic engagement of working people through strategic policy campaigns including state and local ballot initiatives. It also uses digital and mainstream communications strategies to develop new narratives on issues such as jobs and the economy aimed at promoting civic engagement and shaping electoral and policy outcomes. In 2018, JWJ helped lead three coalitions in Missouri that scored huge statewide initiative victories: overturning the state's right-to-work law, raising the minimum wage to \$12/hour by 2023, and winning a set of policies that will help get money out of Missouri politics. In Florida, JWJ worked with partners to win the historic ballot initiative that restored the right to vote to 1.6 million formerly incarcerated individuals. In 2019, JWJ Long Island helped win a New York state law that permits all New Yorkers, regardless of citizenship status, to obtain drivers' licenses. In New York City, JWJ affiliate ALIGN, through its leadership of the Climate Works for All coalition, won passage of a law that requires owners of the city's largest buildings to slash their climate emissions by 40 percent by 2030 and 80 percent by 2050. In Arizona, JWJ helped lead a coalition that placed a Sanctuary City measure on the Tucson municipal ballot in November 2019. If approved, the measure will prevent local police from asking about

immigration status and limit cooperation between the city and federal immigration agencies. Massachusetts JWJ is building support for the Fair Work Week bill, introduced in both houses of the legislature earlier this year, through lobby days and regular engagement with legislators. JWJ also helped write and win fair scheduling legislation in Chicago, and is working statewide in Illinois to win a state Fair Work Week bill. Over the next year, JWJ will continue its successful work in Missouri, gathering signatures for one ballot measure to expand Medicaid and another to expand voting rights.

Mijente | \$30,000

Launched in 2015, Mijente is a digital and grassroots movement building hub that raises the profile of policy issues that matter to Latinx communities and increases the participation of Latinx and Chicanx people in broader movements for racial, economic, climate, and gender justice. Mijente reaches Latinx people marginalized in Latinx spaces and locked out of leadership roles in Latinx organizations—Black; LGBTQ; transgender or gender nonconforming people; women; and those who are low-income, working class, or formerly incarcerated—focusing on regions of the country without adequate organizing infrastructure or resources. Over the next year, Mijente will carry out on-the-ground campaigns in emerging battleground states of Arizona, North Carolina, and Georgia, where the steady and dramatic growth of the Latinx population is changing demographics and politics, and where Mijente has strong relationships with groups on the ground and with national partners such as the Working Families Party, Care in Action, Electoral Justice Project, Sunrise Movement, and Indivisible. Its goal is to

continue to increase the Latinx vote (both in numbers and percentage of total vote), convert nonvoters into voters, and build the infrastructure necessary to support and grow post-election organizing. Its plan is organized around three core strategies: voter turnout and conversion in its three key states, Latinx-specific digital and communications persuasion and engagement, and positioning Latinx people as key protagonists in the 2020 election by making their voices and issues heard through historically high levels of turnout across the nation. Through its new Pop Up Web Shop, Mijente will directly support on-the-ground partners' voter mobilization programs by helping with digital tools and communications programs, and, in collaboration with its technology incubator, develop new tools as needed. In addition, Mijente will test messaging and content aimed at voters who have historically been unpersuaded by traditional progressive talking points, including in Florida, where it will partner with Florida New Majority. Finally, to ensure high levels of turnout, it will work outside of target states with a Latinx-marketed website designed to reach and assist both unaffiliated activists and first-time voters as they navigate the challenges of registering to vote and voting. It will connect these individuals to local organizations, and carry out a series of activities, including on-line, bilingual candidate forums.

Montana Native Vote (MNV) | \$50,000

Native Americans are the largest non-white demographic group in many Western states, including Montana where they are seven percent of the population. Since 2011, MNV has been Montana's only statewide advocacy group developing and advocating for policies and programs to achieve political and economic power and cultural self-determination for Native Americans. MNV carries out year-round organizing, community outreach, leadership development, electoral engagement, and candidate endorsement on Montana's seven reservations and in urban areas, where more than half of the Native population lives. Over the next year, MNV plans to add at least 1,000 new members and continue to build its infrastructure across the state; register at least 2,000 new Native voters; train 10 people in voter engagement skills; and increase Native turnout over the 2016 level (65 percent, an historic high). It will also train at least 10 new leaders in community organizing skills, and support Native people to run for the state legislature and support them through training in how to run effective campaigns. MNV will also focus on the 2020 census, ensuring that Native people have the information they need to participate, reaching 23,000 people

via a digital outreach campaign and hundreds more by tabling and presenting at community events, and gathering at least 7,000 pledges to participate in the census. Finally, MNV will protect and support Native people's right to vote by working with county election officials and Tribal leaders to establish new, satellite election offices across Indian Country. It will also continue to partner with progressive organization partners to carry out robust election and voter protection programs.

MPower Change Action Fund (MPowerAF) | \$50,000

MPowerAF's mission is build the power of Muslim Americans to influence the decisions of corporations, media entities, and elected officials at the local, state, and federal levels through electoral organizing, call-in campaigns, in-person meetings, and creative direct action. As the 501(c)(4) partner of MPower Change, MPowerAF was created in 2015 to harness the untapped power of Muslim Americans as voters and activists. MPowerAF has compiled a national Muslim surname list to capture as many Muslim American voters as possible in the Voter Activation Network. GAF funding will support #MyMuslimVote, an ongoing program to increase Muslim voter turnout in population centers such as Ohio, Pennsylvania, Wisconsin, Virginia, Texas, Arizona, North Carolina, and Florida, where MPowerAF will partner with more than 25 groups on the ground plus more than 150 Muslim student association chapters at colleges and universities across the country. Through a national #MyMuslimVote coalition that includes local, state, and national Muslim American organizations, MPowerAF will organize several nationwide events: national Muslim voter registration days, national #MyMuslimVote khutba days, phone banking, and other community events. It will train 100 organizers in the states listed above to lead local organizing efforts and connect to voters through targeted ad campaigns on Facebook, Twitter, and Instagram and phone banks and canvasses in order to reach 25,000 Muslim American low-propensity, but high-potential, voters. MPowerAF will build out a national media and digital strategy for #MyMuslimVote using both traditional and social media and engaging prominent Muslim influencers, including high-profile activists, hip hop artists, actors, comedians, leaders, and scholars to amplify #MyMuslimVote. Finally, it will update MyMuslimVote.org as the go-to Muslim voter engagement clearinghouse.



Courtesy of New Florida Majority

New Florida Majority (NewFM) | \$50,000

Using a sophisticated integrated voter engagement (IVE) strategy, NewFM moves a racial, climate, and gender justice agenda in Florida and makes progressive social and political change possible for its constituents—Black, Afro-Caribbean, Latinx, and low-income communities; women and specifically women of color; LGBTQ people; and youth. Florida, the third-largest state in the nation, is a perennial swing state and almost always plays a deciding role in presidential elections, making the success of progressive organizing there important to the entire country. NewFM focuses its work in North Florida (Jacksonville) and South Florida (Miami-Dade) and is expanding its organizing into Tallahassee, Palm Beach, and the Panhandle. NewFM is part of the seven-member Statewide Alignment Group (SWAG), a collaborative committed to shifting the state towards racial, economic, and gender justice through effective communications and robust fieldwork, which has the ability to affect policy and electoral outcomes across the state. SWAG organizations, including NewFM, led the collection of hundreds of thousands of petition signatures to place Initiative 4 on the November 2018 ballot, which passed overwhelmingly and restored voting rights to 1.6 million Floridians disenfranchised by the criminal justice system. NewFM is continuing to use ballot measures to anchor organizing and outreach efforts, and was part of a coalition that placed a \$15/hour minimum wage by 2026 on

the November 2020 state ballot. Over the next year, NewFM plans to continue its work on criminal justice reform in the state legislature, which includes winning the Dignity for Incarcerated Women Act, signed into law in June 2019, and ensuring that Initiative 4 is implemented and enforced. It will also continue its work on climate justice in South Florida and advance a comprehensive sexuality education bill in Miami-Dade County. With a strengthened gender justice lens, NewFM will expand its women of color organizing and power-building programs including the March for Black Women, Black Women's Assembly, and Latinas en Marcha. It will build its statewide list of supporters to two million over the next year, and register 175,000 new voters. As part of its commitment to expand out of Florida's "social justice corridor" and build bridges between Black and Latinx communities, NewFM will expand its communications capacity and research- and data-driven techniques to increase its bilingual, and eventually trilingual, reach into Florida communities of color and the national media.

New Georgia Project Action Fund (NGPAF) | \$150,000

Founded in 2017, NGPAF builds progressive power by increasing the civic participation of underrepresented and underserved communities of color through engaging in local and state campaigns around ballot measures, referendums, recalls, and initiatives in partnership with some 1,100 organizations and institutions, including congregations and

nonprofits, across Georgia. In 2018, NGPAF's massive voter turnout effort focused primarily on a door-to-door campaign to turn out newly registered voters, helping to increase the percentage of voters of color to its highest level ever (36 percent) and the percentage of New American Majority voters to nearly 58 percent of the electorate, up from just 50 percent in 2014. With Democrat Stacey Abrams, the first Black woman to run for governor in Georgia and in the history of this country, at the top of the ballot, NGPAF helped to bring more than 1.9 million people to polls, bringing her less than two percentage points away from victory, the closest gubernatorial election in two generations. Over the next year, with Georgia electing two U.S. Senators (one in a special election), NGPAF will again be going all-in with its statewide program to register and turn out voters via direct communications, door knocks, and citizen academies conducted with partners across the state. NGPAF aims to register another 50,000 voters of color (adding to the 300,000+ already registered) and get at least half of them to the polls, working statewide, but focusing on 20 counties with majority people of color populations. It will continue to build a base of informed, active supporters who participate regularly in elections and policy advocacy, and also carry out an education program to ensure that Georgians of color participate in the 2020 census, paving the way for equitable redistricting in 2021. It has also launched a childcare organizing project, aimed at making access to affordable childcare an issue that brings people to the polls and, by connecting affordable childcare to ongoing efforts to win Medicaid expansion in Georgia, build a base of "care voters" it will target for GOTV in 2020 with a cadre of some 60 paid and volunteer canvassers.

New Virginia Majority (NVM) | \$150,000

Over the past decade, NVM has helped transform the politics of Virginia, a state where the population growth since 2000 has been fueled by people of color, who account for three out of every four new Virginians. Centered in working-class communities of color in Virginia's urban areas, NVM engages, educates, and develops the leadership of communities of color, women, working people, LGBTQ people, and youth. Between 2015 and 2018, NVM registered nearly 250,000 voters and in 2014, helped win the restoration of voting rights for more than 150,000 felons who had served their terms in prison but who, thanks to a provision in the Virginia Constitution, were banned from voting forever. NVM successfully pressured state leaders to lift the ban,

and pushed two governors to sign individual voting rights restitution orders. NVM has registered more than 20,000 of these individuals, who then turned out at a rate of 79 percent in the 2016 general election, or seven points higher than the state turnout rate. In 2017, NVM's work on the ground in communities across Virginia culminated in an historic election that signaled a gender shift in the male-dominated House of Delegates with the election of 11 women, including the first open lesbian, the first two Latinas, and the first two Asian and Pacific Islander (API) women. In 2018, NVM increased the vote share of New American Majority voters, which resulted in major upsets in that year's Congressional elections, as two U.S. House seats flipped. Over the next year, NVM will continue to advocate for progressive economic, social, and environmental policy at the local and state levels, as well as for reforms that make it easier to vote. It is working on the 2020 census and redistricting. It will also continue its robust voter registration and turn out programs in order to flip the state legislature in 2019 and to support progressive candidates up and down the ballot in 2020.

NM Native Vote | \$50,000

Launched in 2018, NM Native Vote seeks to organize a Native American electorate that is informed, active, and empowered to participate in the development and implementation of a policy agenda that will improve the quality of life for Native families living in New Mexico. NM Native Vote was part of a successful statewide effort that saw historically high Native turnout for a midterm election in 2018, which resulted in the election of New Mexico's first Native American women to Congress, Deb Haaland. NM Native Vote achieved this success because it reached communities that often lack running water, have little or no broadband internet, and are often separated by hundreds of miles of dirt roads in urban, Pueblo, and Navajo communities in New Mexico. The organization is focused on developing a new generation of civic engagement organizers to increase their capacity to build credibility for progressive issues that impact working families while increasing the Native vote. In 2020, this organizers' network will focus on get-out-the-vote skills building and impact, and issue education and advocacy. Recognizing the importance of building the capacity of the Native American School Board, Native Vote will also host workshops that focus on school board elections and the platforms and strategies that should be considered when running for office.



One Fair Wage, Courtesy of ROC United

One Fair Wage Action (OFWA) (formerly Restaurant Workers Opportunities Centers Action) | \$50,000

Since 2013, Restaurant Workers Opportunities Center (ROC) has led a national campaign for One Fair Wage, a call to raise the federal minimum wage for all workers and to eliminate the lower federal minimum wage for tipped workers, currently \$2.13 an hour. A legacy of slavery, the subminimum wage for tipped workers is a gender equity issue; 70 percent of tipped workers are women in the restaurant industry who suffer sexual harassment at higher rates than any other workers in the nation because they are forced to tolerate inappropriate customer behavior in order to earn tips to feed their families. Last year, OFWA placed the One Fair Wage initiative on the Michigan ballot, organizing the We the People Michigan coalition that used the ballot measure to engage working people as voters and to build a progressive state platform and infrastructure. The success of its grassroots organizing pressured the Michigan Legislature to take action, resulting in passage of a One Fair Wage bill; however, in a lame duck session, the legislature passed another version of the bill that raised the minimum wage, but retained the lower wage for tipped workers. OFWA is now engaged in a legal challenge, because under an earlier state supreme court ruling, the legislature cannot pass a bill and then modify it in the same session. The issue is still before

the court, and OFWA is also pressuring the legislature to restore the original bill. OFWA has developed a statewide corps of 5,000 leaders and plans to increase that number to 9,000. It is also involved in a similar legal challenge in the District of Columbia, where a fair wage ballot initiative passed overwhelmingly in June 2018; the city council then immediately voted to repeal it. OFWA is also organizing in Pennsylvania, where the governor has announced his support for a One Fair Wage bill, and is using relational organizing to develop a base of 5,000–7,000 champions who will in turn organize another 40,000 or more people. In Mississippi, OFWA is working with the Black Women's Roundtable and the NAACP to reach the state's 135,000 tipped workers and to build a campaign to place a One Fair Wage measure on the 2021 ballot. OFWA is also working in Vermont, New Jersey, Massachusetts, New York, and the city of Chicago to move One Fair Wage bills. At the national level, OFWA has won passage of a national One Fair Wage bill in the U.S. House of Representatives, but the legislation is stalled in the Senate. It also part of the national BE HEARD coalition, which is pushing for national policies to address sexual violence and harassment.

Southwest Workers Union (SWU) | \$35,000

SWU was founded 30 years ago as a south Texas-based labor organization, and over the years its leadership and



Courtesy of Texas Organizing Project

mission have evolved to better reflect a new and growing base of members and supporters: women and workers of color, youth, and immigrants. Under the leadership of Diana Lopez, a long-time volunteer organizer who became executive director four years ago, the organization has developed into a multigenerational, multi-issue, membership-based community organization. Committed to bottom-up social justice organizing, developing local leadership, and improving conditions for working families in south Texas, SWU focuses its organizing on San Antonio, the seventh largest city in the United States. Through its *Nuestra Voz* member-driven civic engagement campaign, SWU members run for local office; contact more than 25,000 voters throughout San Antonio; and win on issues, including redistricting, census, and climate justice. Using a multipronged strategy, SWU has helped to win a paid sick days ordinance in San Antonio (and is part of a coalition to win a state law) and a city Climate Action Plan that includes environmental justice provisions; it is also continuing to work for a fair redistricting plan for Bexar County. In 2018, it reached out to more than 41,000 voters, succeeding in contacting 1,300 of them. Because of problems with the state Voter Activation Network database, SWU does not know how many of those reached actually voted. Despite this issue, SWU will expand its voter registration and mobilization work, running a major eight-week GOTV campaign, while continuing to work on issues related to the census and fair redistricting to ensure that gerrymandering does not dilute the power of people of

color voters. They also plan to build a climate action voting block in low-income Black and Latino neighborhoods. A primary target for this work is in an area affected by chemical contamination known as the “Toxic Triangle” in which SWU has worked historically.

The Equity Alliance Fund (TEAF) | \$50,000

Launched in March 2018, Nashville-based TEAF equips African Americans and other communities of color with tools and strategies to engage in the political process and to empower them to take action on issues affecting their daily lives in Tennessee and across the nation. In 2018, TEAF debuted Black Women for Tennessee, a statewide nonpartisan coalition aimed at uniting all Black women-led and women-led organizations across Tennessee to register, inform, and get voters to the polls. TEAF and its partners worked in all 95 counties, increased voter registration and turnout of African-American communities to the highest levels ever recorded, and built statewide IVE infrastructure. Over the next year, TEAF will partner with 12 other Black organizations from across the country to launch the Black Citizenship Action Academy, whose goal is to create the next generation of Black civic leaders. TEAF and its partners will host local events, classes, and trainings using popular education models and inspired by the Citizenship Schools of the Civil Rights Movement. The specifics of trainings will be rooted in the political structures of each

state where they are offered, so TEAF's will focus on Tennessee politics and structures. The goal is to recruit 30 participants, selected from elected officials, community leaders, and grassroots activists, for the first session, which will last four to six weeks; TEAF will continue to host additional sessions over the next year. TEAF is also involved in local candidate races, as part of the Nashville Justice League. The League knocked on 13,000 doors in Nashville and 13 of the 15 candidates it endorsed won seats, including the first Muslim councilmember, the first Latina councilmember, and the most women on the council in Nashville history.

Texas Organizing Project (TOP) | \$75,000

Founded in 2009, TOP is the largest women of color-led, grassroots, progressive, membership-based organization in Texas. With more than 270,000 supporters, and a core of 4,000 activist leaders, all primarily low- to moderate-income residents and people of color, TOP's long-term vision is to transform Texas into a state in which working people of color have determinative power and representation. TOP's theory of change is rooted in a "cities out" strategy, since nearly two-thirds of Texans live in Houston, Dallas/Fort Worth, or San Antonio, including 52 percent of low-propensity voters and 60 percent of unregistered voters. TOP is building progressive statewide leadership, with a goal of establishing long-term governing power by 2022. TOP's community leaders have scored significant wins, including blocking a \$92 million tax rebate for oil giant Valero Energy in Houston, enacting an alternative disciplinary program to tackle the "school-to-prison pipeline" in the Dallas Independent School District, and winning paid sick leave in San Antonio. In the aftermath of Hurricane Harvey, TOP continues to work with some 10,000 Houston residents affected by the storm to engage them in community redevelopment plans in order to achieve an equitable recovery. In 2018, TOP made some three million attempts to contact nearly one million potential, but infrequent, voters, resulting in more than 465,000 votes cast, half of which were considered "unlikely." Using this successful formula and working across metro areas over the next year, TOP plans to grow its base by 15,000 and engage at least 15,000 voters of color through organizing activities across the state. It will train 250 new grassroots leaders for TOP and allied organizations, and develop 90 new grassroots policy experts who will advocate with elected officials and act

as media spokespeople. It will create strategic campaign plans in partnership with allied organizations, both local and statewide, designed to win at least one local policy in each of its counties.

Trans United Fund (TUF) | \$40,000

Founded in 2017, TUF partners with visionary transgender leaders and organizations to build the collective political capacity of the trans community and to improve the lives of transgender people, and their families and allies. TUF combines strategic planning, organizational development, and technical assistance to support trans-inclusive efforts at the local, state, and federal levels. Its goals are legal equality, everyday equity, and cultural transformation—all necessary for trans people not just to survive, but to thrive. TUF accomplishes this using a multipronged strategy that includes developing a political agenda, and empowering and supporting trans candidates for public office and then working with them once they are in office. TUF is also launching an affiliated PAC so that it can directly support trans candidates who share its vision, and work in coalition with allies, including trans-supportive ally candidates. TUF seeks Groundswell Action Fund support for its Washington D.C.-based Sex Worker Justice Voter Program, carried out in partnership with the Sex Worker Advocates Coalition and other progressive allies. The goal is to end the criminalization of sex work, and to improve the lives and safety of sex and other street economy workers, particular trans women of color. TUF's role in the coalition is to build a base of voters committed to sex worker justice as part of a campaign for long-term policy and culture change. Over the next year, TUF plans to obtain at least 1,000 signatures on a petition of support for the rights of sex workers, and recruit three to five captains to lead the signature drive and advance other efforts to protect and expand sex workers' rights. It will also collect voter pledge cards, and carry out a voter mobilization effort, sponsoring at least five house meetings to collect pledges and gain new volunteer supporter who will be part of advocacy and GOTV efforts, including signature and pledge card gathering at local events and conferences. It will continue its earned media campaign and expand its digital campaign in order to change the narrative about sex and other street economy workers.



Courtesy of Trans United Fund

Washington Community Action Network (Washington CAN) | \$50,000

Founded in 1983, Washington CAN is the state's largest grassroots community organization, with over 44,000 members. It is focused on building a movement of people whose collective action ensures that all communities are healthy, prosperous, and have an equal voice in determining their future. In 2019, Washington CAN experienced a major win, with the passage of the Federal Way Initiative, which will require that landlords have "good cause" before evicting a tenant. This 10-point election win is laying the groundwork for statewide efforts to achieve rent control and good cause eviction. Washington CAN increased Federal Way voter turnout by 7 percent in comparison to turnout in 2017. Further, 3,000–4,000 more voters voted for this initiative than in Federal Way local city council races. In 2019, Washington CAN knocked on over 40,000 doors and registered 820 new voters and sent 400+ in-language letters (Spanish, Vietnamese, Korean) that were culturally competent from elders and students explaining why they were voting for this initiative and asking voters to join them. In 2020, Washington CAN will focus on building this campaign to scale through deepening coalitions with other organizations across Washington state.

West Virginia Free Reproductive Education & Equality Action Fund (WVFreeAF) | \$50,000

The only reproductive justice organizations in West Virginia, WVFreeAF and its 501(c)(3) partner, WVFree, have a base of nearly 11,000 supporters. Working at the state and national levels, WVFreeAF ensures the reproductive health of women and people who can get pregnant and broadens the base of active and vocal support for reproductive justice in West Virginia. WVFreeAF is building 501(c)(4) infrastructure through the creation of a statewide progressive 501(c)(4) voter table, and activating and mobilizing voters who support a state and local reproductive justice agenda that puts women's reproductive health and the health of the environment first, fights back against regressive state-level policies and programs, and advances pro-RJ policies. Last year, WVFreeAF and its allies experienced a heartbreaking loss when a ballot initiative to eliminate the right to abortion enshrined in the state constitution passed by a small margin. However, the campaign helped mobilize voters across the state, and as a result, progressive RJ advocates swept the Charleston City Council races, a progressive state Supreme Court justice was elected, and several

state legislators with terrible RJ voting records lost and were replaced by RJ allies. Consequently, the 2019 state legislative session has been a productive one, as one bill to restrict abortion was killed in committee, while a bill to approve over-the-counter birth control and another to expand Medicaid and CHIP coverage for pregnant people passed. WFreeAF is demonstrating that abortion and RJ are wedge issues that can work for progressive electoral organizing. Over the next year, WFreeAF will continue to build its supporter and small donor financial base, as it works in the state legislature to identify and support RJ champions and move progressive policies. It will also continue to build voter participation by carrying out public education campaigns, GOTV efforts, and digital organizing to turn out West Virginia's pro-RJ voters.

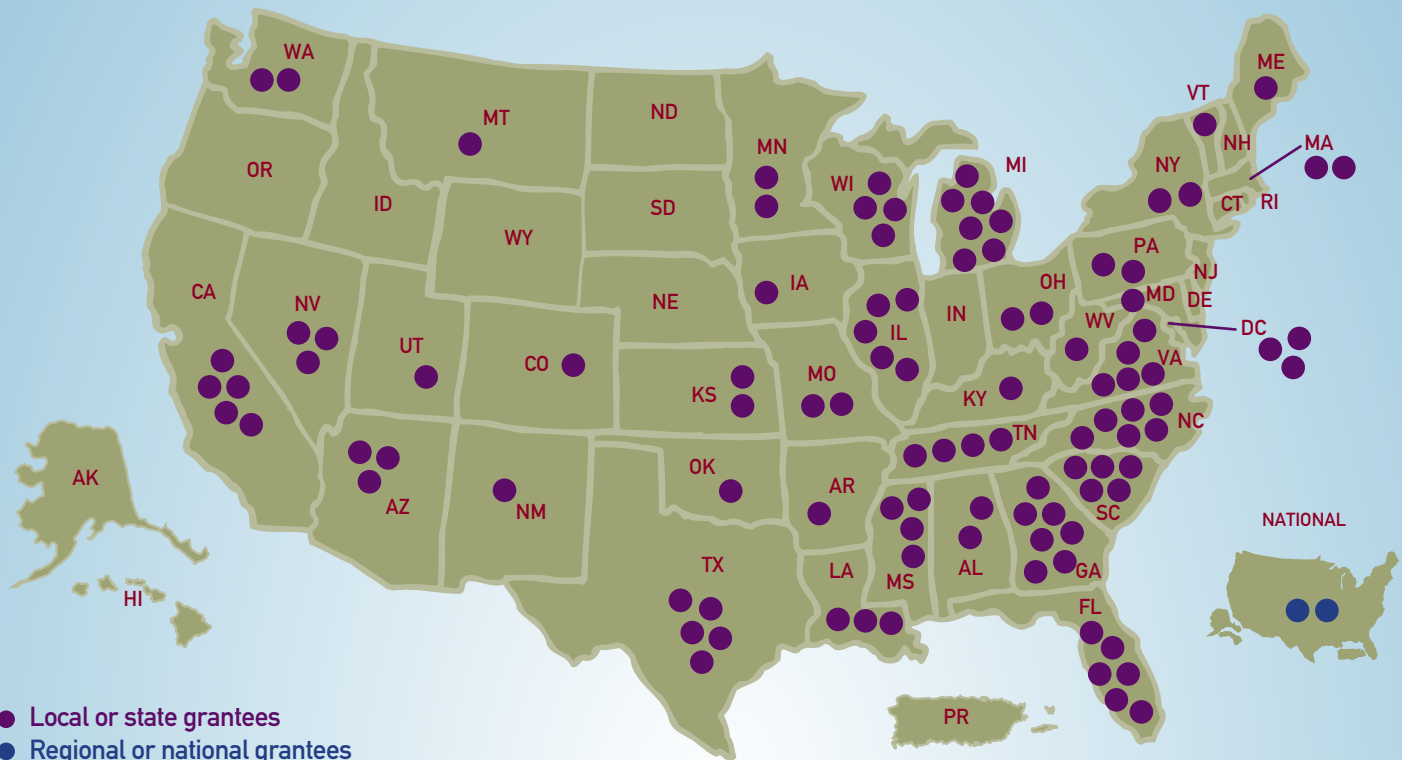
Working Families Organization | \$50,000

Working Families Organization seeks to organize a multi-racial working-class movement and address critical gaps in progressive infrastructure, political education, and leadership development to match the current scale of crises. Its organizing centers on bringing authentic meaning, belonging, and connection to the individuals who participate in the growing populist movement. Working Families is in a unique position to engage in electoral and party building work in South Carolina. Assets include a ballot line with fusion voting, a base of grassroots activists who have used the ballot line to support progressive candidates, and a growing email list of nearly 100,000 supporters in state. In 2020, the Working Families South Carolina program has two stated goals. First, the organization will build a sustainable multi-racial people-powered membership and base centering the voices and leadership of working-class people of color, and Black women in particular. The goal of the membership program is to create a political home where people can organize across difference in the fight for electoral justice and progressive policy outcomes. The membership will

identify and support grassroots candidates; grow political consciousness; and fight together for economic, social, and racial justice. Second, integral to this plan to build durable power in South Carolina is identifying and training a cadre of local progressive people of color activists who will advance the progressive agenda and lead on local issues once national resources are no longer being earmarked for the presidential primary election. As such, the organization will create a progressive table of people of color strategists, organizers, and stakeholders who will lead an effort to build progressive infrastructure in the state.

**To learn more about Groundswell Action Fund, please contact Director
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2019 GROUNDSWELL ACTION FUND GRANTEES



ALABAMA
Black Voters Matter Fund
The Electoral Justice Project

ARIZONA
Jobs With Justice
Mijente
MPower Change Action Fund

ARKANSAS
The Electoral Justice Project

CALIFORNIA
APEN Action
Black Women for Wellness Action Project
Black Progressive Action Coalition
CHIRLA Action Fund
The Electoral Justice Project

COLORADO
COLOR Action Fund

FLORIDA
Black Voters Matter Fund
Black Youth Project 100 Action Fund
The Electoral Justice Project
Jobs With Justice
MPower Change Action Fund
The New Florida Majority

GEORGIA
Black Voters Matter Fund
Black Youth Project 100 Action Fund
Black Progressive Action Coalition
Care In Action
The Electoral Justice Project
Mijente
New Georgia Project Action Fund

ILLINOIS
All* Above All Action Fund
Black Youth Project 100 Action Fund
Black Progressive Action Coalition
The Electoral Justice Project
Jobs With Justice

IOWA
Care In Action

KANSAS
Black Youth Project 100 Action Fund
The Electoral Justice Project

KENTUCKY
Black Progressive Action Coalition

LOUISIANA
Black Progressive Action Coalition
Black Youth Project 100 Action Fund
The Electoral Justice Project

MAINE
Care In Action

MARYLAND
The Electoral Justice Project

MASSACHUSETTS
The Electoral Justice Project
Jobs With Justice

MICHIGAN
Black Youth Project 100 Action Fund
Black Progressive Action Coalition
Care In Action
The Electoral Justice Project
Jobs With Justice
MPower Change Action Fund
One Fair Wage Action

MINNESOTA
Care In Action
The Electoral Justice Project

MISSOURI
The Electoral Justice Project
Jobs With Justice

MISSISSIPPI
Black Voters Matter Fund
Black Youth Project 100 Action Fund
Care In Action
The Electoral Justice Project

MONTANA
Montana Native Vote

NEVADA
All* Above All Action Fund
Care In Action
The Electoral Justice Project

NEW MEXICO
NM Native Vote

NEW YORK
Black Youth Project 100 Action Fund
Jobs With Justice

NORTH CAROLINA
Black Youth Project 100 Action Fund
Black Progressive Action Coalition
Care In Action
The Electoral Justice Project
Jobs With Justice
Mijente

OHIO
Black Progressive Action Coalition
MPower Change Action Fund

OKLAHOMA
The Electoral Justice Project

PENNSYLVANIA
Care In Action
MPower Change Action Fund

SOUTH CAROLINA
Black Voters Matter Fund
Black Progressive Action Coalition
Care In Action
The Electoral Justice Project
Working Families Organization

TENNESSEE
Black Voters Matter Fund
Black Progressive Action Coalition
The Electoral Justice Project
The Equity Alliance Fund

TEXAS
Black Progressive Action Coalition
The Electoral Justice Project
MPower Change Action Fund
Southwest Workers Union
Texas Organizing Project

UTAH
The Electoral Justice Project

VERMONT
The Electoral Justice Project

VIRGINIA
Black Progressive Action Coalition
Care In Action
The Electoral Justice Project
MPower Change Action Fund
New Virginia Majority

WASHINGTON
The Electoral Justice Project
Washington Community Action
Network

WASHINGTON DC
Black Youth Project 100 Action Fund
Care In Action
Trans United Fund

WEST VIRGINIA
WV FREE Action Fund

WISCONSIN
Black Youth Project 100 Action Fund
Care In Action
The Electoral Justice Project
MPower Change Action Fund

NATIONAL
Advance Native Political Leadership
Action Fund
Black to the Future Action Fund



GROUNDSWELL

ACTION FUND

Groundswell Action Fund strengthens U.S. movements for reproductive and social justice by resourcing intersectional electoral organizing led by women of color, low-income women and transgender and gender non-conforming people of color.

www.groundswellactionfund.org