



2014 ANNUAL REPORT

# CHINOOK FUND

# **SUSTAINABILITY RESTORATION**

## TRANSFORMATION

### **GRANTMAKING COMMITTEE**

**AGENO OTII, Co-CHAIR**  
**KAREN COLLIER, Co-CHAIR**  
**DAVIAN GAGNE, Co-CHAIR**  
**CANDACE REDSHIRT**  
**LINDA MIZELL**  
**KELLY COSTELLO**  
**ZAWDIE EKUNDAYO**  
**BASIM MAHMOOD**  
**FAATMA MERHMANESH**  
**ANGELA SEDILLOS**  
**HELEN WOLCOTT**  
**BRIDGET KAMINETSKY**  
**RICARDO PEREZ**

### **BOARD OF DIRECTORS**

**BRENDA SEARS, BOARD CHAIR**  
**PAUL STEIN**  
**BASIM MAHMOOD**  
**ANDREW E. ROMERO**  
**MAC LIMAN**  
**ELLEN ANDERMAN**  
**DAVIAN GAGNE**  
**EDITH SARGON**  
**HEATHER ARNOLD-RENICKER**  
**CINDY CHANG**

### **STAFF**

**NORA BASHIR, EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR**  
**JESSICA NELSON, ADMISTRATIVE MANAGER**

# WINDS OF CHANGE

## "ANOTHER WORLD THAT IS POSSIBLE"

### CHINOOK FUND LEADS IN THE PHILANTHROPIC SECTOR BY SUPPORTING INNOVATIVE GRASSROOTS ORGANIZING GROUPS THAT ARE:

- \* **Constituent-Led:** The work is led by people directly affected by injustice.
- \* **Community-Wide:** The work reflects all members of the constituency impacted.
- \* **Lasting Effect:** The work builds sustainable communities and transform unjust conditions, institutions and policies.

At Chinook Fund, we've always believed that you, our donors, are partners in social change. By the simple act of giving a monetary gift, you are part of a movement. You represent our collective will for change. Together we strengthen Colorado's progressive network so that it is denser, more durable, and more influential.

Together Chinook Fund's leaders, volunteers, funders and grantees

- \* Seek deep changes in opinion, values, and mobilization strategies.
- \* Focus on strategies for decreasing inequality and removing injustices.
- \* Struggle to right a criminal justice system and develop enforcement that cooperates with and preserves community.
- \* Help mend an immigration system that is broken, unfair, and out of touch with our values of human rights and dignity.
- \* Build networks of concern to defend both our environments and rights that we have already won.

The power of Chinook Fund's grants is not simply in who we give to, but also in how we give. From bottom up, we are able to develop and integrate our community impact on these important causes. Because community activists play a crucial part in awarding grants, novel ideas and adaptive methods make our giving more fluid and responsive to changing landscapes. Our knowledge – supported by site visits, independent research and personal relationships – is unrivaled in the local marketplace. We ground the investment choices for you because we are on the ground in the community.

This is the power of philanthropic investment. At Chinook Fund we ensure that the minimum goes to administrative costs so that more of your dollars goes to frontline activism. With your help, Chinook Fund has given out more than \$2.5 million since 1987. **Please, help us keep on funding the best people on the ground, those who really know best how to achieve essential social change. Help Chinook Fund stay at the fulcrum of positive change for Colorado.**



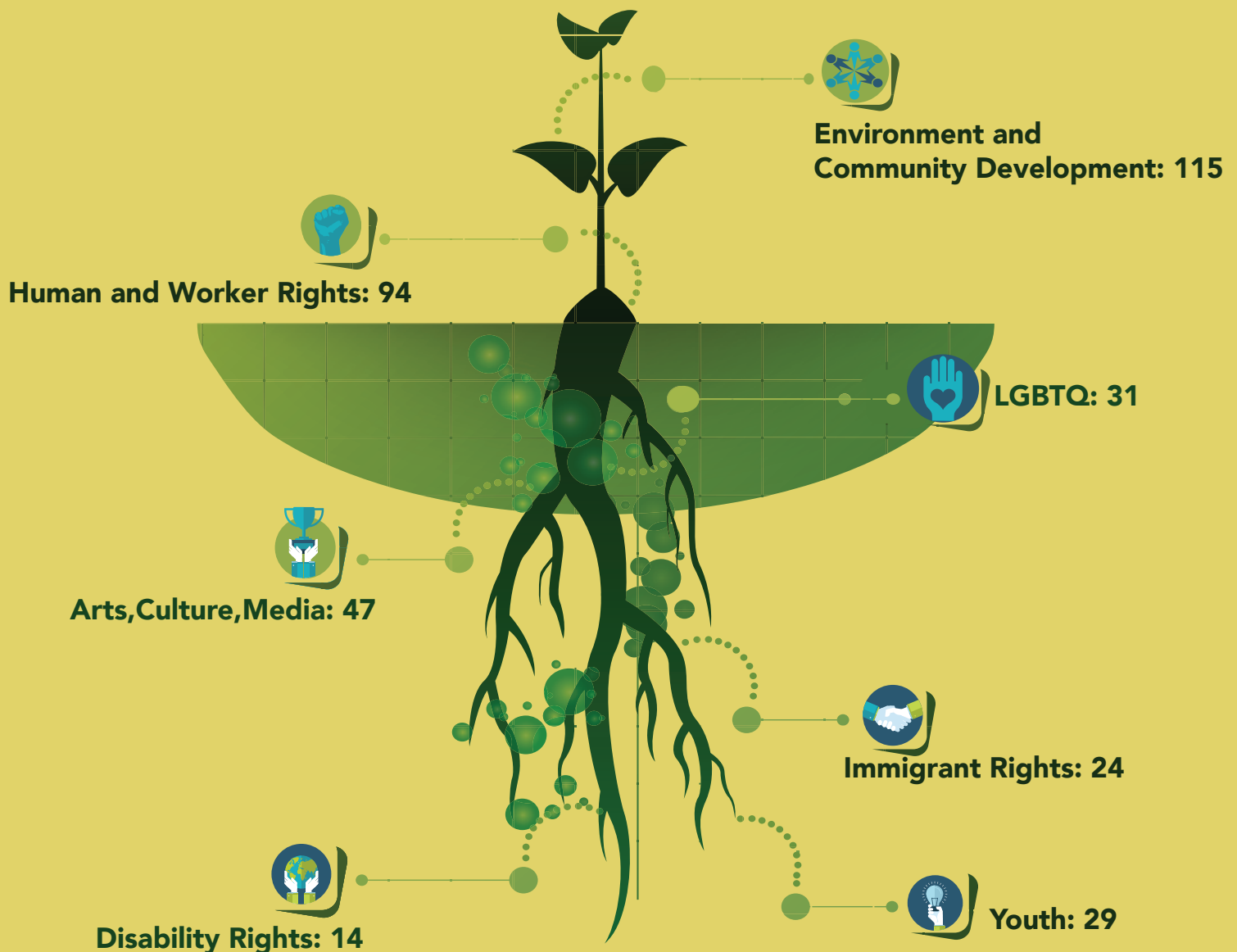
**Nora Bashir, Executive Director**



# GROWTH FOUNDATION

Chinook Fund supports community-based organizations working on issues of social and economic justice throughout Colorado. A community foundation, Chinook Fund pools the resources of individuals and businesses to support the best of peer-reviewed grassroots organizations working for social change to improve the quality of life for all Coloradans.

**Over the past 27 years Chinook Fund has seeded over 317 organizations focused primarily in these areas of change:**



Anonymous (6) Winta Abraham Cindy and John Abramson John Aleinikoff Christine Allison Susan Anderson  
Ellen Anderman and James Donaldson Elizabeth and Evan Anderman Brad Armstrong and Julie Dolin Rebecca Arno  
Nora Bashir and Arif Arshad Yasmin Bashir Ramona Beltran and Vincent Gonzalez Terry and Catherine Benjamin

16 ORGANIZATIONS WERE AWARDED GRANTS DURING 2014 FISCAL YEAR.  
HERE ARE SOME OF THE HIGHLIGHTS:

# SUSTAINABILITY THE GROWING PROJECT FOOD JUSTICE



"Not only does the Growing Project grow food, but we grow community around food. We work hard to ensure that everyone has a full belly, access to education, and the opportunity to improve their own lives. However, our growth could not happen without the amazing support of organizations like the Chinook Fund.

Chinook Fund saw our worth in the numerous people we help and pounds of food we donate. Their funding has enabled us to work with over 75 at-risk youth, 50 low-income families/individuals, and produce and distribute over 7,500 pounds of healthy food to people in need so far in 2014. **Chinook Fund's generosity has truly made a difference in helping to ameliorate the lives of the people of Fort Collins."**

Lisa Boyd

Billie and Dave Bramhall

Debora Brown

Brandy Buckner-Kramer

Don and Nita Burkhardt

Linda Campbell

Juliet Carpenter

Bridget Cessar

Henry and Ellen Change

Cindy Chang

Chen-Huei Chang and Michael Falick

Tom and Ann Christensen

Nina Churchman and Leo Eisel

Sophia Clark



# TRANSFORMATION EL CENTRO SELF-DETERMINATION



"El Centro's partnership with Chinook Fund has allowed the organization to become a mainstay in the organizing and social justice community. **Chinook Fund engenders true participation by community members in the grant decision-making, like few others.** Aside from traditional reports to be submitted, the site visits by Chinook Fund volunteer grant committees offer insights and analysis that are unique and reflect diverse community experiences.

El Centro regards Chinook Fund as more than a funding partner, it really is a community. To be a part of this community implies a responsibility to promote democratic norms within our organizations and an unyielding commitment to build power for social justice."

Thomas and Noel Congdon Julie Connor Elizabeth Crane and Bill Mushkin Lucy and Thomas Creighton Ara Cruz  
Heidi Cuppari Duane Davidson Eleanor Dewey Michael and Tracy Ehlers Zawdie Ekundayo Wendy Emrich Elaine Enarson  
Lorraine Fairmont Andy and Audrey Franklin Yvette Freeman David and Lita Gagne Davian Gagne Montse Garcia  
Ken and Rebecca Gart Gregory and Sue Geissler Ken and Karen Gerdes Laura Goldin Katherine Goodspeed Jean Gore



# CRIMINAL JUSTICE SECOND CHANCE CENTER RESTORATION

"Second Chance Center began as a mobile movement, literally, from the vehicle of its founder. Chinook Fund has been the impetus for additional support able to be garnered by taking an initial chance on a budding movement. The support of Chinook Fund does not stop with grant awards. The partnership, movement building assistance and role model-ship is an important part of the Chinook Fund follow through.

**Chinook Fund gave SCC a sense of validation, enhanced its legitimacy in the eyes of many, and made us feel A PART of something bigger than ourselves...bigger than our vision."**

Matthew and Marie Gordon   Jim and Laura Hahn   Iris Halpern   Roland and Marilyn Halpern   Felicity Hannay and James Wood  
Suzanne Helburn   David Henninger   Faye and Richard Hershey   Patricia Hewett   Nora Jacquez   Charlie Jaquez  
Gerald Jones and Jean Armstrong-Jones   James Kelley and Amie Knox   Holly Kingsbury   James and Becky Kinsinger   Phil Kirshman  
Sue Ellen Klein   Eddie Koen   Michael Kromrey   Ann Lederer   Magalie Lerman   Gloria Leyba   Leslie Lomas   Lucy Loomis



# DENVER HOMELESS OUTLOUD



"We are organized very differently than a lot of other organizations which makes it difficult to qualify for other kinds of grants and support. **Chinook Fund was the first organization to have confidence in our ability to have an impact on the homeless community.** We are excited and grateful."

Carol MacLennan   Norman R. Maestas   Adrienne Mansanares and Dan Weiss   Joseph Mauro   Joseph McNeill   Victor Montoya  
Jay Mead and Carol Svendsen   Linda Meric and Chuck Walker   Emily Mootz   Virginia Moran   Tracy Mott   Anne Murdaugh and  
JB Holsten   Kathleen Nalty and Craig Shaffer   Virginia and Rick Newton   Melissa Nix   Lynn Olson   Patricia Hill Pascoe  
Jamie Ontiveros and Rupal Shah   Charlie and Sandra Papazian   Ricardo Perez   Angell Perez-Williams   Jan and John Renicker  
Priscilla Resendiz   Marcelina Rivera   Linda Roberts Zinn   Andrew Romero   Katherine Rosechild   Barry Rosenberg  
David Ruchman and Michel Dahlin   Imani Saifulrasul-Latif   Emanuel and Joanne Salzman   Jason Salzman and Anne Button   Edith Sargon





# CRIMINAL JUSTICE VICTIM OFFENDER RECONCILIATION PROGRAM OF DENVER SELF-DETERMINATION

"VORP is excited to be a part of the Chinook Fund family. Receiving a Chinook Fund grant is an opportunity for us to continue to be held accountable to our values as a social justice organization. It is often times easy for organization to sacrifice these values for funding however being a Chinook Fund grantee will give us the opportunity to push those values even further into our work.

It is so refreshing to not have to "water down" the work we do as an organization that is not seen as "romantic charity work" instead we are **encouraged, rather, pushed to be true to our values**, build a sustainable movement that can change individual lives and communities. Thank you Chinook Fund!"

Silvia Sansot and Colson Schaab   Jim and Prudence Scarritt   Jim Schwartzkopff   Brenda and Trey Sears   Angela Sedillos   Sarah Shikes  
Sharlene Wanger   Ken and Linda Stein   Decker Swann   Myra Virgil   John Wasserman and Esther Starrels   Jane and Ed Wasson  
Sam and Michelin Sharp   Lyle and Felicia Smithgraybeal   Eddie Soto   Alice Srinivasan   Charles Stein and Lyra Mayfield  
Sue Weinstein   Evan Weissman   Marla Williams   Stefanie and Patrick Winfield   Helen and Oliver Wolcott   Louis Wolfe   Deme Yuan  
Carle Zimmerman and Rita Derjue   Debbie Zucker   Paul Stein and Sharlene Wanger

# 2013 - 2014 GRANTEES

## **BURMA COMMUNITY RANGERS**

Through the grantee partnership with the Chinook as a second year grantee, BCR, helps its community members as well as measures the outcomes of that assistance. BCR has learned how to identify mainstream partners who want to provide home owner services and in 2013, BCR had 27 people in their home ownership program.

## **CAFÉ CULTURA**

The connection between justice and art is real but often not fully realized - Cafe Cultura is the embodiment of social change through artistic expression. Youth participants find deep roots in culture through spoken word workshops that develop breathtaking performers who gaining national acclaim with their powerful statements.

## **COLORADO JOBS WITH JUSTICE**

A 2013 victory for DIA security guards joining SEIU Local 105, partial victory for Auraria campus janitors over unsafe working conditions and English-only management meetings, and a 2012 victory with Denver Fair food's support of Florida farmworkers, are only some the results of the impressive movement building Colorado Jobs with Justice (COJWW) has accomplished in the past few years. This local chapter of national Jobs with Justice network, COJWW partners with many fair labor groups in our state to focus on exploitative corporate practices.

## **COMPAÑEROS**

Colorado and immigration policy reform have a complicated relationship that is not moving quickly enough. In rural areas of the state, few groups are standing strong in the fight for immigrant and Latino rights like Compañeros, a veteran grantee of Chinook Fund. Despite divestment by the Catholic Campaign for Human Development as a result of LGBTQ affiliation; Compañeros continues to provide 'know your rights' trainings and legal advocacy for constituents in rural Durango, Colorado.

## **EASTSIDE GROWERS**

From an ugly lot to a flourishing community garden, the Eastside Growers space has cultivated so much more than food for the neighborhood community in North East Park Hill. Creating a safe space to grow community connections, this collective leadership draws upon traditional agriculture practices to inform members and grow holistically.

## **FOURTH WORLD CENTER**

With the objective to build a movement of revolutionary indigenous conscious raising among indigenous youth, and alliance-building with non-indigenous allies, the Fourth World Center aims to reverse 520 years of genocide and oppression of indigenous people. After returning from a UN Permanent Forum, a group of youth will embark on a year-long campaign in Denver and on regional Indian reservations to educate Indigenous people and allies to challenge the government/corporate theft of indigenous resources.

## **GREENLEAF**

Food deserts and lack of access to food make Greenleaf and important youth development forum; middle and high school students involved grow food that impacts 434 community members and produce a viable CSA as well as curriculum they teach through local schools.

## **HISPANIC AFFAIRS CENTER**

Hispanic Affairs Project is exemplary in the immigrant movement building scene, especially in the rural area in which it is based. In the past year, HAP has been integral in the following successes: granting access to in-state tuition rates at state institutions of higher education for undocumented Colorado high school graduates, repealing SB 90, Colorado's terrible "show me your papers law", and creating a new Colorado Driver's license for undocumented Colorado residents.

## **RISE COLORADO**

Three young women created RISE Colorado to address the cycle of disenfranchisement regarding the public education system in low-income and minority communities by educating, engaging, and empowering low-income and minority families about educational inequity and mechanisms to bring about the changes they want to see in the school system.

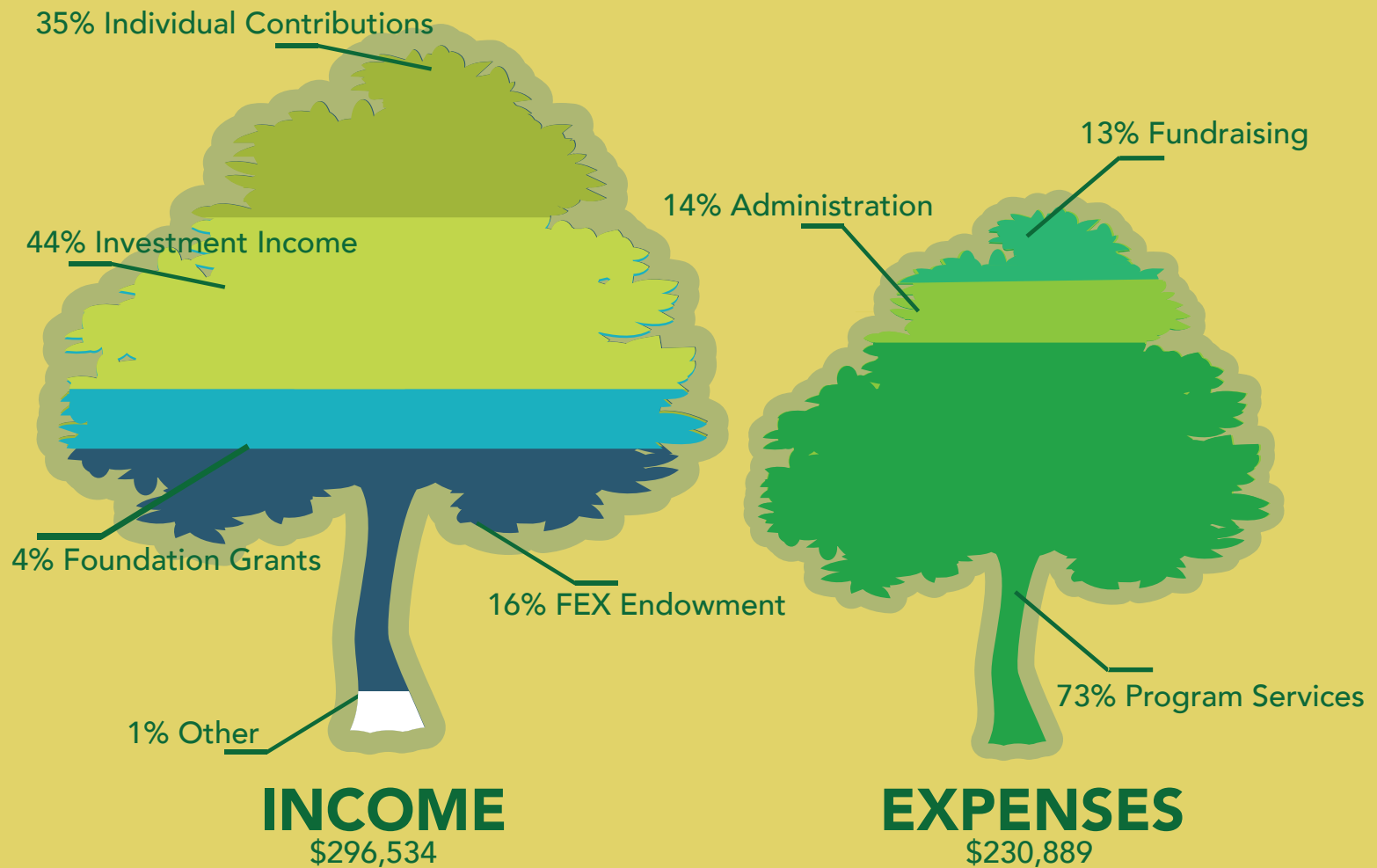
## **SOMALI AMERICAN COMMUNITY CENTER**

Immigrant re-settlement, particularly for Somali refugees, is often a traumatizing and marginalizing process. SACCC strives to increase community awareness of the Somali population in Metro Denver as well as provide direct services to ensure self-sufficiency of those involved with the center.

## **THEATRE ESPRIT ASIA**

Theater Esprit Asia (TEA) boasts an impressive repertoire and staggering growth in the past two years since the inception of this first ever Asian-American Theatre Company; working across generations and speaking from within communities, TEA gives voice to Asian experiences in Colorado and across the globe. TEA engages deeply with the community in after-show discussions, school performances, and has won several local awards including Westword's best of 2013.

# FINANCIALS



**CHINOOK FUND HAS AWARDED 16 ORGANIZATIONS  
WITH \$79,584 IN GRANTS THIS YEAR**



\$0.73 of each dollar spent by Chinook Fund is expended to support programs/mission



The organization's total support and revenue increased \$51,957 or 21% which was attributed to investment earnings during the fiscal year 2014.

The organization's total expenses decreased \$40,528 or 14%.



**FEELING INSPIRED? BECOME A PHILANTHROPIC ACTIVIST. GIVE GENEROUSLY.**  
Chinook Fund is where organizers come to do the deep work of changing society

- Invite your friends and build community committed to social change.
- Plan our Grantee event in June, 2015. Secure in-kind donations or corporate sponsorships.
- Participate in a van tour to a Grantee organization.
- Become a member of our community-led Grantmaking Committee.
- Give a meaningful gift or spread it out as a monthly sustainer.
- Transfer stock or assets.
- Consider a bequest or trust to secure the future of activism.



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