



ANNUAL REPORT

2023

FISCAL YEAR
JULY 2022 - JUNE 2023



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ABOUT CHINOOK FUND

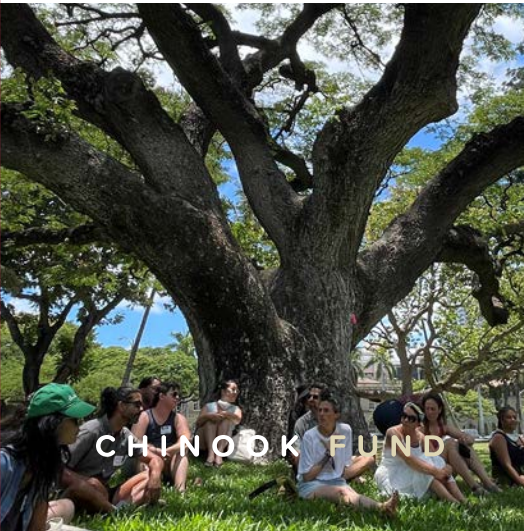
OUR MISSION

Chinook Fund seeds community-led, systemic change by mobilizing resources for and trusting in grassroots social justice organizations across Colorado.



OUR VALUES

As we do our work, we are guided by the following values:



LIBERATION

In our words and actions, we honor the inherent dignity, strength, and wisdom of the individual and the collective. We actively challenge practices that dehumanize and isolate people and cultivate practices that bring people together across our differences to achieve community-led, systemic change, justice, and peace. We believe everyone has a role to play in collective liberation.

INTEGRITY

We are honest, accessible, and transparent in our work, and advocate for the same in our partner organizations and in the field of philanthropy. We understand the power and responsibility that comes with being a steward of financial resources and are accountable to our constituents

COMMUNITY

We build caring, respectful relationships with one another. Recognizing our interdependence, we are committed to action that moves us all closer to our vision of liberation, connection, and abundance. We honor our relationship with the natural world, which sustains us all.

LEADERSHIP

We encourage learning, experimentation, and innovative thinking, as well as support the development of grassroots leaders. We embrace our role as leaders in the movement for social justice philanthropy and are willing to take strategic risks in service of our vision of abundantly resourced movements.



1,197
GRANTS



\$4.9M
GIVEN



563
ORGANIZATIONS
FUNDED SINCE 1987



Neighborhood Funders Group National Convening, May 2023. Plenary panelists from session titled, "Connecting to Local Communities: A Spectrum of Participatory Practices in Grantmaking."

From left to right: Melody Baker (Amplify Fund), Eileen Briggs (Bush Foundation), Kaberi Banerjee Murthy (The Conrad Prebys Foundation), Crystal Middlestadt, (Chinook Fund), and Yichen Feng (Center for Economic Democracy).

36 YEARS
OF SOCIAL IMPACT

*Chinook Fund has a rich history of organizing
and funding social justice work across Colorado.*

LETTER FROM OUR EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR

Dear Chinook Fund Community,

The power of community is what inspired me to put down roots in Colorado nearly 20 years ago. As I began to find my people in Denver, I quickly learned that Chinook Fund was a political home, grassroots grantmaker, and training ground for movement elders and emerging leaders across the state. Chinook Fund became a place of belonging for me and my community. With the launch of the Giving Project model in 2016, our democratic grantmaking model, Chinook Fund's centering of community was only strengthened. It was this value of community that inspired me to join the organization as the executive director in 2018. Today, I am proud to carry on this legacy of Community grounded in interdependence, liberation, and collective action.

My belief in the power of community and local organizing has only deepened as we experience an escalating backlash to social justice and civil rights gains from the past decades. **As it becomes clearer that we are all that we have, I look to our grantees for inspiring community action. From abolitionist organizing to queer and trans liberation, Chinook Fund's grantees embody our core value of Community.**

Denver Alliance for Street Response (DASHR) is one example. DASHR creates community-based alternatives to policing and jails. Founded in 2018, they received their first Chinook Fund grant in 2022. As Colorado communities joined the national uprisings for Black lives in the wake of the police killings of George Floyd in Minneapolis and Elijah McClain in Aurora, DASHR launched the Support Team Assisted Response (STAR) Program dispatching clinicians and medics in response to behavioral health and substance use crisis calls. Today, DASHR continues to embody our value of Community as they work to reclaim community leadership for the STAR Program currently housed within government.

LETTER FROM OUR EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR



Another example comes from our LGBTQ+ led grantees. In the midst of over 300 anti-LGBTQ+ bills proposed in state legislatures in 2022, Club Q, a popular LGBTQ+ venue in Colorado Springs was targeted in a hate fueled mass shooting. In response, two Chinook grantees, Fortaleza Familiar and VOCES Unidas for Justice, joined forces to host a community gathering for all those impacted by this loss.

As the only social justice fund in the state, Chinook Fund also played a role in advocating for funders to follow the leadership of and resource Colorado Springs' LGBTQ+ communities. I was honored to support a delegation of leaders, national funders, and survivors working to support community responses and funder organizing.

From kitchen tables in Denver to the mountain parks of the Western Slope, you can count on the Chinook Fund community to lead the way as we live into our value of Community. I invite you to be a part of this legacy, whether through making a meaningful contribution, amplifying our grantees, or joining a future Giving Project.

Thank you for your solidarity and comradeship.

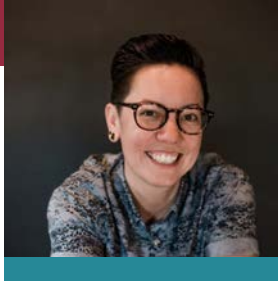
With hope and love,

A handwritten signature in blue ink that reads "Crystal Middlestadt". The signature is written in a cursive, flowing style.

Crystal Middlestadt

Executive Director
(they/them)

OUR TEAM - STAFF



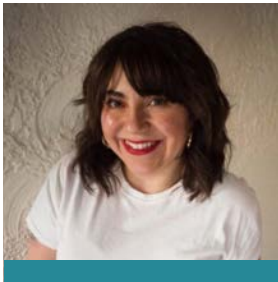
Crystal Middlestadt
Executive Director | They/Them



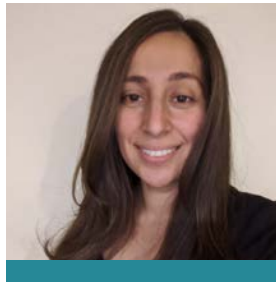
Ginnie Logan
Program Director | She/Her



P. Barclay Jones
Program Manager | He/His



Marie Medina
Grassroots Fundraising Manager
(Through June 2023) | She/Her



Judith Márquez
Grants Manager | She/Her

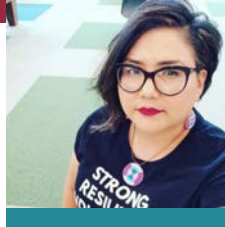


Trena Moya
Finance & Operations Manager
She/Her

OUR TEAM - BOARD OF DIRECTORS



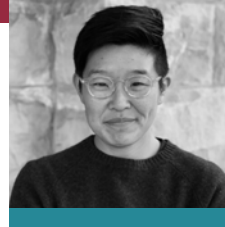
Angela Daniels
Co-Chair | She/Her



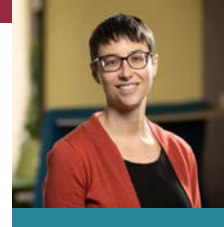
Donna Chrisjohn
Co-Chair | Winyan/She/Her



Erik Ortiz
Treasurer | He/Him



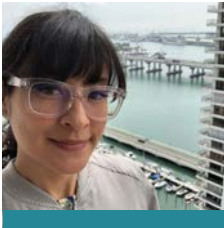
Anna Eunjoo Ghublikian
Secretary | They/Them



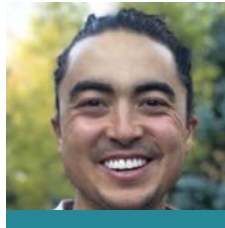
Angela Schreffler
Board | She/Her



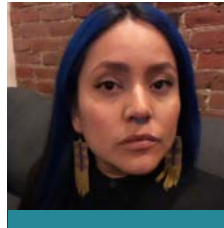
Candace Johnson
Board | She/Her



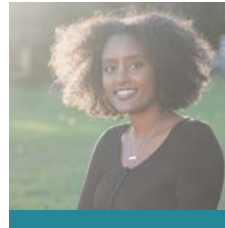
Davian Gagne
Board | She/Her



Matt Karkut
Board | He/Him



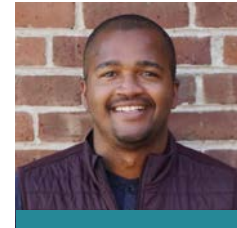
**Pamela Reséndiz
Trujano**
Board | They/Them/Elle



Selamawit Gebre
Board | She/Her



Shannon Francis
Board | She/Her



V.J. Brown
Board | He/Him

COMMITTEES & VOLUNTEERS

ANOTHER WORLD IS POSSIBLE FUND Grantmaking Committee

- Candace Johnson**, *Board Member, Chinook Fund & TLC*
- Courtney Banayad**, *Former Chinook Fund Board Co-Chair, Neighborhood Funders Group*
- Crystal Middlestadt**, *Executive Director, Chinook Fund, TLC alumni member*
- Vic Gómez Betancourt**, *Resource Strategist, TLC*
- Judith Márquez**, *Grants Manager, Chinook Fund, TLC alumni member*
- Neha Mahajan**, *Co-Founder & Co-Executive Director, TLC*
- Tania Soto Valenzuela**, *Program Manager, TLC*

RESOURCE MOBILIZER Committee

- Anna Eunjoo Ghublikian**
- Dee Arias**
- Marie Medina**
- Rachel Garcia**

GIVING PROJECT Caucus Facilitators

- Mac Liman**
- Zawdie Ekundayo**

FINANCE & INVESTMENT Committee

- Erik Ortiz**
- Lucy Loomis**
- Mac Liman**
- Matt Karkut**
- Nancy Hernandez**
- Pamela Reséndiz Trujano**
- Selamawit Gebre**
- V.J. Brown**
- Yessica Holguin**

THE GIVING PROJECT

The Giving Project is an innovative program for leadership development and social justice philanthropy. Over 6 months, we work closely with a diverse group of 15-20 people from all income levels who are passionate about social justice and want to strengthen their skills in fundraising, grantmaking, and grassroots organizing. They develop a shared analysis of race, class, and power within society, make a personal donation of an amount that is meaningful to them, then collectively raise and grant money to grassroots organizations working for social change in Colorado.

Giving Projects have been especially successful at reaching traditionally underrepresented communities, including young people and BIPOC leaders, in Colorado and throughout the US. We are proud to collaborate with 8 other community foundations across the country to develop this innovative model for social justice philanthropy.

WE BUILD MOVEMENTS

Since 2016, Chinook Fund's Giving Project has:

Trained 220 donor organizers

Engaged over 3,677 new donors and supporters

Raised over \$1,194,000 million for social change work in CO

Funded 114 community-led organizations

The Fall 2022 Giving Project granted

\$106,000

*to 13 organizations**

The Spring 2023 GMC collectively granted

\$98,000

*to 11 organizations***

**Includes 4 startup and 9 established groups*

*** Includes 2 startup and 9 established groups*



“

While I was vaguely aware of how important democratic philanthropy was before this program, I am leaving this six months feeling motivated and ready to continue pushing my skills and knowledge much deeper in the coming years, and prepared to keep moving more people and resources towards local movement work. Learning about local organizations doing incredible liberation and justice work, as well as experiencing the intentional and thoughtful consensus process around grantmaking, has been a huge source of hope and spiritual nourishment for me over the past few months.

Fall 2022 GIVING PROJECT

Deserea Richards
Elizabeth Friedl
Emma Goldman
hadassah damien
John Tiedemann
Madeline Grigg
Melia Polynice
Monica Alvidrez
Raeneice Ivory
Shannon Fitzpatrick
Sheila Wheeler
Shelby Swan
Stephanie Perez-Carrillo
Vonna Wolf Gallegos



Spring 2023 GIVING PROJECT

Denise Gomez
Derek George
Erin Hayes
Hallie Nelson
Hazel Shapiro
Jessica Ramos
LeQuisha Washington

Marine Brichard
Max Chen
Michelle Sykes
Pilar Athaide-Victor
Sarah Kaplan Gould
Savanna Hanson
Star Lee

“

As a result of the Giving Project, I feel connected to what is happening in Colorado in a new way, now I have a deeper sense of place.

“

A heartfelt ‘thank you’ for providing this space to grow, expand comfort zones, and thrive with a multifaceted, diverse collective at a point in my career where it was simply needed the most.

OUR GRANTEES Fall 2022

ESTABLISHED - \$10,000

- Alchemy Ritual Goods
- Compañeros: Four Corners Immigrant Resource Center
- Denver Alliance for Street Health Response (DASHR)
- Grand Valley Resident Team
- Lamar Unidos
- Rocky Mountain Employee Ownership Center
- Sheridan Rising Together for Equity
- The Road Called STRATE
- Una Mano Una Esperanza

START-UP - \$4,000

- Food Justice NW Aurora
- IDEA Stages
- Mountain Pride
- Urban Symbiosis

MULTI-YEAR

- Another Life Foundation
- Aurora Economic Opportunity Coalition
- Black Lives Matter 5280
- Pine River Shares



OUR GRANTEES *Spring 2022*

ESTABLISHED - \$10,000

Citizens Project
Colorado Jobs with Justice
Compound of Compassion
Fortaleza Familiar | Liberate Our Selves
Fuerza Latina
Higher Learning U Inc
Innervision
Resident Leadership Council
Seasoned with Grace Unboxed

STARTUP - \$4,000

Housekeys Action Network Denver
Montessori on Wheels

MULTI-YEAR

Denver Justice Project
El Alba Cooperative
Sacred Voices



Resident Leadership Council

INVESTING IN BLACK, INDIGENOUS, & PEOPLE OF COLOR-LED MOVEMENTS

Chinook Fund believes communities are best equipped to solve the challenges they face. By trusting grassroots leadership and providing funding to groups led by and for communities impacted by injustice, we support Colorado’s movements for social justice.

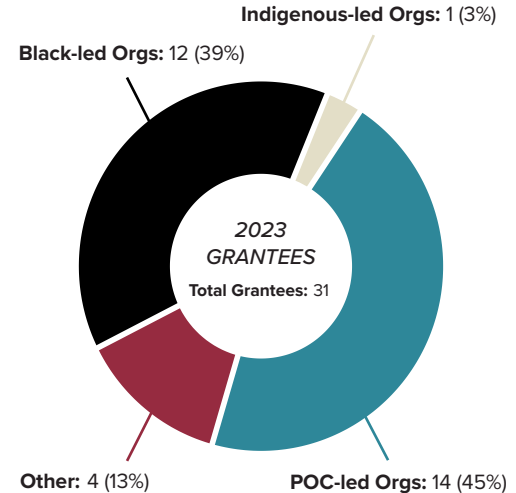
CORE FUNDING CRITERIA

Constituent-Led The work is led by the people most impacted by injustice.

Community-Wide The work reflects all members of the constituency, especially those who experience multiple forms of oppression.

Lasting Effect The work makes change not just for one individual today, but for the community as a whole, and for future generations.

Chinook Fund prioritizes funding for groups that are Black-led, Indigenous-led, based in rural communities, and those using community organizing as a strategy for change. The Giving Project model centers **Black liberation and Indigenous sovereignty** as a part of Chinook Fund’s racial justice commitment and the reality that all wealth in the U.S. is built on stolen land and stolen labor.



87% of our 2023 Grantees are BIPOC-led Organizations

GRANTEE SPOTLIGHT

Denver, CO

ROCKY MOUNTAIN EMPLOYEE OWNERSHIP PROGRAM

Fall 2022 Grantee



The mission of the **Rocky Mountain Employee Ownership Center (RMEOC)** is to build a more just and sustainable economy through employee ownership. We believe that a just economy is one that works for everyone, that is built upon inclusive and sustainable systems, and that provides equitable opportunity to build wealth. Our current economy benefits too few, at the expense of too many. But employee ownership is an effective, time-tested strategy to change that by creating wealth for the working class, helping to close race and gender wealth gaps, and building more sustainable, resilient, and inclusive local economies and communities.

GRANTEE SPOTLIGHT

Avon, CO

MOUNTAIN PRIDE

Fall 2022 Grantee



Mountain Pride's mission is to continuously improve the lived experience of our LGBTQIA+ community. LGBTQIA+ people in small towns and rural communities face unique challenges in coming out and being out. Meanwhile, they frequently live in communities with few or no resources for LGBTQIA+ people, forcing them to travel long distances to access the services and care they need. Mountain Pride is addressing these challenges by increasing year-round programming for the LGBTQIA+ community. Mountain Pride is devoted to strengthening its foundation and expanding its reach as an organization by establishing supportive, safe spaces, enhancing family acceptance and understanding, and offering access to information, resources, and services.

GRANTEE SPOTLIGHT

Denver, CO

INNERVISION

Spring 2023 Grantee



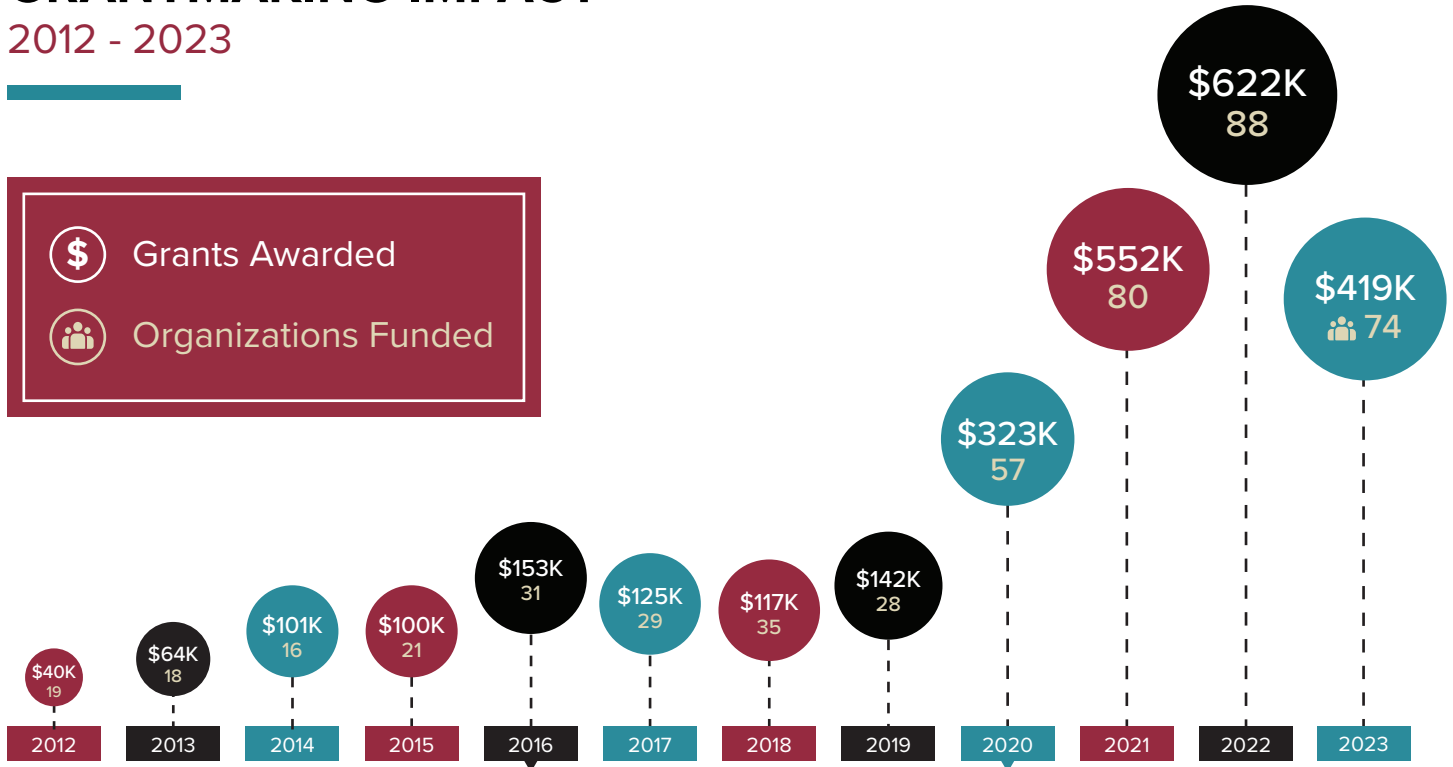
Using the power of music, podcasting, and television, Innervision has fostered acceptance and inspiration for blind and visually impaired artists. With Innervision's support, trainees achieve their highest level of independence and reach their fullest potential.

GRANTMAKING IMPACT

2012 - 2023

 Grants Awarded

 Organizations Funded



Launched the Giving Project

Launched the Another World is Possible Fund

ABOUT THE ANOTHER WORLD IS POSSIBLE FUND

Another World is Possible Fund, a partnership with [Transformative Leadership for Change](#), is a vehicle to invest in the social justice organizations that are fighting for both a just response to COVID-19 in the short term and a visionary future for our world in the long term.

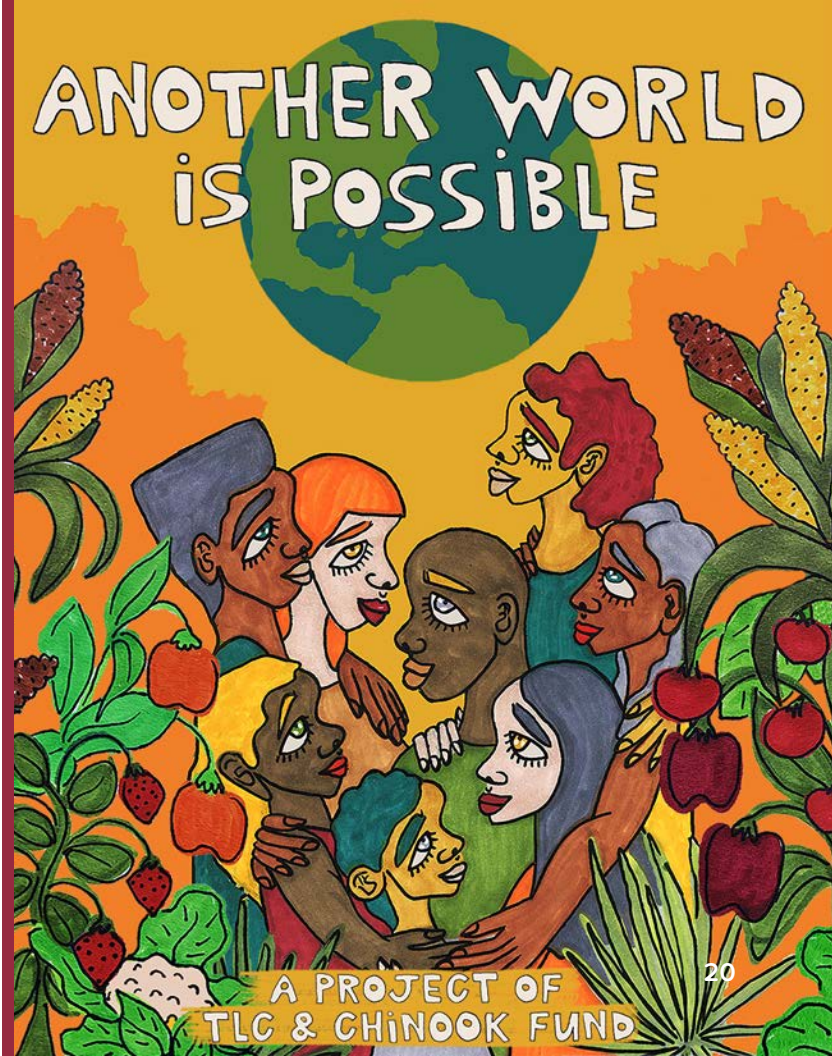
WE HAVE DISTRIBUTED
\$1,150,000
IN GRANTS TO 95 GRASSROOTS
ORGANIZATIONS

Since launching in May 2020

In the fall of 2022, we awarded \$215,000 to 43 grassroots organizations, successfully redistributing \$1.2M in total dollars since the Fund was launched in 2020. In 2023, we made the difficult decision to pause the Fund to evaluate capacity and resources necessary for this collaboration.

CHINOOK FUND

*Original art by
Chetna of Mosaiceye*



A PROJECT OF
TLC & CHINOOK FUND

ANOTHER WORLD IS POSSIBLE FUND GRANTEES

\$5,000/Grant - July 2022-December 2022

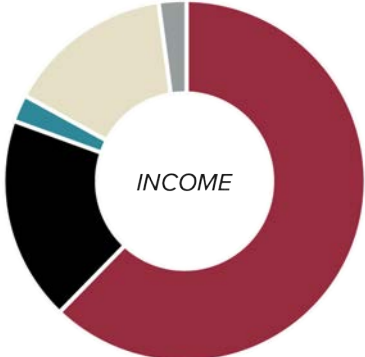
9 to 5 Colorado	Denver	Cultivando	Commerce City
American Friends Service Committee	Denver	Denver Community Fridges Project	Denver
Apprentice of Peace Youth Organization	Denver	Denver Justice Project	Denver
BIPOC Alliance	Fort Collins	East Denver Food Hub	Denver
Black Business Initiative	Denver	Food to over (Formerly the Colorado Springs Food Rescue)	Colorado Springs
Black Lives Matter 5280	Denver	Fortaleza Familiar Liberate Our Selves	Commerce City
Center for Community Wealth Building	Denver	Four Corners Rainbow Youth Center	Durango
Center for Working Families - Colorado	Denver	FrontLine Farming	Denver
Colorado Changemakers Collective	Denver	Housekeys Action Network Denver	Denver
Colorado Circles for Change	Denver	Lamar Unidos	Lamar
Colorado Jobs with Justice	Denver	Looms of Liberation	Denver
Compound of Compassion	Aurora	Mi Familia Vota	Denver
Convivir Colorado	Denver		

ANOTHER WORLD IS POSSIBLE FUND GRANTEES

\$5,000/Grant - July 2022-December 2022

Mo' Betta Green	Denver	Seasoned with Grace Unboxed	Denver
Montessori On Wheels	Denver	Shorter Community AME Church	Denver
Move Mountains Project	San Luis	Spirit of the Sun	Denver
Movimento Poder (Formerlu Padres & Jovenes Unidos)	Denver	Una Mano Una Esperanza	Denver
One Colorado Education Fund	Denver	United for a New Economy	Commerce City
People of the Sacred Land	Broomfield		
Pine River Shares	Bayfield		
Resident Leadership Council	Aurora		
Right2Learn Dignity Lab	Denver		
RISE Colorado	Aurora		
RTL Foundation	Denver		
Sacred Voices	Denver		
Satya Yoga Cooperative	Littleton		

FINANCIAL SUMMARY



INCOME

Support & Revenue

● Contributions	\$719,417
● Foundation Grants	\$210,800
● Another World Contributions & Grants	\$28,000
● Net Investment Income	\$171,903
● Other, Fiscal Sponsorship	\$24,520

Total Support & Revenue **\$1,154,640**

FINANCIAL SUMMARY



EXPENSES

Support & Revenue

Program Services:

● Support for Social Justice	\$695,293
● Another World Grants	\$252,387
● Fiscal Sponsorship	\$21,051

Total Program Services	\$968,731
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Supporting Services:

● General Administration	\$158,800
● Fundraising	\$157,647

Total Supporting Services	\$316,447
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Total Expenses	\$1,285,178
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Changes in Net Assets	-\$130,538
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Net Assets: Beginning of Year	\$2,825,415
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Net Assets: End of Year	\$2,694,877
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COLORADO FUNDERS FOR INCLUSIVENESS AND EQUITY

Chinook Fund Serves as the fiscal sponsor for **Colorado Funders for Inclusiveness and Equity** (COFIE). COFIE was founded in 2008 and **exists to support, educate and embolden Colorado funders to lead the movement toward inclusivity and equity in philanthropy.** What started as a small group of about ten people has grown into a vibrant group of more than 300 grantmakers committed to personal and professional development to advance and promote inclusiveness and equity.

The group serves as a resource to local funders as they challenge their thinking and consider implementing changes within their own organizations regarding inclusiveness and equity. The group also serves as a support network for members as they educate themselves about inclusiveness, equity, diversity, and anti-oppression practices. Membership is open to all Colorado funders.

COFIE SPONSORS

Bonfils Stanton Foundation
Chambers Initiative
Denver Arts & Venues
Kaiser Permanente
Next 50 Initiative
Philanthropy Colorado
Rocky Mountain Health Foundation
The Colorado Health Foundation
The Denver Foundation
The Equity Project

CONSTELLATIONS OF CHANGE

Launched in 2021, **Constellations of Change** is an emerging events-based program and multiracial, cross class community of donor activists committed to wealth redistribution, strategic giving, and community building. The idea was originally sparked by dynamic conversations with donors, exploring wealth redistribution, the state of philanthropy, and desire to deepen relationships amongst Chinook Fund's supporters. In its third year, the Constellations community has grown to include both multiyear and monthly donors who collectively contribute \$220,000 a year in critical unrestricted support.

To join or for more information, contact Shelby Bates at sbates@chinookfund.org.



CHINOOK FUND



SPONSORS & SUPPORTERS



INNER CIRCLE DONORS

Kira Abelow
Di and Johnny Adams
Courtney Allen
Courtney Banayad
Allison Blakeney
Kelly Blynn
Amy Board
Zachary Booz
Nadine Bridges
Benjamin Bull
Donna Chrisjohn
Talia Cloth
Dana Coelho
Kelly Costello
Denise de Percin
Hannah Eckert
Zawdie Ekundayo
Lindsay Fallon
Davian Gagne
Andrew Greenberg
Melinda Kaye Gross

Nicole Hurt
Vicki Johnson
Meghan Jordan
Sarah Korn
Cassie Leyva
Mac Liman
Daniel Martin
Lynn Mason
Thomas Middlestadt
Christopher Miller
Clarence Mills
Leah Muntges
Alexandra Newton
Erik Ortiz
Kellie Rogers
Ryan Sarni
Mark Scaggs
Amanda Seibel
Katerina Stephan
Laura Strand
Anna Tekippe
Sarah Thomas
Bruce and Penny Thron-Weber
Malia Van Rooy

Waeli Wang
Sydney Zorensky

CONSTELLATIONS OF CHANGE

Mekayla Ichneumon Beaver
and Gregory Ichneumon Brown
Sarah Buccci
Angela Daniels
Joe Dorn
Goldman Family Gift Trust II
Helen Wolcott
L.P. Brown Foundation
Mac Liman
morgan matter
Christopher Newton
Noon Whistle Fund
Radical Waves Project
Ken Stern and Linda Stein
The Tumbleweed Fund
Wendy Emrich

INDIVIDUAL SUPPORTERS

Leanne Alaman
Franny Alani
Chris Allan
Elizabeth Allen-Parrish
Andrea Alma
Kaitlin Altone
Jesse Aman
Benu Amun-Ra
Kimberly Anders
Art Anderson
Ronald Anderson
Dan Andree
John Andreoni
Rachel Appel
Risa Aqua
Dee Arias
Elizabeth Athaide-Victor
Pilar Athaide-Victor
Louise Athaide
Lisa Austin
Rosalyn Avent
Yolanda Avila
Amorena Baca
Eyklipse Baca
Mallory Bacon

Kate Bailey
Hannah Baker
Nina Baliga
Sharon Banks
Sandra Barry
Shelby Bates
Nayda Benitez
Ryan Berthoff
Madeleine Binsfrahm
Shayla Bischoff
Shana Blake
Allison Blechman
Alyce Blum
Josh Boissevain
Cecilia Bonertz
Samantha Boren
Nancy Bosch
Leah Bowes
Kristi Bradford
Mikayla Branz
Melanie Bravo
Marine Brichard
Adam Brock
Debra Brown
VJ Brown

Charles Bullard
Robert Burkhardt
ChukwuFumnanya Camara
Sarah Campbell
LaShay Canady
Kari Cao
Mary Cardwell
Cynthia Carlisle
Juliet Carpenter
Cindy Chang
Nicole Chavarria
Frances Chen
Joe Chen
Lucia Chen
CiCi Cheng
Jennifer Ching
Tom and Ann Christensen
Maddy Cimino
Ryan Clapp
Susan Clarke
Andy Coco
Shelby Cole
Susan Cone
Stephanie Cooper
Elizabeth Cordova

Michael Cortes
Andrea Cota
Mary Cousins
Cassie Cowan
Stephanie Craighead
Katherine Cramer
Betsy Crane
Patina Cranford
Tessa Crisman
Elizabeth Crowe
Hadassah Damien
Russell Dann
Hayden Danksy
Shatoyia Davenport
Bree Davies
Emily Davis
Malia Davis
Loretta Dawes
Erin Dawes
Peter Dawes
Kim and Ethan Decker
Kenzley Defler
Molly Delandsheer
Holly Delany Cole
Manuela Delnevo

Kwasi Dennis
Hunter Desotel
Abbi Devins-Suresh
Debbie Dexter
Mariana Diaz
Karl Dise
Jose Dominguez
Brook Dougherty
Kelly Drumright
Emily Duma
T. Duncan
Katherine Eastlake
Asha Egan
Michael and Tracy Ehlers
Helene Einertsen
Daniel Eisenberg
Chelsea Elcott
Anne Elgerd
Amy Engelman
Nicole Esplin
Zachariah Falconer-Stout
Jay Farber
Raye Farber
Ariel Federow
Neal Feldman
Gina Ferguson
Veronica Fernandez-Diaz
Renee Ferruffino

Lee Fisher-Rosenberg
Shannon Fitzpatrick
Robyn Flemming
Babah Fly
Nicole Follmann
Kati Forbes
Andy Frank
Andy and Audrey Franklin
Elizabeth Friedl
Sylvia Friedl
Sari Frosh
Richard Frumess
Lita Gagne
Luz Galicia
Chris Gallegos
Jason Gallegos
Patricia Gallegos
Emily Gallivan
Natrina Gandana
Andres Garcia
Cherie Garcia
Jordan Garcia
Max Garcia
Lauren Gardenswartz
Megan Gaydos
Selamawit Gebre
Derek George
Anna Ghublikian

Alex Goldman
Ken Goldman
Denise Gomez
Aurora Gonzalez-Bautista
Melissa Gordon
Christie and Stan Gosch
Alan Gould
Daniel Gould
Helen Gover
Gertrude Grant
Hannah Graves
Emerald Green
Jessica Green
Josie Green
Sam Green
Vicky Green
Michelle Greenberg
Yael Greenberg
Lisa Greene
Jennifer Griffis
Madeleine Grigg
Mike and Wendi Grigg
Jennifer Gross
Cindy Grubenhoff
Cesiah Guadarrama Trejo
Kevin Haas
Jim and Laura Hahn
Roland Halpern

Saira Hamidi
Maren Hamilton
Anika Hammond
Shelby Handler
Therese Handler
Zoe Handler
Grace Harkin
Laura Harney
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