

Movement Partnerships and Grantmaking

FY2022 Learning and Evaluation Analysis



solidaire

Introduction

The end of fiscal year (FY) 2022 meets us in a place of political contention and opportunity. Our movement partners continue to organize in the messy, mundane and increasingly dangerous reality of this moment. They have fought hard to mitigate systemic harms, build power and create new structures for our collective liberation.

Movements, though operating under a host of threats and challenges, remain vibrant, responsive and stirring. Some examples:

- Third Wave Fund created the Disability Frontlines Fund to respond to the long-term impact of the COVID-19 pandemic on people with disabilities
- Cooperation Jackson, Maria Fund and Homes for All South are resisting global problems like authoritarianism, climate change and corporate capture of institutions
- Southern Power Fund is building creative infrastructure by aiming to move \$100M to southern organizing in the next five years
- Organizations like Action St. Louis and Ohio Organizing Collaborative are training up and building a deeper bench of organizers

Our work as grantmakers has sought to be fully alongside our partners on the frontlines every step of the way. Our liberatory learning and evaluation process requires us to stay in persistent dialogue with our movement partners, funding allies, staff colleagues and teammates to stay attuned to partners and the wider philanthropic sector.

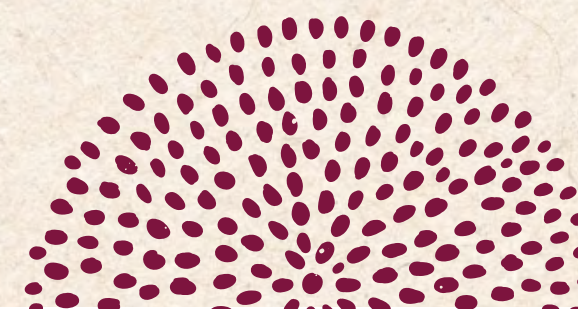


Table 1: *Our learning and evaluation process*

- 1 Conducting year-round 1:1s with movement partners
- 2 Surveying them for vital input, trends, hopes and challenges
- 3 Engaging them in our theory of liberation evaluation
- 4 Continuing input and leadership of the Movement Insight Committee and our Movement Infrastructure Fund Advisory Team

**Solidaire Network committed
\$9,136,333 to the frontlines of social
change, impacting 152 grantee partners**

Trends in Grantmaking



Infrastructure building is the work now and for the long term

The drive to build infrastructure has been heightened in recent years, after the COVID-19 pandemic revealed what little state infrastructure is available to support communities in crisis, and as we watched the erosion of established human rights, with the reversal of Roe v. Wade and aggressive anti-Trans legislation. This drive has resulted in a rise in mutual aid funds and mutual aid systems for distributing resources from cash to food to information on how to access health programs. Across all of our funding vehicles, organizations are investing in capacity trainings, physical infrastructure and sustainability for their workforce.



Responding to compounding climate crises intersects with ongoing organizing

Our movement partners across the nation and around the world are coping with the harsh realities of climate change that are caused and deepened by systemic oppression. For our partners the need to respond to hurricanes, floods and fires is colliding with fights they are already waging for voting and tenant rights, land justice and sovereignty, bodily autonomy and more. The fight for climate justice among our grantee partners is deeply intersectional by design and necessity.



Leveraging the Solidaire community for movement building and solidarity

Partners are looking for deeper accompaniment from us on issues like backend infrastructure strengthening, peer-to-peer learning, and additional funding and support navigating philanthropy. Responding to these clear asks, the Movement Partnerships and Grantmaking team has been rolling out an accompaniment and capacity strengthening program over the past year. We nurtured the political analysis of our members through movement partner-led training series and supported critical movements in philanthropy like fundraising for the Southern Power Fund.

Grantmaking Summary

We are in **year three of our five-year minimum commitment** to our movement partners. We are moving fewer grants but at larger sizes.

Table 2: Solidaire Network’s grantmaking in FY2022

	<u>Black Liberation Pooled Fund</u>	<u>Movement Infrastructure Fund</u>	<u>Ravi Khanna Social Justice Funds Partnerships</u>	<u>Sponsorships and Special Projects</u>
Organizations Funded	98	46	9	3
Top Issues Resourced	Movement Infrastructure Land Justice Healing Justice Climate and Environmental Electoral Justice Abolition/ Decarceration	Indigenous Organizing Training/Capacity Building Climate and Environmental Media/ Narrative Shift AAPI Organizing	Racial Justice Women and Girls Movement Infrastructure Trans/Gender Nonconforming Liberation	Indigenous Organizing Trans Justice and Liberation
Top Geographies Resourced	National (25 orgs) Southeast (30 orgs) Southwest (14 orgs)	National (18 orgs) West Coast (11 orgs) Southwest (8 orgs)	Global (\$730,000) National (\$650,000) Puerto Rico (\$150,000)	Global
Average Grant Size	\$65,252	\$58,152	\$183,333	Not Applicable
Funds Disbursed (including prior years’ commitments)	\$6,460,000	\$2,675,000	\$1,530,000	\$190,333
Total Commitments Made	\$5,915,000	\$50,000	\$2,980,000	Not Applicable

Grantmaking Vehicles

Our movement partners are engaged in intersectional, diverse and complex work to build power and transform oppression at a structural level. Below are highlights of some of the salient and urgent organizing work from our movement partners:

- Challenging current economic structures
- Building narrative and people power
- Responding to the climate crisis
- Building long-term movement infrastructure

“

Solidaire is one of the first ones to fund us and help us be seen as a movement innovator. So much gratitude to you for that support and for the ongoing support.”

– BLPF Grantee Partner

“

We don’t have to worry about playing down the hard parts, we can be candid and in clear relationship.”

– MIF Grantee Partner

Black Liberation Pooled Fund Highlight

Organizations for Black liberation have been engaged in land justice projects including preventing land loss, protecting Black farmers, creating respite, community care and celebration venues, as well as maroon spaces for Black people. The kinds of anti-capitalist challenges that Solidaire is resourcing are among the most innovative, community-grounded and paradigm shifting work being funded anywhere.

Case Study: Collective Land Stewardship

East Bay Permanent Real Estate Cooperative (EB PREC) is a community-centered development cooperative. They are democratically run and led by people of color. They remove land and housing from the speculative market to create permanently affordable, community-controlled homes.



East Bay Permanent Real Estate Cooperative

Movement Infrastructure Fund Highlight

Our grantee partners and Advisory Team have called on us to provide long-term scaffolding that supports organizations holistically. We utilize an ecosystem approach to funding healthy and sustainable movements. Our Movement Infrastructure Fund includes organizations that focus on base building, political education, regional or national networking, providing resources and innovative models of self-determination.

Case Study: Movement Lawyers

Legal advocacy is part of the broader movement infrastructure and is necessary to shift policies and protect organizers. Unfortunately, few legal firms are dedicated to supporting base-building organizations and directly impacted people. ArchCity Defenders is a movement-centered law firm offering legal representation, impact litigation, community collaboration, and policy advocacy. They are committed to abolition, revolutionary justice, and self-determination by partnering closely with organizers on the ground. They note, “We have helped to defund the police and make sure it goes back into the community.”



East Bay Permanent Real Estate Cooperative



María Fund

Ravi Khanna Social Justice Funds Partnerships Highlight

These partnerships with intermediaries, public foundations and social justice funds focus on the following areas: Gender Justice (including Trans and Gender Non Conforming Liberation) and Bodily Autonomy, Racial Justice, Climate Justice, Youth organizing and Movement Infrastructure. Through this vehicle we are able to move resources to frontline activists and increase our learning on the priorities and challenges that specific communities face – and how philanthropy can and should respond.

Case Study: Climate Resilience and Movement Building

Founded in 2017 as a rapid response fund in the wake of Hurricane Maria's devastating impact on the archipelago, the María Fund resources impacted communities through its connections with movements on the ground. The María Fund is the only social justice fund in Puerto Rico and serve as a critical movement support infrastructure organization. They focus on strengthening a powerful and aligned ecosystem of social justice leaders, organizations, and initiatives that are building community power in Puerto Rico. In response to Hurricane Fiona, the María Fund and eight social justice organizations partnered to provide immediate relief and support to some of the most impacted and historically marginalized communities. Together known as the Fiona Community Response Fund, these organizations will continue to partner for long-term systemic change on the island beyond the immediate relief stage.

FY2023 Grantmaking Preview

Accompaniment and Capacity Strengthening Fund

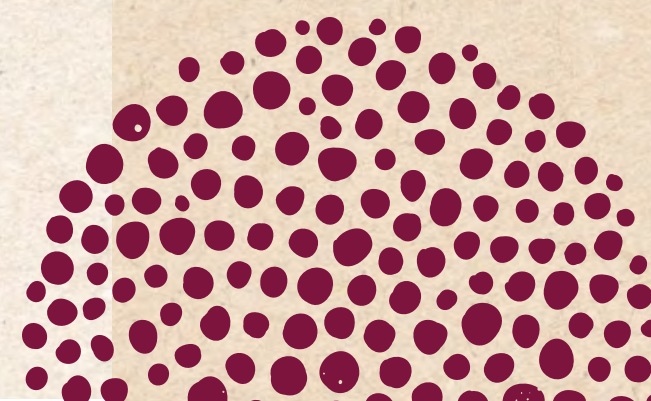
The Movement Partnerships and Grantmaking team has opened the initial request cycle for the capacity strengthening fund to organizations and individuals affiliated with our current grantee partners. We moved \$540,000 to 36 grantee partners. It is clear that our movement partners are responding to urgent needs while also brilliantly securing the sustainability and foundations of their organizations and movement ecosystems. They are building new structures, developing relevant leadership models, supporting under-recognized and poorly resourced sister organizations, and treating their core teams as whole humans.

Trends in Request Categories:

- Support to Frontline Organizing
- Organizational Planning and Infrastructure building
- Respite / Recovery
- Increasing Pay and Benefits

Janisha R. Gabriel Movement Protection Fund

When our movement partners raised the alarm that physical and digital threats are once again on the rise, we immediately relaunched this funding vehicle to get security resources to frontline organizers at the speed necessary for their safety. The fund fills a critical gap by offering a two-year commitment to: (1) raise funds for immediate redistribution to movements and (2) prioritize building out movement safety and security infrastructure. We will continue to organize within philanthropy to guide the sector toward building desperately needed safety infrastructure.





Recommendations for FY2023

- Fund Respite
- Refine Solidaire Network’s Funding Focus
- Support Training Between Movement Peers
- Political Education on Urgently Funding Safety
- Learn Strategies from Global Partners
- Expand Partnerships Between Movement and Philanthropy

Table 3: Solidaire Network’s projected grantmaking in FY2023

	<u>Black Liberation Pooled Fund</u>	<u>Movement Infrastructure Fund</u>	<u>Ravi Khanna Social Justice Funds Partnerships</u>
Expansion of Grantmaking	9 New Partners at \$500,000 13 Partnerships increased to \$220,000	9 New Partners at \$500,000	\$350,000 Across 4 Partnerships
Areas of focus	Bodily Autonomy/ Abortion Access Healing Justice Community Care Mental Health Disability Justice	Gender Justice Southern Organizing Multiracial Disability Justice Land Justice	Gender Justice Protecting Dissent Disability Justice Racial Justice
FY2023 Total	\$7,620,000	\$3,970,000	\$1,880,000