



Resourcing Movements for the Long Haul: 2023 Year-End Report & Giving Guide





Photos from the Celebration of Grassroots Organizing.
Credit: @deborahjkarsonphotography

Resourcing Movements for the Long Haul: ROP's 2023 Year-End Report & Giving Guide

Resource Organizing Project shifts fundraising culture and practices to build stronger movements for justice and liberation in New England. Check out our partners on the frontlines of fights for racial, economic, environmental, and gender justice, and consider supporting them.



[Back to Top](#)

Table of Contents

3	Resource Organizing Project's Year-End Report
7	Year-End Giving Guide
8	Spotlight: Organizations in Leadership Transitions
9	Connecticut
11	Maine
13	Massachusetts
19	New Hampshire
20	Rhode Island
22	Vermont
22	Regional

Report on our Third Year



Investment in Strategy

2021 was ROP’s establishing year and 2022 was about building out our offerings to a growing network of movement groups. In 2023 we focused on developing structure and strategy to hone our impact.



ROP’s staff team: Dave, Kathy, & Liza.

At the start of 2023, we expanded our staff team by bringing on Kathy Asuncion, our full-time Associate Director for Training and Capacity Building. Kathy’s been a fundraiser for migrant and racial justice since she

joined the 2010 DREAM Act fight as an undocumented high school student. As Development Director of SIM, she led an innovative monthly donor campaign that gave SIM the sustainable base of support it needed to navigate the Trump years.

Next, we elevated three strategic priorities to focus our work, in order to better resource movements for justice.

- 1. Establish pathways for fundraiser leadership and capacity**
- 2. Build power through collective fundraising**
- 3. Weave a community of movement fundraisers**

Then, we dug into our own understanding of movement-building. We believe that large scale social movements are needed to address the deep rooted injustices in our region and to enact a vision of a just society. In order to build those movements, we decided to focus on strategies that build the long term organized power of historically targeted communities—Black, indigenous, people of color, queer and trans, and poor/working class communities in New England.

Finally, we engaged partners in a visioning process to identify future offerings for movement fundraiser community and skill-building. Some of the exciting ideas in this new roadmap are:

- Political education workshops for organizers to connect fundraising to building power
- A budgeting and fundraising planning cohort
- Grant Writing retreats, an expansion of our Offering for Movement Grantwriters
- Peer-led skill sharing and collective fundraising strategy spaces

Look out as more of this unfolds in the coming years, as this foundation will allow us to lean into experimentation toward expanding the pie of resources for movements.

At the same time, we expanded our core strategic work.

BRENAE ANACACY
COLLECTIVE POWER FOR
REPRODUCTIVE JUSTICE



“I learned a lot from participating in ROP. The biggest takeaway for me is that, as a fundraiser, I am giving people the opportunity to make an impact for a cause that they care about. When I ask people to give to Collective Power, I am inviting them to join us in training the next generation of reproductive justice activists and leaders - I am inviting them to help make lasting change in the world. And, it feels amazing to give people that opportunity and a place in our community.”

Strategy 1. Leadership Pathways for Movement Fundraisers



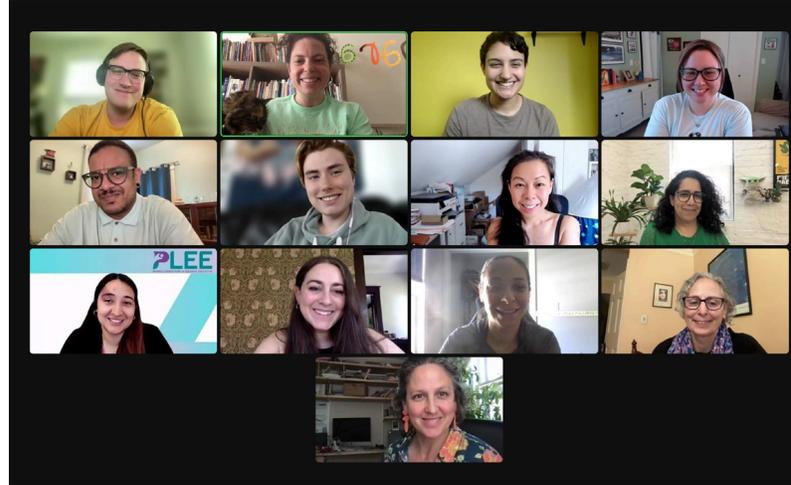
Through cohorts and workshops, ROP invested in the fundraising leadership of dozens of BIPOC, working class, and LGBTQ organizers and supported movement organizations to strengthen their fundraising.

Sustainer Learning Circle: 18 groups are completing 9-month cohorts focused on recurring donors, building infrastructure from databases to fundraising committees, and welcoming hundreds of sustainers, which will increase in years to come.

Meanwhile, the 23 alumni organizations who completed the program continue to bring in hundreds of thousands of dollars annually from over 1000 monthly donors. And for the first time, we ran “SLC 2.0” where we coached alumni organizations to continue building their programs, each running a drive to recruit 25 sustainers and unlock a \$2,500 match grant.

New Fundraisers Cohort: Our second cohort of 10 leaders preparing for success as fundraising staff kicked off this Fall. The cohort will complete a series of training sessions, one-on-one coaching, and a capstone project over six months.

Offering for Movement Grantwriters: Grant-writing is often the part of fundraising work that feels unaligned with movement values, and yet most movement organizations depend on foundation grants. This program combats the competitive and isolating aspects of the foundation world by providing skill-building, camaraderie, and development of a shared political analysis to fortify grantwriters. We offered two rounds of OMG, with 16 organizations completing it.



Sustainer Learning Circle participants from Cohort 2.



SABRINA BARROSO
STORIES INSPIRING MOVEMENTS

“One of my biggest takeaways from OMG was exploring how our organizational story is our grant writing story and how our whole team can share the practice of capturing our stories, analysis, and plans to make grant writing a more representative and participatory process.”

Strategy 2. Power through Collective Fundraising



We worked to “expand the pie” of resources moving to frontline movements through creative and collaborative strategies that resist competition, scarcity, and the uneven power dynamics of the nonprofit industrial complex.

Celebration of Grassroots Organizing: Our collaborative fundraiser for Boston-based groups expanded to 15 partner organizations and we raised \$240,000 this year! In its 10 years, this event has raised over \$700,000. Check out [the 2023 report](#) to learn more!

New Hampshire Youth Organizing Fund: Youth-led organizing is leading the way for systemic change in New Hampshire despite historically underfunding. We partnered with youth-led groups and funders to launch a shared fund, which elevates the expertise of youth organizers who will democratically distribute \$200,000 a year to invest in their field.



Boosting Anchor Organizations:

We co-hosted a funder briefing for The City School, a powerful organization who develops frontline movement leaders and anchors Boston’s youth justice movement. With this experiment we are trying out a strategy to collaboratively resource a movement anchor in order to have an amplified impact on the movement ecosystem as a whole.

Propagation Party:

We launched a one-off miniature donor circle to coincide with this year’s Sustainer Learning Circle. ROP Seed Sustainers (monthly donors) are “propagating” sustainership by inviting their networks to give monthly to one of the organizations currently conducting a sustainer drive. We’re excited about where this could go in future years!

Photos from the Celebration of Grassroots Organizing. Credit: @deborahjkarsonphotography



Strategy 3. Community of Movement Fundraisers



Building a network of movement fundraisers to combat the isolation and competition that is endemic in the field.

Affinity spaces: This Spring, we piloted an affinity space bringing together 10 Black movement fundraisers to build connection and support each other's fundraising. We expect this offering to grow, as well as affinity spaces for other systemically targeted communities within the movement fundraising landscape.

Regional Tour: Our staff visited 35 groups in all six New England states. The tour was an opportunity to deepen relationships in-person and generate brilliant ideas for shifting fundraising practice that you will no doubt hear more about.

Grassroots Fundraisers Circle: Our monthly drop-in space continues to establish relationships between fundraisers across the movement, making connections and fostering a space for peer learning.



STEFAN KELLER
MAKE THE ROAD CONNECTICUT

"So much of the messaging out there focuses on scarcity and competition which is not helpful towards movement building. It is great to be in a space that feels collaborative, where we can learn concrete skills and vision together about a future where we can leverage our combined power to demand the funding our organizations and movements deserve."



VANESSA LY
SISTERS UNCHAINED

"I learned about how incorporate our organization's values into our grant writing and not compromising who we are as an organization for funding purposes."



SETT VINCENT
RESOURCES FOR ORGANIZING
AND SOCIAL CHANGE

"The drop-in spaces ROP creates are so warm and welcoming, and the administrative workshops changed how our organization runs entirely for the better."



JORDAN LLANAS
GREENROOTS, INC.

"The Celebration of Grassroots Organizing is such a beautiful opportunity for all of us to work together in solidarity, knowing that our missions are all linked together for a better future. Being in community rather than in competition is a radical act."



2023 Year-End Giving Guide

Resource Organizing Project

ROP uplifts strategies that build the long-term organized power of historically targeted communities – Black, indigenous, people of color, queer and trans, and poor/working class communities. We know that in order to win, our movements need strong organizations but also a vibrant ecosystem where those organizations collaborate through coalitions, shared resourcing, and strategic coordination, seeing their campaigns as part of a larger political project.

We think of our partnerships in two categories:

1. Base-Building Frontline Movement Groups build a membership base, develop members into leaders, and run strategic campaigns to transform society.

2. Movement Ecosystem Partners are trusted by frontline movement groups in their region and engage in complementary strategies to base-building. Their strategies could include radical service, healing, mediation, political education, arts and culture, solidarity economy, mass mobilization, advocacy, direct action, leadership development, abolitionists alternatives, or community building.

We invite you to support any of the 75 New England groups in our network, listed on the following pages. And whenever it's possible, help build their power by not only donating but **joining them: as a recurring monthly donor or a member.**

KELLY BAKER

DEVELOPER AND CO-FACILITATOR OF
ROP'S NEW FUNDRAISERS COHORT



"What ROP offers is fundraising training and support that is created by and for movement groups. Our programs and facilitators understand the reality of fundraising on a small team with limited capacity, and are able to support groups to not only fundraise effectively, but in alignment with their values."

*Photos from the Celebration of Grassroots Organizing.
Credit: @deborahjkarsonphotography*



Spotlight: Base-Building Groups with New Leadership

Some of our core partners have welcomed new directors in the past year. Leadership transitions are a critical time in a movement organization’s life cycle, bringing fresh vision and strategy. Executive transitions also bring a set of challenges, including fundraising, as relationships are passed down.

Let’s welcome their new visions by investing in partners with new leadership.
Click on the organization to learn more.



[Back to Top](#)



The rest of this guide is organized by region, so you can connect with your local movement work.



Connecticut



Black Infinity Collective practices liberation and honors the fluidity of ourselves and the movement. We gather in our complexity, centered in the creation, nurturing, and protection of spaces that strengthen and amplify Black leadership and freedom. We are invested in the survival and nourishment of all Black people through care and healing.



Hearing Youth Voices is a youth-led organization that trains young people of color to organize, fight, and deconstruct systems of oppression in our community.



Connecticut Students for a DREAM is a statewide organization of DREAMers and allies that seek to empower undocumented students and their families by advocating for their rights and raising awareness about issues they face.



Make the Road Connecticut works to support immigrants to be active in their communities and to lift themselves out of poverty through legal and support services, civic engagement, transformative education and policy innovation.



Connecticut



[The Middletown Racial Justice Coalition](#) intends to interrupt and dismantle institutional and systemic racism through community-led action, healing, and organizing. By cultivating a coalition of Middletown community members, leaders, agitators, and decision makers, we work to re-imagine and spark transformative change in people, systems, and institutions in order to create racially equitable outcomes.



[Step Up New London](#) is dedicated to building an anti-racist, people-powered movement that holds ourselves and the community accountable in creating homes and schools where Black and Brown children and families are thriving.



[The REACH Fund of Connecticut, Inc.](#) is a non-profit organization that provides financial assistance for abortion care in Connecticut. REACH works directly with Connecticut abortion clinics to financially contribute to abortion care for those who cannot afford their out-of-pocket costs.



[Students for Educational Justice](#)'s mission is to transform our education system and wider society through strengthening student leadership and training them to organize. To instill a positive racial identity in BIPOC students, encouraging them to embody their power.



Maine



Maine Immigrants' Rights Coalition (MIRC) improves legal, social, and economic conditions for immigrants in the state of Maine. MIRC brings together more than 103 organizations to form a unique statewide network representing diverse ethnic communities. These organizations, a majority of which are led by people of color, work together to foster immigrant inclusion and integration through both support programs and policies.



Maine Prisoner Advocacy Coalition is a statewide group formed in 2007 to improve conditions for inmates, former inmates, their families, victims of crime and others.



Portland Outright supports underserved members of the LGBTQ+ youth community through weekly member meetings, ongoing mentorship, social events, and trainings, as well as intentional support to youth navigating systems -- such as the juvenile justice system, foster care, homelessness and mental health services.



Presente! Maine is a home for people seeking racial, economic, gender, and climate justice. For the empowerment of Latinx people. Pro-Black, pro-indigenous, pro-queer, pro-migrant, pro-poor.



Maine



[Portland Empowered](#) strives to ensure that student and parent voices are reflected in policy and practice within Portland Public Schools. Students and parents are experts on what they need to be successful in education, and our Youth Engagement Partners and Parent Engagement Partners are critical assets to education reform in Portland and beyond.



[Southern Maine Workers' Center](#) is a grassroots, member led organization working to improve the lives, working conditions, and terms of employment for working class and poor people in Maine.



[Resources for Organizing and Social Change](#)'s goal is to share resources and support people in Maine who want to engage in social change work, particularly those who are the most affected by oppressive systems. We strive to build infrastructure and strengthen cross-issue, statewide movement building by increasing leadership development for grassroots organizers, promoting democratic practices within organizations, and supporting work that gets to root causes of injustice.



[Survivor Speak USA \(SSUSA\)](#) is a Maine-based, survivor-led organization working to end sex trafficking and sexploitation through centering the experiences, healing, voices, and leadership of survivors.



Massachusetts



AARW

Asian American Resource Workshop is a political home for pan-Asian communities in Greater Boston. We are a member-led organization committed to building grassroots power through political education, creative expression, and issue-based and neighborhood organizing.



The Center for Cooperative Development and Solidarity

(CCDS) provides technical, educational and organizational support to people exploring the development of workers' owned cooperatives which we believe will create opportunities for decent work and living wages for low income immigrants in our community.



ACE

alternatives for
community &
environment

Building Power for Environmental Justice

Alternatives for Community and Environment builds the power of communities of color and lower income communities in New England to eradicate environmental racism and classism and achieve environmental justice.



**CITY LIFE
VIDA URBANA**
Stand Up, Fight Back.

City Life Vida Urbana is

a grassroots community organization committed to fighting for racial, social and economic justice and gender equality by building working class power. We promote individual empowerment, develop community leaders and build collective power to effect systemic change and transform society.



Based in Springfield, **Arise for Social Justice** is a member-led community organization dedicated to defending and advancing the rights of poor people. Arise has worked on issues such as housing, homelessness, criminal justice, environmental justice, and public health.



The City School develops and strengthens youth to become effective leaders for social justice. We work with young people ages 14-19 living in Boston and its surrounding suburbs who are emerging leaders and have a passion for social justice. Our community intentionally crosses lines of race, class, gender, and neighborhood.



**BOSTON
UJIMA
PROJECT**

Boston Ujima Project is a democratically governed organization with a mission to build a community controlled economy in Boston working class communities of color.



Massachusetts



Collective Power for Reproductive Justice inspires, educates, and supports new activists and leadership to create a world in which reproductive health, rights, and justice are embedded in our collective liberation.



Essex County Community Organization is a multifaith network of 39 congregations and the North Shore Labor Council that works to create a world where everyone belongs, where we all can thrive, and where we all have a say in the decisions that shape our lives.



The mission of **Comunidades Enraizadas Community Land Trust** is to obtain and permanently secure land for the use and benefit of the community so that low-income people, regardless of their immigration status, can achieve long-term housing stability and be stewards of the land.



Families for Justice as Healing is an organization by and for incarcerated and formerly incarcerated women and girls and women with loved ones who are locked up. They are working to end the incarceration of women.



Dudley Street Neighborhood Initiative empowers Dudley residents to organize, plan for, create and control a vibrant, diverse and high-quality neighborhood in collaboration with community partners.



GreenRoots is a community-based organization dedicated to improving and enhancing the urban environment and public health in Chelsea and surrounding communities. We do so through deep community engagement and empowerment, youth leadership and implementation of innovative projects and campaigns.



Massachusetts



I Have a Future is a statewide community of youth organizers and allies, we are on a power building mission to win youth jobs and end mass incarceration through transformational leadership, direct public action, and policy change.



Massachusetts Education Justice Alliance is a coalition of organizations led by students, parents, educators, school staff, and concerned community members who are directly affected by public education in Massachusetts.



Massachusetts Transgender Political Coalition works to ensure the wellbeing, safety, and lived equity of all trans, nonbinary, and gender expansive community members in Massachusetts.



Massachusetts Voter Table advances civic access, engagement, and representation to increase resources and power for people of color and working-class people toward achieving a multiracial democracy. We're committed to a long-term organizing strategy that advances our vision of a more democratic and equitable society.



Massachusetts Jobs with Justice is a coalition of community, faith, and labor groups in Massachusetts organizing working people and allies to fight for the rights of all workers: locally, nationally, and internationally.



Matahari Women Workers' Center is a grassroots organization working to end the exploitation of women and femme workers through the labor organizing of domestic workers and restaurant workers. We have grown into the largest non-union community organization representing women workers in Massachusetts.



KELSEY GRUNSTRA
MASS TRANS POLITICAL COALITION

"We have gained important connections in peer organizations, insights on grassroots fundraising strategies, and incredible support in further developing our sustaining monthly donor program. For a small organization such as ours, having a structured program like the SLC takes a lot of tedious work off our plate!"



Massachusetts



Muslim Justice League educates, organizes and advocates for human and civil rights that are violated or threatened under national security pretexts. Founded on the principles that discrimination towards any group endangers the rights of all and that Muslim advocacy is an essential force for promoting justice.



Neighbors United for a Better East Boston (NUBE) is a multi-generational, multi-ethnic, member-led organization. NUBE's core belief is in the power of organizing and shifting political power through civic engagement and leadership development. We envision a community where neighbors co-exist, support, and encourage each other to create an environment that allows families to attain the foremost quality of life.



Mutual Aid Eastie supports individuals and families in East Boston who are suffering from food shortage, lack of access to information and resources, and other financial hardships caused by the COVID-19 outbreak and its economic fallout.



New England United for Justice is an empowerment organization that believes in the voice of low to moderate income communities of color in Boston. They use direct action as a means for positive change and demand their voices be heard in their neighborhoods, work place, schools.



Neighbor to Neighbor Massachusetts is the "new majority": people of color, immigrants, women, and the working class, on a path to liberation. Our statewide membership is organizing to put people and the planet before profit. We counter the fear that causes injustice by building power to transform the institutions that govern our lives.



Pa'lante Restorative Justice Program is a youth-led transformative justice program at Holyoke High School working to build youth power and dismantle the school to prison pipeline.



Massachusetts



Pioneer Valley Workers Center

builds power with low wage and immigrant workers across Western Massachusetts. Together we strengthen our communities, organize our workplaces, and take political action to win economic and social change for working people.



Sisters Unchained is a prison abolitionist non-profit organization dedicated to supporting young women and girls with incarcerated or formerly incarcerated parents. We are a refuge space where young women of color can focus on loving and improving themselves and their communities.



Revere Youth In Action is the voice for Revere youth, based in the Shirley Ave neighborhood. We are dedicated to protecting and promoting the educational, cultural, and socio-political rights of Revere youth



Somerville Community Land Trust builds community power and stability in Somerville by acquiring residences and land and making them permanently affordable. And you can be a part of it!



Stories Inspiring Movement (SIM) is a MA-based statewide immigrant youth-led organization. We fight for the liberation of the undocumented community through the development of a network of immigrant youth organizers in high-density immigrant communities.



Springfield No One Leaves is a grassroots member-led organization in Springfield, Massachusetts. We organize residents most directly impacted by the housing crisis and economic inequality to build collective power, defend against displacement and win long-term community ownership & control over land and housing.



ASHA CHANA
REVERE YOUTH IN ACTION

"The sustainer workshop and the grant writing workshops have been catalysts for my leadership and has helped me feel ready and confident to move RYiA forward as we move through our executive transition."



Massachusetts

Unity Circles

Unity Circles centers communities most impacted by carceral systems by building networks of intergenerational leadership rooted in the values and practices of Transformative and Restorative Justice. Through trainings, cohorts, and processes, these leaders are supported in holding the vision and capacity to develop strong interconnected communities and address the root causes of harm.



Women Encouraging Empowerment's mission is to educate, advocate, protect, and advance the rights of low-income immigrant and refugee women and their families through organizing, leadership development, and service delivery.



Youth Justice and Power Union is a youth led organization for and by people of color. YJPU was founded in 2011 in an effort to build up the leadership of people most impacted by systems of oppression to be the leaders we know, want, and need them to be if oppression is going to be fought and won.



SABRINA BARROSO
STORIES INSPIRING MOVEMENTS

"I am grateful to have spent time with growing movement grant writers like myself, share a space of collective learning, and be guided by experienced movement grant writers."



New Hampshire



350NH works to stop the climate crisis by building grassroots support for a just transition to renewable energy and an end to fossil fuel use and expansion.



Black Lives Matter New Hampshire works to dismantle anti-Blackness, eradicate systemic racism, champion racial equality, combat racial injustices, put an end to police brutality, and advocate for justice for all Black lives in New Hampshire.



Change for Concord is a diverse group of young adults aged 18 to 30 dedicated to improving the quality of life for young people in Concord. We promote leadership, education, advocacy, and economic development. Our mission is to create a community that is inclusive, supportive, and uplifting to all individuals.



Granite State Organizing Project and **Young Organizers United**, New Hampshire's largest faith-based, grass-roots, community organization, seeks to strengthen communities, empowering them to find their voice and effect change. Young Organizers United is a group of high school youth from various backgrounds, who are dedicated to strengthening multi-issue and multi-racial coalitions designed to overcome ethnic and racial disparate treatment in high schools. YOU members believe in student voice, inclusivity, and equity for all learners.



Manchester Community Action Coalition was formed in 2020 to elevate the voices of community members in the city of Manchester and to identify community-driven solutions. MCAC works to support communities of color to experience stronger family ties, where children are encouraged to achieve/succeed, and families of color have equal social and economic opportunities.



New Hampshire Youth Movement is building a movement of young people to transform our political system so it serves; and is led by; the people it has left behind.



The Reproductive Freedom Fund of New Hampshire removes financial barriers for anyone receiving abortion care in or from New Hampshire through direct service funding and movement building guided by patient need.



Rhode Island



Alliance to Mobilize Our Resistance (AMOR) is an alliance of grassroots organizations, providing community support in Rhode Island and southern New England for victims of hate crimes and state-sponsored violence.



Fuerza Laboral builds worker power. We are a Rhode Island-based organization of immigrants and low-income workers who organize to end exploitation in the workplace.



Alliance of Rhode Island Southeast Asians for Education (ARISE) is mobilizing to address the rise of anti-Asian racism through youth leadership. We will establish a youth-centered online toolbox of strategies to combat discrimination, and build racial solidarity with organizations serving other people of color on action steps to combat racism and xenophobia.



The George Wiley Center is a statewide group actively committed to local community organizing for the purpose of creating social and economic justice through changes in public policy.



Direct Action for Rights and Equality (DARE) organizes low-income families living in communities of color for social, economic, and political justice.



Parents Leading for Educational Equity's mission is to demand a high-quality public school education for every child of color and be a voice for parents, caregivers & caretakers when policy decisions are being made at the local and state level.



Rhode Island



Providence Student Union empowers students to become powerful advocates for their own education and well-being. PSU unites youth from across Providence to take the lead in reshaping their schools and communities right now.



SISTA Fire seeks to support and nurture women and nonbinary people of color to come together to build our collective power for social, economic, and political transformation.



Providence Youth Student Movement (PrYSM) organizes at the intersections of race, class, gender, and sexual orientation by centering youth, female, queer, and people of color leadership in our campaigns, our organization, and our communities. PrYSM mobilizes queer Southeast Asian youth, families, and allies to build grassroots power and organize collectively for social justice.



Youth In Action creates opportunities for youth to become agents of change through transformative youth leadership programming. We create brave spaces for youth to bring their cultures, values, identities, and truths and then build the skills and tools to name and address equity issues in their communities. Through their leadership, Youth In Action works to create more caring and fair public institutions and systems.

Vermont



The [Root Social Justice Center](#) is a Vermont-based, BIPOC-led nonprofit organization focused on racial justice organizing, community advocacy, and relationship-building through our programming, actions, and local initiatives.



[Rights and Democracy](#) brings people together to take action to build healthy communities and make the values of our communities guide the policies of our government. We are building a popular movement to advance rights and build a real democracy. We work in partnership with community groups, progressive unions, faith communities, organizations fighting for human and civil rights, and environmental and climate action groups.

SHELA LINTON THE ROOT SOCIAL JUSTICE CENTER



"I was able to be more candid being in an affinity space with other BIPOC fundraisers to discuss money and our experiences and our relationship to it. I feel it's important to have these spaces because of the history of practices, policies and actions that have lent to many people of color having a different relationship to money and its value."

Regional



[Northeast Farmers of Color Land Trust](#) is a hybrid model land trust, bringing together a community land trust model and a conservation land trust model to reimagine land access as well as conservation and stewardship of communities and ecosystems with the goal of manifesting a community vision that uplifts global Indigenous, Black, and POC relationships with land, skills, and lifeways.



[United for a Fair Economy](#) challenges the concentration of wealth and power that corrupts democracy, deepens the racial divide and tears communities apart. We use popular economics education, trainings, and creative communications to support social movements working for a resilient, sustainable and equitable economy.