

GRASSROOTS FUNDING WEEK

ONLINE CAMPAIGN

Starts
Monday, April 23
through
Sunday, April 30
peacedevelopmentfund.org



A WEEK OF FUNDING FOR

MONDAY IMMIGRANT RIGHTS



TUESDAY ECONOMIC JUSTICE



WEDNESDAY CLIMATE JUSTICE



THURSDAY YOUTH LEADERSHIP



How PDF Selects Groups for Funding

PDF believes in the power of seed funding. We issue small grants for general support that assist our grantees in creating a sustainable structure for their organization and its work. This, in turn, gives organizations the opportunity to find their voices, organize their communities and begin to tackle the challenges that come with making change.

As an early funder, PDF learns about issues before and during their emergence into public consciousness, offering us insight into the depth of the issues our communities are facing. We receive grant applications from some of the most remote communities and from major cities alike, from groups whose missions cover a wide array of issues. Immigration rights, climate change and environmental justice, criminal justice, youth leadership and development, LGBTQ+ rights; PDF funds it all, building the movement.

We believe that the widespread value shift needed to establish a more just and peaceful world will only be possible if it is strongly rooted in local communities that understand they are part of a movement for systemic social change. PDF uses our four funding pillars to help us in our decision-making process to evaluate applications: Organizing to Shift Power, Working to Build a Movement, Dismantling Oppression and Creating New Structures.

These four pillars guide us in determining if applicants are creating a power base that holds leaders accountable to the people affected by their decisions, and making connections between local issues and a broader need for systemic change. It is also important for the groups we support to be proactively engaged in a process of confronting privilege and challenging institutional structures that perpetuate oppression both within and outside of the organization.

Beyond grantmaking, PDF offers strategic support through our other programs such as The Sustainability Project, to ensure that we are not only directly supporting grassroots organizing work through financial contributions, but also bringing groups together to create a network of allied organizations working towards a more just and peaceful world. ■

KEEPING PDF'S PROGRAMS CONTEMPORARY AND UP-TO-DATE IS CRUCIAL FOR THE SUSTAINABILITY OF NOT ONLY PDF BUT ALSO OF OUR GRANTEEES. PDF'S COMMUNITY ORGANIZING GRANT CYCLE HAS BEEN OUR DEFINING PROGRAM SINCE OUR INCEPTION. THIS YEAR, WE CRITICALLY EXAMINED THIS PROGRAM THROUGH THE LENS OF OUR APPLICANTS AND THE DONORS THAT MAKE THIS WORK POSSIBLE.

Over the last three years, we noticed a change in how funds are reaching organizations. Due to the influence of social media, and uptick in internet literacy, crowdfunding has become an increasingly effective way for donors to connect with organizations outside of their immediate community. The gaps that separate donors from these organizations are closing, allowing for a more direct funding stream. Yet, limited access to media platforms and other such resources make this new way of funding difficult, if not impossible for many groups PDF supports.

As a foundation that has always bridged the gap between donors and communities who lack public visibility, PDF saw an opportunity to change the way we do our funding, and further shrink the gap between our donors and the grassroots community organizing we support.

This April, our Community Organizing Grant cycle will end with a week of PDF-powered online crowdfunding, "**Grassroots Funding Week.**" PDF will use our website and our own online presence to share the stories and missions of prospective grantees across our broad community of partners and supporters.

Over the course of one week, April 23 to 30, we will choose an area of social justice work to highlight each day, and under that header feature applicants whose work aligns with that area. We expect to feature program areas like **Immigrant Rights; Environmental Justice; Homelessness and Economic Justice; Youth Leadership; Criminal Justice; Women Peacemakers; LGBTQ and Indigenous Rights,** all areas of work PDF has funded in the past and is committed to continuing to uplift.

We are excited about the prospect of being a catalyst for donors and underrepresented communities to connect. ■

To participate in **GRASSROOTS FUNDING WEEK,** go to our website beginning Monday, April 23rd, www.peacedevelopmentfund.org, and read about the amazing work community groups are doing. Become a direct funder yourself, and together we build the movement.

RECENT GRANTS

A ★ denotes a new grantee

CAAAV Organizing Asian Communities, New York, NY

www.caaav.org

Changing Worlds, Chicago, IL

www.changingworlds.org

City Life/Vida Urbana, Jamaica Plain, MA

www.clvu.org

Culture of Peace Alliance, Tucson, AZ

www.cultureofpeacealliance.org

Dag Hammarskjöld Fund for Journalists, Inc., New York, NY

www.unjournalismfellowship.org

Earthjustice, San Francisco, CA

www.earthjustice.org

Freedom Summer Palestine, Bethlehem, Palestine

Gardening the Community, Springfield, MA

www.gardeningthecommunity.org

Justice Committee, Jackson Heights, NY

www.justicecommittee.org

La Peña Cultural Center, Berkeley, CA

www.lapena.org

Los Alamos Study Group, Albuquerque, NM

www.lasg.org

★ **Menikanaehkem, Keshena, WI**

Natural Resources Defense Council, New York, NY

www.nrdc.org

Nodutdol for Korean Community Development, Woodside, NY

www.nodutdol.org

Nolumbeka Project, Inc., Greenfield, MA

www.nolumbekaproject.org

★ **Opportunity Collaboration, Santa Cruz, CA**

www.opportunitycollaboration.net

Pineros y Campesinos Unidos del Noroeste, Woodburn, OR

www.pcun.org

Richmond Peace Education Center, Richmond, VA

www.rpec.org/index.php

Rural Alternative Center of El Limon, El Limon, San Jose de Ocoa, Dominican Republic

www.el-limon.org

Teh Luh Lah Learning Center, Chimayo, NM

www.tehluhlahcenter.org

Third World Newsreel, New York, NY

www.twn.org

Toward Freedom, Burlington, VT

www.towardfreedom.com

White Earth Land Recovery Project, Callaway, MN

www.welrp.org

★ **Zoom in Korea, Woodside, New York**

www.zoominkorea.org

NEW FISCAL SPONSORSHIPS

Equity Solutions Curriculum & Training Program, Brattleboro, VT

www.equitysolutionsvt.com

Milpa Alliance, Mission Hills, CA

www.voicesofmaiz.org

Self Managed Abortion; Safe and Supported, Amsterdam, The Netherlands

<http://bit.ly/2H8JMiN>

Showing Up For Racial Justice San Francisco, San Francisco, CA

www.facebook.com/sfsurj/

Turning Heads, San Francisco, CA

www.keptturningheads.org

DE COLORES RAPID RESPONSE FUND

★ **Defend Puerto Rico, Sacramento, CA**

www.defendpr.com

★ **Worcester Green Low-Income Housing Coalition, Worcester, MA**

www.wglihc.org

Spotlight on Environmental Justice: A New Tribal Economy

WE are committed to supporting environmental justice through our grantmaking, and also to being activists for climate justice by utilizing and promoting practices that advance the movement.

One example is **Hempstead Project Heart**, an organization that promotes economic and environmental sustainability for indigenous communities under the enduring legacy of the Native artist and philosopher, John Trudell. Based on a Menominee tribal nation in Wisconsin, covering the poorest area in the state, Hempstead Project Heart's goal is to re-cultivate hemp as a commercial crop on tribal lands.

They have re-educated the public and the Wisconsin legislature about the benefits and potential of the hemp industry, relying on the knowledge of indigenous nations throughout the country. Marcus Grignon, a Menominee tribal member states, "An intertribal collective would strengthen the capacity of tribal agriculture interests to compete in what would become a new agricultural sector in Wisconsin, and hopefully around the county."

According to Hempstead Project Heart, Wisconsin's poverty rate increased to 13 percent of the population in 2014, the highest it has been since 1984. With the poverty rate predicted to continue rising, Hempstead Project Heart aims to raise awareness about the hemp industry and its potential economic benefits for life on the reservation. The American government has demonized the cultivation of hemp, perpetuating entrenched ideas that industrial hemp is synonymous with marijuana.

The production of hemp, however, is a separate process from the production of marijuana, and hemp cultivation has the capacity to regenerate soil health and capture carbon. Grignon explains, "One big positive is that growing hemp sequesters a lot of carbon, as part of a climate change mitigation strategy, replacing carbon fuels with hemp oil, hemp fiber replacing trees for paper, etc. along with the sustainability afforded to agriculture and the larger community."



John Trudell

Early in 2017, Hempstead Project Heart began to gauge the pulse of the Wisconsin State Legislature to see if industrial hemp could become legal again. The Democrats who sponsored

industrial hemp legislation in the past advised them that the Wisconsin Farmers Bureau would be the domino that would make the rest of the Republican Party fall in favor of legalization. They decided to set up a meeting with the Wisconsin Farmers Bureau to educate them on the rich history of the Wisconsin hemp industry. The meeting was a success.

Following the Wisconsin Farmers Bureau meeting, Hempstead Project Heart felt empowered to keep lobbying the Wisconsin State Legislature to take up an industrial hemp bill. One of the lessons they learned early was Wisconsin Republicans don't take too kindly to environmental non-profits and they began to see they were becoming more of a nuisance than an advocate. "We decided to pull back from our lobbying strategy in March 2017 and focus on education," says Grignon.

They soon pivoted to an education outreach campaign. They collaborated with the Northeast Wisconsin Technical College's Sustainable Agriculture Organization and held an educational table on NWTC's Smoothie Day, with free hemp seeds for students to include in their smoothies. The educational outreach was monumental, and helped build their base stronger than when they started in 2016.

On November 30, 2017, Wisconsin Governor Scott Walker signed into law legislation that allows farmers and educational institutions to conduct research and feasibility of the hemp industry in the state. This law, spearheaded by the Wisconsin Farmers Bureau, now allows tribal, urban and rural communities throughout Wisconsin to test the possibility of hemp businesses thriving once again in their state. ■



Spotlight on Indigenous Rights: The Next Standing Rock

FOUNDED in Wisconsin in 2001, **Native American Educational Technologies (NAET)** aims to maintain and share the wisdom and culture of past generations with younger generations in order to uphold and preserve Native American culture for the next seven generations. They firmly believe that their existence is resistance to colonization.

NAET began in 1995 when Chippewa Native American elders and youth came together to prevent Exxon from mining upstream of the Sokaogon Chippewa reservation. They gathered thousands of native and non-native supporters to stop three mines and developed a moratorium on metallic sulfide mines that turn water into acid.

Now the current administration threatens to remove rights previously guaranteed by the Chippewa's treaty with the federal government and thus the protection of waters that had previously been established.

"We are in serious risk of losing everything," says Paul Demain, NAET's president. "So we will be the new Standing Rock resistance because we must stop these huge negative changes, for the sake of our tribes and the coming generation. Together we now face a political avalanche and climate change."

NAET has been very successful in bringing local natives and nonnatives together, allowing the creation of important alliances in the community. They

organize members through traditional tribal ways, both as a way to keep their traditions and cultures alive, but also to teach the next generation their history and preserve their traditional governance. "Being a tribal, culturally-based organization, we always form a circle. In a circle everyone is equal, everyone has a voice."

They archive and publish broadcasts of their events online, so that the general public as well as other indigenous communities have permanent access to their history. Their news stories are carried by regional, state and national media outlets, thus expanding the voice of the participants who are often overlooked by mainstream media.

By sharing these community events, Demain hopes that when another movement like Standing Rock happens, their communities and the greater public will be better prepared. "We are located on top of major potential mining sites, our reservations are in the direct path of tar sands pipelines, and we face "anti-Indian" racism on a state, national and local level.

"Knowing that our location will be the next "Standing Rock" means that we must do non-violent training and civil disobedience actions to prepare. Our basic mission through this is to help educate the public about issues of Native American concern, such as protecting the waters and natural resources, food sovereignty and treaty rights, protecting and preserving tribal cultural ways, values, languages and traditions so that we can pass that knowledge on to the coming generations." ■



CityLife Vida Urbana



Rural Alternative Center of El Limon



Voices of Maiz



Zoom in Korea



La Peña Cultural Center



Teh Luh Lah Learning Center



Welcome Project



Nolumbeka Project

YOU CAN HELP US PLAN FOR THE FUTURE!

Let us know if you have **put PDF in your will** and join our campaign to change the world! You may leave your gift to general support, endowment support, or a specific purpose that fits within PDF's mission, vision and goals—to provide grants, training and other resources in partnership with communities, organizations, trainers and donors with whom we share a common vision for peace and social justice.

For more information about leaving a bequest to PDF, call 413-256-8306 x106 or email kathys@peacefund.org. Please be assured that the information you supply will be treated in the strictest confidence.

TIMELY AND TAX-WISE

PDF's **donor advised funds** program delivers more than 37 years of experience in grantmaking to donor activists who are interested in funding specific, progressive interests. PDF carries out the research, ensures the reporting, and manages the government's requirements while you, with PDF staff advice, recommend groups for funding. PDF has a top rating from Charity Navigator and Forbes Magazine highlighted PDF in its article "how to find the right Donor Advised Fund (and why)" A Donor Advised Fund is simple to start at PDF, easy to understand and gives you the information you need to recommend grants for social change.

For more information on Donor Advised Funds, call Kathleen Sharkey at 413-256-8306 x106 or email, kathys@peacefund.org



Ingrid Khafa is a policy analyst by profession, who has worked in the four last years on development projects in, mostly focused on socio-economic advance of disadvantaged groups in Albania. Last fall, she joined PDF through Atlas Corps, an international organization that connects leading social change organizations with experienced professionals from around the world for a year-long fellowship designed to strengthen organizations worldwide, develop leaders and foster innovation.

At PDF, Ingrid co-manages the Fiscal Sponsorship Program, building a direct management relationship with grassroots community organizations through communication, support and capacity coaching.



Julie Kumble is a researcher, writer and consultant on leadership with an emphasis on women's and youth leadership. She has been a U.S. State Department Fellow, recipient of the International Women's Day award from the Amherst League of Women Voters, grantee of the Foundation for Motivated Women, and U.S. Peace Corps volunteer. She was the founding director of a leadership program called the Leadership Institute for Political and Public Impact at the Women's Fund of Western Massachu-

setts, where she was also the interim CEO. As a senior research consultant at Cornell University, Julie developed a course on women's leadership in veterinary medicine and co-authored, *Leaders of the Pack, Women and the Future of Veterinary Medicine*, published by Purdue University Press in 2017. She is currently working on a book about leadership for the greater good.

Julie joins the PDF Amherst office as a Senior Foundation Officer and co-manages the Community Organizing Grants. "It's a privilege to be part of a foundation that works shoulder to shoulder with folks at the forefront of social change," she says.

PDF's emphasis on funding new and small organizations has been successful in developing leadership and moving millions of dollars from donor activists to peace and social justice organizations for 37 years. We recognize that donors are not just people who write checks, grantees are not just people who accept money, and funders are not just staff people who facilitate that process. We are all critical pieces in the peace and social justice movements.

In efforts to honor our roots in the Pioneer Valley in Massachusetts, PDF has established a community advised fund to support local grassroots efforts. Taking advantage of PDF's experience funding and training grassroots organizers nationwide, the **Pioneer Valley Community Advised Fund** is a way for donors to become engaged and challenged in their giving and donor organizing, while learning more about PDF's philosophy of grantmaking. The Pioneer Valley Community Advised Fund guides participants through a deep process of learning about fund-raising, grantmaking and social change.

As we wrap up our initial cycle, the feedback has been excellent. We will be announcing the local grantees in early March. A new grantmaking cycle and donor engagement opportunity will be posted soon.

PDF recognizes the vital importance of working towards a more environmentally sustainable world, and so supports the efforts of environmental justice organizations through our grantmaking. We also invest in environmental sustainability right here at home, under (and above!) our own roof.

We believe it is essential that our environmental values within our own four walls reflect the values we support through our grantmaking, ensuring that our impact is as strong as possible. In the past several years, we have been taking measures to improve the energy efficiency of **PDF's Center for Peace and Justice** at 44 North Prospect Street. We own our building in Amherst, thanks to a very generous gift, and great effort goes into bringing this pre-Civil War era house up to the most ecologically-friendly standards within our means.

We received a donation from an anonymous donor, which in late 2017 enabled PDF to replace old shingles and install solar panels through Northeast Solar, a locally-owned company that donated the labor. PDF was one of eight local nonprofit organizations to receive the labor donation, totaling nearly \$400,000 for all eight installations.

Going green and keeping consistent with our grantmaking and organizational values is important to us, but some of the biggest impact of this renovation has been the reinvestment of our energy savings into the community groups in our area and beyond that are working toward environmental and social justice. ■



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APRIL 23–30 A WEEK OF ONLINE FUNDING FOR:

FRIDAY LGBTQ RIGHTS



MISSION STATEMENT

The PEACE DEVELOPMENT FUND works to build the capacity of community-based organizations through grants, training and other resources as partners in the human rights and social justice movements. As a public foundation, we nourish, foster and encourage the diverse, self-sustaining and economically viable communities that are essential to building a peaceful, just and equitable world.

SATURDAY HOUSING AND HOMELESSNESS



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SUNDAY RACIAL JUSTICE



IN THIS ISSUE

Get Ready for Grassroots Funding Week!



Spotlight on Criminal Justice Funding: Countering Hate

PDF strengthens the capacity of groups seeking justice in our court and prison systems. We promote practical and effective alternatives to incarceration, opposing the construction of new prisons. We fund groups that seek to better relationships between communities and the law enforcement agencies that are assigned to serve and protect them.

With a population that is 90 percent white, the belief that racism no longer exists in Montana is pervasive. In direct opposition to this notion, the Southern Poverty Law Center has identified six race-based hate groups based in the state of Montana.

A relatively new organization, the **Montana Racial Equity Project** (MTREP) was founded in 2015 by Judith Heilman, a retired police officer whose 13 years of experience in law enforcement led her to recognize the need to organize around racism and other forms of social injustice in Montana. An African-American woman, she saw racial injustices occurring both within and perpetuated by law enforcement.

Heilman says, “White supremacists are active here. Nothing will slow down or call a halt to the hate without the activation of white allies.” MTREP organizes “common Montanans” to fight complacency and counter the influence of the active racist groups. Educating Montana residents about the potential of



their privilege to interrupt racism and oppression when these acts occur is a key initiative to transforming the greater Montana community.

MTREP also works closely with law enforcement agencies addressing implicit and explicit racial bias among police personnel and the effects of these biases on the communities they serve. For example, law enforcement trainings on impartiality have proven largely effective.

“We teach aspiring allies to recognize one’s own privilege and are committed to the personal growth and transformational change required to be effective,” explains Heilman. “Our goal is transformational change on a variety of levels to reduce hate in our state.” ■