

**Ben & Jerry's Foundation
2008 National Grassroots Grant Recipients**

9to5 Atlanta Working Women, Atlanta, GA

\$10,000

The mission of 9to5 Atlanta is to strengthen the ability of low-income women to win economic justice. They combine advocacy, public education, civic engagement, leadership development and grassroots organizing strategies to improve employment policies and build for better family-supporting and family-flexible jobs for all. General support funding was provided.

Advocates for Community and Rural Education, Casa, AR

\$15,000

ACRE has been a volunteer-led, grassroots organization founded to support low-income rural communities facing the loss of their schools and fighting to ensure their children receive equitable educational opportunities. They work with rural community members to help them get organized around educational and other issues that concern them. Funding was provided to help hire an organizer to help set up and support ACRE chapters throughout the state.

Bennington Interfaith Food and Fuel Fund, Bennington, VT

\$10,000

The Bennington Interfaith Food and Fuel Fund is an ecumenical project begun in 1973 as a response by local clergy help out families in need as a result of the first oil embargo. More recently, the mission of the organization has evolved from simply providing emergency support for food, fuel, utility expenses, clothing and shelter to looking at ways to impact the long-term health and sustainability of the families and community that they serve through developing mentoring relationships. Funding was provided to increase the capacity of their sole staff person to recruit, train and support a corps of Housing Support Mentors and Energy Mentors.

Blue Mountains Biodiversity Project, Fossil, OR

\$15,000

BMBP strives to heighten regional and national awareness of threats to Blue Mountains and Central Oregon ecosystems, to ensure protection for and re-introduction of diverse native wildlife species, to promote ecologically sound restoration and address the root causes of ecological and community instability. Through field checking, comments, appeals, negotiations and litigation on four National Forests and on Bureau of Land Management District to stop the most ecologically destructive agency projects on public lands, BMBP uses direct legal ecosystem defense approaches. They also utilize public education, alliance building, and organizing to further their efforts. General Support funds were granted.

Building Responsibility, Equality, and Dignity (BREAD), Columbus, OH

\$10,000

BREAD organizes diverse communities of faith to address local issues of social justice. Utilizing the principles of direct actions community organizing, BREAD has 52 member congregations from throughout Franklin County that identify and organize around jobs, health care, crime and education. Funding was provided in support of the Payday Lending Campaign, which is working with partners across the state to pass legislation that will regulate the payday lending industry in Ohio.

California Coalition for Women Prisoners, San Francisco, CA

\$15,000

CCWP is a racial justice organization that challenges the institutional violence imposed on women, transgender people and communities of color by prisons and the criminal justice system. CCWP's

volunteer members regularly visit over 250 prisoners at the three state prisons for women to engage existing and emerging women prisoner leaders in collaborative campaigns and projects to fight conditions of confinement, health care issues, abuse, and attacks on women by the criminal justice system.

Calumet Project, Hammond, IN

\$5,000

The Calumet Project is a grassroots coalition which unites faith communities, community activists, environmentalists, unions and neighborhood residents striving for the economic, environmental justice and social revitalization of the industrialized Northwest Indiana region. Continued funding was provided in support of their efforts to ensure best practices and high air quality standards are in place at a permitted confined disposal facility and to pressure BP to install real time air monitors at their refinery in Whiting in order to determine baseline contaminant levels before their expansion plans are permitted.

CarShare Vermont, Burlington, VT

\$15,000

CarShare Vermont is an innovative start-up dedicated to providing an affordable, convenient, and reliable alternative to private car ownership that enhances the environmental, social and economic wellbeing of the region. General support funding was provided to support the successful launch of the service and to promote car-sharing as an affordable and accessible way to reduce car dependence and improve mobility.

Cascadia Wildlands Project, Eugene, OR

\$15,000

The Cascadia Wildlands Project works to protect the Cascadia Bioregion's pristine forests, clear rivers, and endangered wildlife. Funding was provided in support of the Wild Forests and Rivers Project, designed to empower, engage, and unite Oregon communities to advocate for protecting endangered forests and wildlife. Through a combination of grassroots organizing, media outreach, litigation, and collaboration, they will halt problematic logging projects, establish precedents for better land management practices, promote restoration forestry as a viable alternative for rural economies, and build a widespread grassroots movement to protect the forests that are the backbone of the region.

CAUSA, Salem, OR

\$10,000

CAUSA is a statewide, grassroots coalition based in the Latino community working to defend and advance the rights and well-being of immigrant workers and families in Oregon. General support funding was provided to help build strategic alliances to defend the immigrant community from raids, and organize immigrants and Latino youth to participate in key struggles including immigrants' rights to a driver's license and educating the public on the harmful effects of anti-immigrant ballot measures.

Centro Presente, Inc., Somerville, MA

\$10,000

Centro Presente is a member-driven, statewide Latin American immigrant organization dedicated to the self-determination and self-sufficiency of the Latin American immigrant community of Massachusetts. Funding was provided in support of the Latino Workers Center, whose mission is to support, educate and organize Latino immigrants so that they can defend their rights as workers.

Citizens Awareness Network, Shelburne Falls, MA**\$8,500**

CAN is a volunteer, grassroots, regional organization committed to establishing a sustainable energy future by shutting nuclear power plants, opposing environmental racism and supporting the revitalization of communities through local control. With chapters in five New England states, CAN works with statewide and local communities impacted by aging nuclear reactors in order to organize them to prevent the relicensing of those facilities and to redirect energy policy towards sustainable, green and safe sources. Continued funding was provided for the "People's Choices for Green Future" campaign, a tri-state initiative to mobilize public involvement in rejecting the relicensing of the Vermont Yankee nuclear reactor and replacing its power output with sustainable, decentralized energy solutions that can transform energy policy in New England.

Citizens' Environmental Coalition, Albany, NY**\$10,000**

CEC is a statewide, membership organization advocating for pollution prevention, environmental restoration, public health protection and environmental justice. Funding was provided in support of the Environmental Health Pollution Prevention Campaign, the goal of which is to reform New York State's chemical policy starting with phase-out of persistent, bioaccumulative toxic chemicals and other high priority chemicals of concern, to prevent harm and protect public health and the environment. This campaign is integrated with CEC's overall program for more sustainable solutions including zero waste, green purchasing, a healthy economy and green jobs.

Coalition on Homelessness and Housing in Ohio, Columbus, OH**\$15,000**

COHHIO is a coalition of organizations and individuals committed to ending homelessness and to promoting decent, safe, fair, affordable housing for all. Funding was provided for the Youth Empowerment Program, an independent, statewide, youth-led organization that empowers homeless and low-income youth, age 11-22 to create systemic and institutional changes. YEP is structured through local youth councils throughout the state and representatives from each youth council serve on their statewide youth council.

Coalition on Homelessness, San Francisco, CA**\$15,000**

The Coalition on Homelessness is a homeless-led organization that creates policy changes through the grassroots organizing of homeless people to address the social, economic, and political causes of homelessness. Continued funding was provided in support of the Right to a Roof Workgroup, which seeks to create fundamental changes in the City-funded shelter system that will protect the rights of shelter residents, and ensure that shelters are respectful, safe, and hygienic places.

Common Ground Youth Center, St. Albans, VT**\$15,000**

Common Ground Youth Center provides a safe space that empowers teenagers during non-school hours. Youth are involved in shaping and defining the center and it's programming and provide input into its day to day operations. The center is a social and recreational resource for all area teens as well as providing transformational and service learning programs, including Peacejam which engages youth around multiple facets of violence and oppression locally and globally, a monthly coffee house with a vibrant music scene, a summer community garden, hiking trips and regular "Green Ups". Through the center, high school youth mentor elementary school children about recycling, leadership and substance abuse prevention with creative puppet shows and "junk

jamming". The Center also provides mentoring assistance to its youth with job and college applications, resumes, grant applications, and referrals. General support funding was provided.

Community Environmental Legal Defense Fund, Chambersburg, PA \$15,000

CELDF works with communities and municipal governments facing corporate assaults -- such as toxic incinerator operations, factory farms, and longwall coal mining -- and struggling to transition from merely regulating corporate harms to stopping those harms by grassroots organizing to assert local, democratic control directly over corporations. Funding was provided in support of the Western Pennsylvania Mining Project where they are assisting towns to adopt mining ordinances that would ban corporations from mining and building a grassroots movement to directly challenge the structure of law which currently allows corporations to override local, democratic decision making.

Community Organizing and Family Issues (COFI), Chicago, IL \$15,000

COFI works to develop the leadership and organizing capacity of parents in low-income communities of color throughout Chicago toward the goal of transforming communities and working for social change to benefit children and families. Continued support was provided for the Elementary Justice Campaign, led by a parent-led organizing group called POWER-PAC (Parents Organized to Win, Educate, and Renew - Policy Action Council). The Elementary Justice Campaign has been very successful in impacting changes to school discipline policies in Chicago elementary schools including revamping the discipline code, winning funds to support new "restorative justice" pilot programs, and introducing a bill in the state legislature to mandate recess in elementary schools.

Community Water Center, Visalia, CA \$15,000

The Community Water Center seeks to ensure that all San Joaquin Valley communities have access to safe, clean and affordable water. They create community-based water solutions through organizing, education and advocacy. Funding was provided for Protecting Groundwater from the Ground up, a program that aims to improve groundwater used as a source of drinking water and prevent contamination from agricultural activities.

Cook Inletkeeper, Homer, AK \$10,000

Combining advocacy, monitoring, and education, Cook Inletkeeper works to protect Alaska's Cook Inlet watershed and the life it sustains. Funding was provided in support of an effort to stop the proposed Chuitna Coal Mine and shift public funding away from a project which would destroy critical salmon and beluga whale habitat toward a more thoughtful, progressive energy portfolio.

Cooperative Economics For Women, Revere, MA \$10,000

CEW was founded in 1994 to support low-income women of color struggling with issues around access to and control of income. CEW organizes immigrant women and youth to develop leadership and activism skills to advocate for changes to policies that affect them and their communities. General support funding was provided in support of their Food Security, Educational Advocacy, Domestic Violence, and Youth Development programs.

Critical Resistance – Oakland, Oakland, CA \$15,000

CR-Oak seeks to build a movement to end the Prison Industrial Complex (PIC) in California. The PIC underpins the reliance on prisons as an answer to what are social, political, and economic problems. CR does this by organizing against prison expansion and challenging the belief that imprisoning people makes communities safe. They present a vision of community where basic needs are met and young people are well educated and have employment options as communities that are truly secure.

Damayan Migrant Workers Association, New York, NY **\$15,000**

DAMAYAN was established by 15 Filipino domestic workers in order to overcome social isolation, support one another and organize around labor injustices. It's membership has grown to over 350 men and women engaged in various aspects of domestic work. Using the format of regular house meetings and popular education techniques to inform, empower and train its members, DAMAYAN has found a way to help combat the isolation and alienation of its constituency as well as empower them to act on issues that affect them.

DC Jobs With Justice, Washington, DC **\$10,000**

DC JWW works to protect the rights of working people and support community struggles to build a more just society in the nation's capital. Funding was provided in support of the Economic Development for All program, which combines advocacy with popular education and grassroots organizing to ensure that the process of economic development in DC engages poor and working people and results in the creation of good jobs and affordable housing.

Dharma Tech, Salt Lake City, UT **\$15,000**

Dharma Tech works to strengthen nonprofits in the Intermountain West by implementing affordable and sustainable technology solutions. With the goal of "leveling the playing field", Dharma Tech gives social and environmental nonprofits in Utah and surrounding states the tools and strategies they need to win their campaigns and insure the viability of their organizations. They use technology not only to strengthen individual organizations, but also to foster a social change movement by encouraging networking and integration across organizations.

East Michigan Environmental Action Council, Detroit, MI **\$15,000**

EMEAC works at the state and local levels to empower citizens to protect the land, air, water and diversity of life through informed action. Funding was provided in support of the Healthy Schools Healthy Children Initiative, which works within the schools and through workshops and trainings to develop youth leadership and civic engagement around sustainability issues in the schools and environmental justice issues in the community.

Education for Liberation Network, Brooklyn, NY **\$15,000**

ELN is a national coalition of teachers, community organizers, youth, researchers and parents who believe a good education should teach people--particularly low-income youth and youth of color--to understand and challenge the injustices their communities face. The network provides a space for members to share knowledge and work together to create tools for liberatory education. General Support funding was provided in support of their programs including: The Free Minds, Free People national conference; the EdLib Lab--an online, searchable, open-source database of social justice teaching materials; Talkin ' Bout --online discussion series; skills sharing how-to kits; Social Justice Schools Convening; and membership building activities.

English For Action (EFA), Providence, RI

\$12,500

EFA creates participatory educational programs for Latino immigrant families and community members in Providence that link language learning, leadership development, and community-building. Funding was provided in support of the Action Committee, an extracurricular group of Latino immigrants, studying English, who meet weekly to learn about, discuss, and take action on important community and immigrant issues.

Equity Trust, Inc., Turner Falls, ME

\$10,000

Equity Trust is a national non-profit that helps people set up innovative ownership models for land, primarily to increase community access to sustainable food systems, preserve farmland & protect its affordability for future generations of small farmers, and create affordable housing.

Equity Trust is challenging the conservation land trust movement to do a better job of protecting farms and is promoting an innovative strategy for whole farm protection which makes the farmhouse, barns, and land permanently affordable for farmers, provides legal protections ensuring that the farm will continue to produce food for the community. Funding was provided in support of "Gaining Ground in Maine" a statewide initiative aimed at helping farmers, land trusts, and communities protect family farms in Maine, and strengthen Maine's regional food system.

Eyak Preservation Council, Cordova, AK

\$15,000

EPC is a grassroots organization dedicated to protecting and preserving wild salmon habitat and culture in Prince William Sound and Copper River watersheds of Alaska. EPC was conceived on the day of the Exxon Valdez oil spill in 1989, by an Alaskan native Eyak and commercial fisherman. From the beginning, EPC has been linking environmental and cultural preservation with sustainable and innovative economic solutions. A general support grant was provided.

Family Farm Defenders, Madison, WI

\$15,000

FFD's mission is to create a farmer-controlled and consumer-oriented food system based upon democratic institutions that respect and empower local people in their quest for justice and dignity. FFD supports sustainable agriculture, farm worker rights, animal welfare, consumer safety, fair trade, and food sovereignty. Funding was provided in support of their efforts to promote the concept of food sovereignty in the U.S. and provide real examples of community food sovereignty in practice.

Farm Worker Pesticide Project, Seattle, WA

\$15,000

FWPP is working to end farm worker community exposures to agricultural pesticides. FWPP acts as an advocate, organizer, educator and researcher. By leveraging resources for and with the farm worker community, FWPP advocates policies and programs that move growers away from pesticides that hurt farm workers and families and to alternatives that are truly safe, just and sustainable. General support funding was provided for their community organizing, media work, and alliance building.

Food for Maine's Future, Sedgwick, ME

\$15,000

Food for Maine's Future is the result of a merger between two groups: GE Free Maine and The Food Independence Project. It serves as an umbrella for groups and campaigns which share a common goal of building a just, secure, sustainable and democratic food system to the benefit of all Maine's farmers, communities and the environment. Food for Maine's Future now does both the critical work of raising awareness about the problems of industrial agriculture, including genetic engineering, and the proactive work of demonstrating the potential and possibilities of local and sustainable agriculture in order to advance a new vision for Maine's food system. General support funding was provided.

Friends of Justice, Arlington, TX

\$15,000

FOJ is a faith-based, grassroots organization that works to uphold due process for all Americans and restore legal protections to poor people of color throughout Texas and Louisiana. Operation Blind Justice works outside the legal system to organize affected communities to create "media narratives" around wrongful prosecutions as they unfold, with the ultimate goal of reforming the criminal justice system by shifting the dominant paradigm from a polarizing storyline to an inclusive one. General support funding was provided to help expand FOJ's organizational capacity in order to train a new cohort of interns to be placed as grassroots organizers with civil rights and criminal justice reform organizations, thus incorporating their organizing model into the strategy of the larger movement.

Gateway Green Alliance, St. Louis, MO

\$15,000

Gateway Green Alliance is a multi-cultural grassroots organization working at the intersection of environmental and social justice issues, including waste incineration, pesticide spraying, genetic engineering, nuclear waste transportation, clear-cutting, and international trade deals. Funding was provided in support of the "Lead and Climate Change: Housing that is Safe and Affordable" project which is focused insuring that housing for low income people is free of lead-based paint and is energy-efficient in the face of rising heating bills.

Georgia Citizens' Coalition on Hunger, Atlanta, GA

\$15,000

The Hunger Coalition is a statewide grassroots network of over 75 organizations and 850 members which has been organizing, educating and mobilizing Georgia citizens for 34 years. General support funding was provided to support their current efforts, with partner organizations, to increase the state minimum wage from \$5.15/hr to at least \$7.25/hr, and to coordinate the Georgia Vote Connection Center to register 100,000 new voters by October 2008.

Granite State Organizing Project (GSOP), Manchester, NH

\$10,000

GSOP unites faith-based, labor and community groups to shape the decisions that effect their communities and quality of life. Applying traditional chapter-based, organizing strategies GSOP focuses on issue oriented campaigns. Funding was provided in support of developing their Manchester chapter and its current focus on housing issues for it's largely immigrant constituents.

Great Old Broads for Wilderness, Durango, CO

\$15,000

GOBW uses the voices and activism of elders to preserve and protect wilderness and wildlands. Funding was provided for Broads Bootcamp, a new initiative which will train volunteer Broadsband (ad hoc volunteer groups) leaders in communication, grassroots organization, lobbying and on-the-

ground documentation of abuses. As GOBW relies heavily on their volunteers' efforts, Bootcamp will strengthen the effectiveness of Broads across the country.

Green Worker Cooperatives, Bronx, NY

\$15,000

Green Worker Cooperatives is a community-based organization dedicated to incubating worker-owned cooperatives in the South Bronx capable of improving environmental conditions. GWC is a solution oriented response to high unemployment and decades of environmental racism in the South Bronx. They have just launched their first cooperative, ReBuilders Source, which is a discount retail warehouse for salvaged and surplus building materials. GWC organizes local residents eager to support these types of initiatives and demand more opportunities for "green collar" jobs and worker ownership.

Health Security For New Mexicans Campaign, Corrales, NM

\$15,000

The Health Security for New Mexicans Campaign is a broad, statewide, non-partisan coalition of community, labor, consumer, faith-based, health professional, human rights and environmental organizations; businesses; farmers and ranchers; and groups advocating for the homeless and the poor. The mission of the Campaign is to establish a system of guaranteed comprehensive and affordable health coverage for all New Mexicans, regardless of income, age, health or employment status, race or gender, that includes preventive care and freedom of choice of provider. Through many years of grassroots organizing, educating and public input, the Campaign has developed a homegrown proposal to enable New Mexico to establish its own health plan, like a cooperative.

Idaho Community Action Network (ICAN), Boise, ID

\$10,000

ICAN is a statewide membership organization dedicated to providing a voice for Idahoans committed to progressive social change and to develop the power necessary to create those changes. Funding was provided in support of the "Building Healthy Communities Together" project, which promotes the leadership development of low-income community members and focuses on improving access to quality healthcare for low-income families and immigrants as well as efforts to counter anti-immigrant messages in the media.

REDOIL Network, Bemidji, MN

\$15,000

Resisting Environmental Destruction on Indian Lands (REDOIL) is a network of Alaska Natives fighting big oil and working to address the human and ecological health impacts of the unsustainable development practices of the fossil fuel industry across Alaska. A project of IEN, REDOIL was formed to help geographically and culturally diverse grassroots Alaskan Natives plan and organize strategically around oil and gas development.

International Indian Treaty Council, Palmer, AK

\$15,000

The IITC is an organization of Indigenous Peoples working for the self-determination and the full recognition of treaties, traditional cultures, community health, eco-systems, and sacred lands. IITC provides a vital link for grassroots Indigenous Peoples to voice their human rights and environmental protection concerns internationally, and to integrate opportunities for international activism, advocacy and diplomacy into strategies for social change, community organizing and justice. Funding was provided in support of the North-South Indigenous Network Against

Pesticides, which provides advocacy, training, and information in support of Right to Know and Prior Informed Consent for Indigenous farm workers, families, and communities in Arizona, Alaska, Northern and Southern Mexico affected by toxic pesticides, and to address the US policy of exporting banned pesticides as a critical environmental justice, community health and human rights issue.

Iowa Valley Resource Conservation & Development, Amana, IA **\$15,000**

Iowa Valley RC&D is a regional non-profit that brings diverse groups to the table to address problems and explore opportunities across political boundaries, and is organized specifically to address issues around land conservation, water management, community development, and land management. Funding was provided to support "A Localized Food System Plan for the Iowa Valley -- Back to our Roots", the goal of which is to engage area consumers and farmers in the development of a three year localized food system strategic plan for a six county region in east central Iowa.

Jane Addams Senior Caucus, Chicago, IL **\$10,000**

JASC is a grassroots organization of Chicago area older adults organizing to build relationships, develop leaders, educate people and create the power necessary for older adults to play a central role in determining their quality of life. Continued funding was provided in support of the Back Home Project, organizing to improve the homecare system in Illinois, to help healthy seniors move out of nursing homes, to preserve and increase affordable housing, and combat isolation through social services.

Just Food, New York, NY **\$15,000**

Just Food works to build a more just and sustainable food system for NYC and the region in which family farmers are able to make a fair profit for their efforts and all people are able to buy affordable, healthy food. General operating support was provided to help sustain their CSA in NYC program, which links farmers with community groups and finds creative ways to ensure low-income residents have access to fresh, local produce; and for their Food Justice project which trains NYC residents to become more informed and engaged advocates for local, regional, and national farm issues.

Kentucky Environmental Foundation, Berea, KY **\$15,000**

KEF is dedicated to furthering the cause of environmental democracy by encouraging grassroots participation in the environmental decision-making process and is the lead organization for the Chemical Weapons Working Group to which funding was provided. The CWWG is a grassroots coalition of citizens living near Army bases in Alabama, Arkansas, Colorado, Indiana, Kentucky, Oregon, and Utah where chemical weapons are stored and being destroyed. The CWWG's mission is to ensure safe, expeditious destruction of chemical weapons, and public oversight and involvement in the chemical weapons program decision-making. Current goals are to actively promote neutralization of mustard agents; promote environmental justice and true security for stockpile communities and others impacted by improper waste transportation and disposal; conduct research on and spur advocacy for advanced chemical agent monitoring; and build greater federal oversight capacity and policy guidance on the chemical demilitarization program.

Louisiana Bucket Brigade, New Orleans, LA **\$15,000**

The LABB is an environmental health and justice organization supporting communities' use of grassroots action to become informed, sustainable neighborhoods free from industrial pollution. They train fence-line neighbors - people who live next to polluting industry - to document the pollution they live with. The LABB teaches community members to use air sampling buckets and other tools to monitor and expose industrial pollution as it happens. They organize and empower residents to fight pollution and protect their health through community education and training regarding emissions and health data, public record research that exposes dangerous plant operations, publicizing leaks, accidents and emissions via the web, and providing ongoing strategic advice and planning for community groups' campaigns. Documenting the fumes, flares and billows of black smoke has altered the dynamic between industry and residents, changing mere complaints about pollution into hard facts used to successfully pressure industry to reform. General support funding was provided.

Media in the Public Interest, Boulder, CO

\$15,000

MPI supports the civil society non-profit sector to interact more effectively with mainstream media, helps develop new media projects that strengthen communities and report on social, community and environmental issues, and assists journalists in covering the non-profit public interest community. Funding was provided to support and expand a public news service in New England.

Michigan Universal Health Care Access Network (MichUHCAN), Livonia, MI \$15,000

MichUHCAN is a statewide network that promotes comprehensive health care for all through education, strategy development and advocacy. General support funding was provided to help them continue building the movement by creating networked chapters or 'tables' in communities throughout the state.

National Campaign for Sustainable Agriculture, Inc., Pine Bush, NY

\$15,000

The National Campaign for Sustainable Agriculture is a diverse nationwide partnership of individuals and organizations cultivating grassroots efforts to engage in policy development processes that result in food and agricultural systems and rural communities that are healthy, environmentally sound, profitable, humane, and just. Renewal funding was provided in support of the Field Organizer's work staffing committees and carrying out education and outreach in order to effectively inform policy development from the grassroots.

Newtown Florist Club, Inc., Gainesville, GA

\$15,000

NFC was formed in 1950 when a group of African American women came together to provide financial and emotional support to families in time of bereavement. They evolved into social and environmental justice organizers when they realized that a disproportionate number of their neighbors were suffering and dying from cancer and lupus and other chronic diseases due to exposures to airborne contaminants. General support funding was provided in support of their youth bucket brigade, and other community organizing programs.

Ocean State Action Fund, Cranston, RI

\$10,000

OSAF is a coalition of community organizations, professional associations, and labor unions working together to win public policy and political victories for economic, social and environmental justice. Funding was provided in support of the Campaign for Rhode Island's Priorities, which includes 50 organizations and nearly a thousand individuals who have come

together to support change in RI's tax system to make it more equitable and to ensure the system provides adequate revenue to support vital state services and programs.

Ohio Valley Environmental Coalition (OVEC), Huntington, WV \$10,000

OVEC is a 20-year old, grassroots organization which has been at the forefront of the work to end mountaintop removal coal mining and its associated coal sludge impoundments in West Virginia. Funding was provided in support of their Sludge Safety Project, a coalition of organizations and communities working to improve safety and secure safe, potable drinking water for coalfield residents who live near the impoundments or are impacted by underground coal sludge injections. OVEC's primary goal is to stop mountaintop removal/valley fill strip mining and to achieve a moratorium on new coal sludge impoundments, preventing the expansion of old ones, and shutting down the most dangerous ones.

Oregon Center for Environmental Health, Portland, OR \$10,000

OCEH is a statewide, membership organization dedicated to reducing and eliminating toxic chemicals that are long lasting and build up in living tissues, threatening the health and reproductive viability of humans and wildlife. Through grassroots organizing, public education, media campaigns, working with public agencies, supporting coalition efforts to pass legislation, and litigation, OCEH aims to protect public health and the environment by promoting alternatives to the use, manufacture, release and disposal of toxic chemicals. Funding was provided in support of the Chemicals Policy Reform Program, which seeks to engage diverse stakeholders (including green businesses, public health advocates, labor, and environmental activists) in supporting comprehensive chemicals policy reform in Oregon.

Padres Unidos, Denver, CO \$15,000

Padres Unidos is a multi-generational, multi-issue organization that is led by people of color, primarily Latino, who work for equity and justice in education, youth empowerment and immigrant rights. Continued funding was provided for the "Freedom to Learn" campaign, which empowers Latino and African-American youth to work together with adults to achieve comprehensive educational reform in the key areas of instructional quality, curriculum, discipline, and access to higher education. The intergenerational, grassroots organizing methods developed in their educational reform work are used in other initiatives addressing racial profiling and immigrant reform.

Peace & Justice Center, Burlington, VT \$15,000

The PJC works on the interconnected issues of economic and racial justice, peace, and human rights through education, training, advocacy, non-violent activism and community organizing. General support funding was provided in support of their three strategic campaigns: Economic Justice Project -- currently focusing on advocacy for paid sick days, Peace and Human Rights Project -- currently focusing on counter recruitment strategies for high school students, and Racial Justice Project -- currently working on a Race Gap report which will be used as an advocacy tool around racial justice and white privilege in Vermont.

People Organized to Win Employment Rights (POWER) San Francisco, CA \$12,000

POWER is a multi-racial membership organization founded in 1997 which brings together low-income people in San Francisco to create real opportunities for struggling families, youth and workers to leave poverty. Through community education and action as well as leadership and skill development, POWER develops the capacity of marginalized communities to advocate for changes that improve families' living and working conditions. Funding was provided in support of the Youth in Power Project, which is building a multi-generational membership in the Bayview Hunters Point neighborhood and cultivating youth leaders to take an active role in shaping the future of their neighborhood. The youth ages 13-20 employ community research, digital storytelling, community outreach and education to strengthen their confidence, hope and leadership.

Plains Justice, Cedar Rapids, IA

\$15,000

Plains Justice is a legal services organization that pursues environmental justice in the Northern Plains by providing legal and policy assistance to advocacy organizations and community groups. The Coal Ash Waste Disposal project is educating local communities near current or proposed disposal sites for coal-fired power plants about the dangers of possible groundwater contamination associated with these sites. They will work with individuals and groups to develop proposals to that will help mitigate any present dangers and prohibit the use of such disposal methods in the future. Funding was provided to expand the scope of the project from Iowa into South Dakota.

Institute for the Elimination of Poverty and Genocide, Atlanta, GA

\$15,000

Project South builds movements led by communities affected by racial, economic, and social injustices by providing transformative political education and leadership development opportunities. By creating dynamic spaces for communities and organizations to develop bottom-up grassroots models, Project South shifts Southern-based organizing from reactive battles to visionary and strategic movement building for social and economic justice. Funding was provided in support of the Septima Clark Community Power Institute - a unique, month-long, youth leadership program to develop African American young people between the ages of 14-18 for leadership positions and community action.

Reflect & Strengthen, Dorchester, MA

\$15,000

Reflect and Strengthen is a youth-initiated, youth-led collective of young women. By bringing together young women of diverse races and ethnicities from Boston's working class neighborhoods, R&F has created an institution that nurtures young women to be taught and empowered to challenge the power structures that impact their lives and to create positive social change through creative expression, political education and community building.

Rutland Area Farm and Food Link, East Poultney, VT

\$15,000

RAFFL is a partnership of individuals and organizations focused on the economic, environmental, and social role of agriculture in the region. They work to increase access to fresh, safe and healthy food for all residents; support a viable natural resources economy (local farms); and maintain the heritage of the Rutland region and its rural landscape. Funding was provided in support of increasing their organizational capacity by hiring an executive director.

Sistas on the Rise, Bronx, NY

\$15,000

Sistas on the Rise, led by young mothers of color, organizes teen mothers around issues of education and reproductive justice. Utilizing popular education, community organizing, spiritual grounding, cultural values and traditions, Sistas on the Rise cultivates a safe space for healing, nurturing self-growth, and social change through their afterschool and summer leadership development programs and community action projects. General support funding was provided.

Teachers Unite, New York, NY

\$15,000

TU is a young and growing membership organization dedicated to building a social justice movement of New York City public school teachers. It provides leadership opportunities that build ties between educators and community organizers, and political education forums that build an informed teacher constituency. Teachers Unite is an organization of educators who act in solidarity with the communities they serve. Funding was provided in support of efforts to enhance recruitment and engagement of dues-paying members, coordination of programs run by volunteer members, leadership development of staff and members, and initial planning of a teachers' union education program for NYC public school teachers.

Tenants Union, Seattle, WA

\$15,000

The Tenants Union challenges and transforms unjust housing conditions and housing policies through empowerment-based education, leadership development, community organizing, legislative advocacy and tenant ownership. Funding was provided in support of the Justice in South Seattle Project (JSSP) campaign for equitable development in Seattle's most diverse neighborhood--the Rainier Valley. The JSSP is mobilizing a base of low-income renters from the neighborhood to lead the fight against displacement and to ensure that everyone benefits from renewed investments of money, attention, and resources to the neighborhood.

Transnational Institute for Grassroots Research & Action (TIGRA), Oakland, CA

\$10,000

TIGRA began in 2004 in order to explore effective strategies to galvanize the potential power represented by the billions of dollars remitted globally each year by hundreds of millions of low-wage, migrant workers. TIGRA is a visionary organization that employs interlocking strategies designed to nurture the power of this emerging constituency for the long haul, including building and organizing with local groups, called "million dollar clubs"; nurturing the development of the The League/La Liga as the collective expression of remitters' economic power; and incubating the emergence The Fund which will serve as the alternative economic institution that serves transnational communities.

United Neighbors of Cleghorn, Inc., Fitchburg, MA

\$15,000

UNC is a community-based, grassroots-led organization in Fitchburg that began during the anti-poverty movement in 1968 that works to improve economic, educational, cultural, social, and recreational conditions and opportunities. General support funding was provided in support of their four issue-based organizing committees: Traffic Safety; People Organized and Dedicated to their Education and Roots (PODER) which is working to increase educational opportunities for bilingual adult learners at the community college; Parents to the Rescue which aims to increase the participation of Latino parents in the Fitchburg School System; and the Youth Resident Council or Generation-FLY (Fierce Local Youth) which works to address youth-identified concerns.

United Workers Association (UWA), Baltimore, MD

\$15,000

The UWA is an organization of low-wage workers and day laborers who are organizing for better wages and working conditions. Using a combination of organizing strategic corporate accountability campaigns, worker-run cooperatives, and leadership development, and ally support, UWA is working to overcome the barriers workers face in ensuring their basic economic human rights. General support funding was provided.

Universal Health Care Action Network (UHCAN), Cleveland, OH \$15,000

UHCAN serves as a national network and strategic center for the growing diversity of organizations working across the country around multiple approaches to achieve health care for all. UHCAN's priority is to build the political will and power needed to achieve universal health care by building strong grassroots organizing capacity at the local, state and national levels. UHCAN plays a movement-building role as a connector, bringing diverse players together to dialogue and share best practices as well as promoting strategic thinking and developing new initiatives in response to state-based health care justice coalitions' needs. General support funding was provided.

Vermont Association of Professional Care Providers, Montpelier, VT \$10,000

VAPCP is Vermont's only association for direct-care workers. They work to help their members advance their professional growth, employment opportunities and quality of life as well as build awareness of the direct-care and support workforce and advocate for improved public policy. Funding was provided to help build their staff capacity to help diversify their revenue stream, build membership and expand member involvement.

Vermont Interfaith Action, Burlington, VT \$15,000

VIA is a grassroots, faith-based community organizing project that empowers individuals to speak out in public life on their own behalf for systemic change on issues that affect their families and their neighbors. Funding was provided in support of their "Yes, In My Backyard" campaign to further the development of affordable housing in Burlington and Chittenden County.

Vermont Workers' Center - Jobs With Justice, Inc., Burlington, VT \$15,000

The VWWC is a statewide community organizing center that unites working people in Vermont's unions and communities, builds campaigns to improve their lives, teaches them to use their collective voice effectively, and trains grass-roots leaders who will remain committed to the cause of working people. They are currently focus on their Health Care is a Human Right Campaign. General support funding was provided.

Washington Sustainable Food & Farming Network, Mount Vernon, WA \$12,000

The WSFFN is a statewide, grassroots voice for sustainable agriculture advocacy. They are a network of farmers and ranchers, environmental organizations, farming organizations, faith-based groups, farmers markets, anti-hunger and nutrition advocates, the natural foods industry, food coops, educators and others. General support funding was provided in support of their programs advocating and supporting state policies which promote sustainable agriculture and local farming initiatives, including Local Farms Healthy Kids, The Future of Farming, Farmers Market Nutrition Programs, developing New Markets, the BIOAg Program at Washington State University, and Beefing Up the Palouse--an operation to convert 5,000 acres of Eastern Washington farmland into a sustainable, pasture-based, grass-fed beef operation which will benefit farmers and rural communities.

Washtenaw County Workers' Center (WCWC) Ann Arbor, MI \$15,000

WCWC is a new non-profit comprised of local workers, union members, religious leaders, activists, law students, university faculty and staff, and volunteers from Ann Arbor and Ypsilanti which provides a safe space for low-wage native and immigrant workers to organize, receive training, and learn how to effectively advocate for workers rights and improved working conditions. Funding was provided in support of hiring a Campaign Coordinator for their Restaurant Workers' Rights Campaign with focused organizing around paid sick days for restaurant workers.

Western Colorado Congress, Grand Junction, CO \$15,000

WCC is a grassroots democratic organization made up of chapters and individuals who work together to challenge injustice and create healthy sustainable communities. Ongoing funding was provided in support of their campaign "Protecting Our Health, Our Communities and the Environment from the Impacts of Oil and Gas Development". They are actively working to put in place strong regulations at the state level to implement the sweeping reforms for oil and gas operations in Colorado that WCC was instrumental passing in 2007.

Western Regional Advocacy Project, San Francisco, CA \$15,000

WRAP is collaboration of leaders from key social justice-oriented homeless organizations in seven major West Coast cities working to make ending homelessness a national priority. WRAP works to ensure that legislators in Washington, DC receive a consistent, constituent-informed message from the West Coast to shape public policies that address the systemic causes of poverty, ensure adherence to human rights, and are grounded in the experiences of those who live and work with homelessness every day.

Yaak Valley Forest Council, Troy, MT \$15,000

YVFC is a resident-led, grassroots organization that works to permanently protect the last remaining roadless cores in the Yaak Valley; maintain and restore the valley's ecological integrity by conserving and improving habitat; encourage and support the development of local economies based on stewardship principles, value-added forest products, habitat conservation and ecological restoration; and empower local residents through education and solidarity toward the previous goals. YVFC is committed to cultivating and encouraging meaningful dialogue between historically polarized groups within the valley as well as the region, bringing these groups to the same table to find common ground on ecosystem-based forest management practices. General support funding was provided.

Young Voices, Providence, RI \$12,500

Young Voices is a youth-led, youth-driven leadership and social change organization. Through their 7-month Leadership Transformation Academy (LTA), young people learn how to analyze and impact policy, conduct research, present their arguments in persuasive and compelling ways, and communicate effectively with powerful policy-makers in order to ensure that youth have a meaningful voice at the table when decisions that affect their everyday lives are made. Funding was provided in support of Providence's first youth-driven Policy Agenda. Created by low-income, urban youth through outreach to over 900 of their peers, the Agenda outlines changes they want to

see in the city including wide-scale school reform and full-involvement in city decision-making bodies.