

**Ben & Jerry's Foundation**  
**2009 National Grassroots Small Grant Recipients**

**Alternatives to Marriage Project, Brooklyn, NY**

**\$891**

Alternatives to Marriage Project is dedicated to ending marital status discrimination, especially in access to health care. They will organize members to challenge institutions that make it harder for unmarried people to get appropriate, affordable health care by using marital status to define family. The AtMP advocates equality and fairness for unmarried people, including people who are single, choose not to marry, cannot marry, or live together before marriage, they believe that society should recognize and support healthy relationships in all their diversity. [www.unmarried.org](http://www.unmarried.org)

**Boulder Car Share, Boulder, CO**

**\$930**

Boulder Car Share's mission is to provide and promote alternatives to individual car ownership, thereby reducing the environmental and social impacts associated with motor vehicle use. The project, for which funds were provided, will give members a secure 24/7 access to fleet vehicles via an electronic RFID key fob that obviates the need for a traditional metal key entry. [www.carshare.org](http://www.carshare.org)

**Brooklyn Food Coalition, Brooklyn, NY**

**\$1,000**

The Brooklyn Food Coalition will unite grassroots organizations and individuals for a Brooklyn-wide efforts to provide healthy, sustainable, socially just food locally and to influence food policy nationally. Funding was provided in support of their first organizing effort, the Brooklyn Food Conference. [www.brooklynfoodconference.org](http://www.brooklynfoodconference.org)

**Committee for Green Foothills, Palo Alto, CA**

**\$1,000**

The goal of the Committee for Green Foothills' is to protect the open space, farmlands, and natural resources of the San Francisco Peninsula through advocacy, education, and grassroots action. Funds were provided for the 2009 Santa Clara-San Mateo Urban Farm Tour where there will be opportunities for dialogue between farmers, farming interests, and environmental activists. [www.greenfoothills.org](http://www.greenfoothills.org)

**Community Coalition for a Living Wage, Miami, FL**

**\$1,000**

The Community Coalition for a Living Wage (CCLW) is a broad coalition of community, labor, civil rights, faith-based, legal services and human services organizations in Miami-Dade County seeking change in public policy to promote economic justice for its residents. CCLW received a small grant to continue in its efforts to convince those who fund nonprofit agencies and nonprofit organizations about the importance of paying their employees a living wage. [www.livingwagecoalition.org](http://www.livingwagecoalition.org)

**Connecting to Advantages, New York, NY**

**\$1,000**

Connecting To Advantages was born of studies about the under-enrollment of needy New Yorkers in entitlement programs. The program trains volunteer community members, people who access the same Public Assistance, SSI, Medicaid and Food Stamps as their clients, to do referral work, and thus make them community leaders.

**DIVAS (Digital Interactive Visual Arts Sciences) for Social Justice, Brooklyn, NY \$1,000**

DIVAS is a grassroots arts organization for young women of color working to develop leadership skills, economic sustainability through technology and critical thinking skills through the arts. DIVAS aim to bridge the digital divide by combining media literacy and cultural awareness along with a vast understanding of technology to encourage young women of color to persue careers in information technology and new media. Funding was provided in support of "Imaging Ourselves", an 8-week workshop for 10 women which looks at the way mainstream American media depicts women of color.

**Eagle Eyes Community Organization, Manchester, NH \$500**

Eagle Eyes Community Organization is a very grassroots, organization run by volunteers who are working to make their neighborhoods safer and bring their communities together by hosting neighborhood beautification projects and parties throughout the year. General support was provided to bring young people and adults together to paint murals on walls and garages in an effort to reduce graffiti and instill a sense of pride in the community.

**GLBT Youth in Iowa Schools Task Force, Des Moines, IA \$1000**

GLBT Youth In Iowa Schools Task Force requested a small grant for its Safe Schools for All program. This is the only statewide initiative targeting Iowa's frontline educators to empower them to stand up for all students in the classroom even when this may not be popular with their school administration or community. [www.iowasafeschools.org](http://www.iowasafeschools.org)

**Green Mountain Farm-to-School, Newport, VT \$1,000**

Green Mountain Farm-to-School is developing an Eat Local Campaign for schools. A small grant was provided to help create posters and advertising materials featuring Vermont farmers and reasons to eat local that are designed specifically for school cafeterias. [www.greenmountainfarmtoschool.org](http://www.greenmountainfarmtoschool.org)

**Hemet Unified School District - S.A.F.E. Program, Hemet, CA \$1,000**

Support was given to the Cesar Chavez Service Learning Clubs. Service-Learning is a method of teaching and learning that enriches a student's life by engaging them in meaningful hands-on-service to their community while giving them an opportunity to gain valuable experience that connects them with their classroom studies. Members become engaged as organizers, leaders and decision makers in long term projects while developing a sense of pride and ownership. [www.hemetusd.k12.ca.us/edserv/safe](http://www.hemetusd.k12.ca.us/edserv/safe)

**HONK!, Providence, RI \$1,000**

A volunteer-run organization, HONK! works to coordinate and promote the burgeoning movement of activist street bands, bands composed of performers with a commitment to social justice. The festival invites performers to share ideas and inspiration through formal discussions, workshops, and skill shares. [www.honkfest.org](http://www.honkfest.org)

**Horseback Riders For A Wild San Juan Mountains, Pagosa Springs, CO \$1,000**

Funding for staffing to fulfill field work including leading environmental education rides, monitoring roadless area trails with volunteers, environmental trail rides into the HD Mountains threatened with natural gas drilling, public education about a San Juan Wilderness Bill, and Winter Speaker Series.

**Image Initiative, Inc., Syracuse, NY**

**\$1,000**

Image Initiative is an organization of women of color from various fields within the educational, business, social service, non-profit, communications and entertainment sectors existing for the sole purpose of mentoring, guiding, uplifting and empowering at-risk young women of color. They will work to combat the pervasive culture among at-risk African American and Latina women with awareness, empowerment and opportunities for self improvement. The Annual Sisters Empowering Sisters Conference aims to foster an appreciation for diversity, promote opportunity and education, and maximize the positive effects that professional women and community-based organizations can have on developing youth. [www.imageinitiative.org](http://www.imageinitiative.org)

**Indykids, New York, NY**

**\$2,000**

Indykids is a progressive, current events publication for kids in elementary and middle school. Indykids works within and outside of schools to help give voice to kids and support and resources to teachers trying to empower their students with a critique of their social and political landscape. Funding was provided to help hire a coordinator to expand distribution, work with students through media workshops, and collaborate with social justice organizations. [www.indykids.net](http://www.indykids.net)

**Northeast Organic Farming Association - NH Chapter, Concord, NH**

**\$1,000**

NOFA-NH is a membership organization formed to educate its members and the public about the benefits of organic agriculture and to provide agricultural assistance to growers. A small grant was provided in support of their Annual Winter Conference. [www.nofanh.org](http://www.nofanh.org)

**Outright Vermont, Burlington, VT**

**\$2,000**

Outright Vermont is the state's only queer youth center and statewide advocacy and service organization. They are working to build safe, healthy, and supportive environments for GLBTQ youth ages 13-22. Funding was provided in support of their annual day-long program of events which includes a Gay-Straight Alliance Conference, Youth Pride Celebration and Queer Prom. [www.outrightvt.org](http://www.outrightvt.org)

**Sharff Productions, Cornish, NH**

**\$1,000**

Sparrow and the Tigress is a film that explores and addresses the long-term effects of war on families and communities in Vermont and New England. It is expected that the film will increase awareness of some specific long-term and short-term effects of war on our community, leading to the building of community connections, and the increased connection between people from diverse groups, inspiring hope and community involvement.

**Women's Community, University of Wisconsin – Marathon, Wausau, WI**

**\$1,000**

Funding was approved to support the "Hmong Culture in the Past, Present, and Future" conference. The conference is designed to promote community dialogue, action planning, and grassroots efforts to combat domestic violence in the Hmong communities of central Wisconsin.

**Women's International League for Peace & Freedom, Burlington, VT**

**\$930**

A small grant was provided to promote events in Chittenden County around the Nuclear Free Future month, emphasizing the links between nuclear weapons and power.