

## 2014 Grant Recipients



### **350Vermont**

\$15,000

Burlington, VT

350Vermont (350VT) is the only Vermont-wide organization working solely on a grassroots movement to reverse global warming. 350VT believes that the only way to see meaningful action on climate change is countering the power of the fossil fuel industry with the power of people taking collective action. Although they share a common mission with 350.org, 350VT is an independent organization, with local campaigns. Climate change is a global problem, but it requires local grassroots organizing and local solutions. A 60+ year old pipeline runs through Vermont's Northeast Kingdom (NEK), home to 60,000 people. The Portland Montreal Pipeline Company would like to reverse engineer this pipeline to transport tar sands oil from Canada to Portland, ME. Another pipeline reversal was just approved in Canada, bringing tar sands to Montreal and Vermont's doorstep. Environmental groups are working in opposition via media and policy angles, and 350VT is organizing resistance among NEK residents with town resolutions, demonstrations, educational events, and by fostering community collaborations.

### **AGUA Coalition (Asociacion de Gente Unida por el Agua)**

\$15,000

Visalia, CA

AGUA is a grassroots coalition of low-income, and people of color communities, dedicated to improving water quality in the San Joaquin Valley, particularly contaminated groundwater basins. AGUA organizes communities to combat pollution from various sources and contaminants, including nitrates and pesticides, which are degrading California's water resources. AGUA is working to clean up existing water contamination, and advocating for its future protection. General support funding was provided to continue to build the capacity of coalition members to organize their communities, and educate the public and policymakers about the water contamination problem, which stems from the unsustainable practices of irrigated agriculture and animal factories, as well as over-application of fertilizers and pesticides. AGUA will also continue to advocate for effective regulatory measures that protect drinking water in the San Joaquin Valley.

### **Alliance for Community Transit - Los Angeles (ACT-LA)**

\$20,000

Los Angeles, CA

The Alliance for Community Transit-Los Angeles is a broad-based coalition with organizations experienced in policy advocacy, legal strategies, grassroots organizing, and community economic development. Working at the intersection of transportation, housing, public health, and environmental issues, ACT-LA strives to create just, equitable, sustainable transit systems and neighborhoods for all people in Los Angeles, placing the interests of low-income communities and communities of color first. ACT-LA is advancing a citywide transit equity campaign that will ensure the improved transit system in the City of Los Angeles will work as planned – encouraging healthy lifestyles, lowering environmental and climate impacts, and driving economic opportunity. Leveraging a \$40 billion Los Angeles mass transit investment and related smart growth measures, ACT-LA's goal is to accelerate policy change supporting equitable and sustainable communities centered on transit, and will work to ensure that smart growth and urban revitalization do not mask, ignore, or deepen, the negative human and environmental impacts of the affordable housing crisis in Los Angeles.

### **Arise Chicago**

\$15,000

Chicago, IL

Arise Chicago builds partnerships between faith community and workers to fight workplace injustice through education, organizing and public policy changes. Arise Chicago bridges the gap, connecting non-union immigrant workers with unions. Funding was provided for Arise's member-led Worker Center, where immigrant workers organize and develop as leaders to build power on the job, defend workplace rights, unionize, and impact social change. Car wash, domestic, construction, service, and manufacturing workers organize their workplace justice campaigns, support other workers' campaigns, and fight for policy changes. The Worker Center teaches workers the tools to end exploitation and strengthen collective power on the job, and they then teach the tools to other workers.

### **Atlanta Jobs with Justice**

\$20,000

Atlanta, GA

Atlanta Jobs with Justice (Atlanta JwJ) is a coalition of labor unions, community groups, faith-based organizations, student organizations, and individuals that leads and supports campaigns for economic and social justice in their workplaces and in their communities. Atlanta JwJ is dedicated to fighting for the right to organize, defending public services, protecting workers' rights, enacting progressive legislation, struggling for dignity and respect inside and outside the workplace, acting in solidarity across struggles, and developing transformative approaches to organizing. General support funding was provided as Atlanta JwJ works in coalition on issues such as raising the minimum wage, unemployment benefits, Medicaid Expansion and ban the box policies and to help anchor the Moral Mondays movement in Georgia.

### **Beyond Toxics**

\$15,000

Eugene, OR

Beyond Toxics works to advance the power of Oregon's most vulnerable and marginalized groups who are exposed to a disproportionate share of environmental health burdens. Beyond Toxics challenges the causes of toxic trespass in Oregon, and empowers communities to call out issues stemming from injustice and lack of privilege. Their strong environmental justice advocacy and strategic use of "citizen science" and toxics "right-to-know" builds community knowledge, power and the ability to take effective action. General support funding was provided to build the capacity to end pesticide trespass from aerial helicopter sprays. Using grassroots organizing, theater, rallies, community voices and "citizen science," isolated rural residents in Oregon counties will raise their collective power to win protections from pesticide drift trespass. Beyond Toxics seek to end the pattern of corporate and governmental irresponsibility by embedding basic human rights and environmental justice into environmental policies.

### **Black Organizing Project**

\$20,000

Oakland, CA

The Black Organizing Project (BOP) engages and mobilizes low-income Black people to place issues on the political agenda, put leadership into power, secure a deeply influential voice in regional, statewide, and national decision-making, and ultimately achieve justice for black youth, families and communities. General support funding was provided for BOP's three primary activities: continuing to grow, sustain and increase the engagement of our grassroots base; continuing to build on the success of BOP's founding campaign, Bettering Our School System (BOSS) which pushes for district reforms that minimize the role of law-enforcement on school campuses; and continuing and expanding Baby BOP, an education and cultural program for our youngest members.

### **Blocks Together**

\$20,000

Chicago, IL

Blocks Together (BT) is a membership based community organizing group serving the West Humboldt Park community on Chicago's Westside. They work to build a grassroots community infrastructure, governed from the bottom up, which provides the resources, leadership development and sustained focused efforts to achieve widespread improvements for the community and advance economic and social justice. General support funding was provided to continue grassroots leadership

organizing to improve the community; including challenging the policies that have led to economic injustices, developing parent leadership to work for improvements in neighborhood schools, and organizing with parents and young people for effective restorative justice programs to ensure healthier and safer communities.

### **Brazilian Immigrant Center**

\$20,000

Allston, MA

With offices in Boston and Bridgeport, CT, the Brazilian Immigrant Center (BIC) works with immigrant workers from Brazil, other Latin American countries, and any immigrant workers who experience workplace exploitation to enable them to be better informed of their rights so that they will be empowered to be economically self-sufficient. BIC's mission is economic and social justice for low income immigrant workers through advocacy, organizing, and service. Funding was provided in support of their efforts to grow their domestic worker program in Connecticut in conjunction with the Domestic Worker Bill of Rights Campaign. The campaign seeks to eliminate historic exclusions specific to domestic workers in the state's labor laws. Additionally, the DWBOR seeks to establish minimum workplace standards for domestic workers. The Domestic Worker Project develops leadership skills of low income immigrant women engaged in domestic work. And engages in issues of education through community organizing to groups that also include progressive employers who are sympathetic to the rights of domestic workers.

### **Brooklyn Movement Center**

\$20,000

Brooklyn, NY

The Brooklyn Movement Center (BMC) is a grassroots community organizing group dedicated to self-determination in Central Brooklyn. BMC seeks to reclaim Bedford-Stuyvesant and Crown Heights for the mostly black and low- and moderate-income residents in the face of relentless gentrification. General support funding was provided to support BMC as they seek to train a new generation of local stakeholders to seize control of the levers of power and connect local struggles to broader structural change. This will include leadership development, campaign development and political education work as a way of building a series of social justice campaigns and an independent power base. Current campaigns involve educational self-determination, food sovereignty issues, gentrification organizing and addressing street harassment problems.

### **CAAAV Organizing Asian Communities**

\$20,000

Bronx, NY

CAAAV's Chinatown Tenants Union (CTU) organizes families, low-wage workers, elderly, youth and refugee communities in New York City against displacement and gentrification, in order to preserve Chinatown as a neighborhood for working-class Asian immigrants. Current zoning laws in Chinatown are outdated and encourage real estate speculation, luxury development, and rising rents, leading to mass displacement of low-income Asian residents. CTU's Equitable Rezoning Campaign is a multi-stakeholder campaign which is pushing for more accountability and transparency in Chinatown's rezoning process.

### **CA Coalition for Women Prisoners**

\$10,000

San Francisco, CA

California Coalition for Women Prisoners (CCWP) is a grassroots social justice organization, with members inside and outside prison, that challenges the institutional violence imposed on women, transgender people, and communities of color by the prison industrial complex (PIC). CCWP sees the struggle for racial and gender justice as central to dismantling the PIC. CCWP opposes all forms of prison expansion and works for a society where education, rather than incarceration, is the priority and human rights is a reality for all people. The Across the Walls campaign involves regular visits by teams to the California women's prisons to link prisoners to the development of campaigns to challenge abusive conditions of confinement, change sentencing policies and support positive reentry strategies. Legal assistant volunteers partner with prisoners on visits to develop legal advocacy, leadership empowerment skills, and develop campaigns that challenge issues of overcrowding, solitary confinement and winning changes in parole policies.

**Californians United for a Responsible Budget**

\$20,000

Oakland, CA

Californians United for a Responsible Budget (CURB) is a statewide coalition of grassroots organizations working to reduce the number of people in prisons and jails, reduce the number of prisons and jails in the state, and shifting state and local spending from corrections and policing to human services. CURB amplifies the work of community leaders on issues of conditions of confinement to sentencing reform and bridges movements for environmental, social, racial, and economic justice. Their work highlights familial impacts of imprisonment on communities in California and across the nation. General operating support was provided as CURB continues their organizing work to stop new state prison and jail construction, which will achieve savings in corrections spending. CURB will push for prioritization and implementation of reinvestment in human services, supporting reentry, reducing recidivism, and empowering communities.

**Cayce United**

\$15,000

Nashville, TN

Cayce United (CU) is an organized group of residents of Cayce Place, the largest public housing project in Nashville, Tennessee. CU was founded by residents in response to the proposed redevelopment of Cayce Place homes, to ensure that the concerns of the families there are integrated into the redevelopment proposal. General support funding was provided as CU builds leadership and organizes to advocate for guaranteed housing in the new development, and targeted job-training and employment opportunities resulting from the redevelopment work.

**Center for Frontline Retail**

\$20,000

New York, NY

The Center for Frontline Retail (Frontline), an offshoot of Retail Action Project, is an organization dedicated to improving working standards in the retail industry. Through community organizing and campaigns, Frontline has been able to empower retail workers to make changes in their stores and across the industry. General support funding was provided as Frontline continues to promote awareness, leadership, and action to achieve quality employment in the retail sector. Frontline is working in coalition for the Just Hours New York campaign which will expand workers rights in the retail sector, and look to regulate on-call scheduling in New York State. Frontline is also working to reform the partial unemployment insurance system, and develop the Shoppers' Alliance - creating allies with customers that actively support workers organizing against gender and racial discrimination.

**Center for Worker Justice of Eastern Iowa**

\$20,000

Iowa City, IA

The Center for Worker Justice of Eastern Iowa (CWJ) organizes and unites low-wage workers across race, ethnicity and immigration status to pursue social and economic justice through education, leadership development, and issue-based organizing. General support funding was provided for the work CWJ is doing around three issue areas: civil rights and fair law enforcement practices; workplace justice; and affordable housing. CWJ is in the midst of a multi-pronged campaign focused on combating wage theft while ensuring that immigrants who speak out about abuses do not face retaliation or threats of deportation. Goals include organizing workers and allies to recover unpaid wages and win permanent improvements in law enforcement practices and state wage payment enforcement systems.

**Centro de Trabajadores Unidos: Immigrant Workers' Project**

\$15,000

Chicago, IL

Centro de Trabajadores Unidos (CTU) is a powerful, immigrant-run organization in the southeast side of Chicago that educates workers on their rights, develops leadership within the immigrant community, supports and organizes all workers as they fight for their rights in the workplace, and for changing policies to increase standards for immigrant workers. General support funding was

provided as CTU expands their efforts to integrate more immigration work into their labor organizing in order to reduce people's vulnerability, build power and defend against violations. Working in collaboration with area organizations CTU will support a bill for a higher minimum wage, and in other collaborations will also create an action plan for the Department of Labor for strategic enforcement of wage theft violations.

### **Childhood Lead Action Project**

\$20,000

Providence, RI

The Childhood Lead Action Project's goal is to eliminate childhood lead poisoning through community-education, parent support, and community organizing. The Project's grassroots work, ranging from neighborhood-based initiatives to statewide policy campaigns, has brought meaningful change to the low-income and minority families disproportionately affected by lead poisoning. The Childhood Lead Action Project's Safe Housing for All Campaign will improve housing conditions by ensuring that all of the state's municipalities are in compliance with lead safety laws, which call for landlords to obtain a lead safety certificate for their housing units and require renovators of older properties to have a basic level of lead safety training. This project develops low-income leadership and mobilizes people to pressure their municipalities to examine housing safety policies and comply with state law designed to protect tenant rights.

### **Citizens For Safe Water Around Badger (CSWAB)**

\$15,000

Merrimac, WI

Citizens for Safe Water Around Badger (CSWAB) unifies and strengthens citizens working for a healthy and sustainable future for Wisconsin's Badger Army Ammunition Plant lands and other contaminated U.S. military sites. General support funding was provided as CSWAB will mobilize and empower rural communities near Wisconsin's former Badger Army Ammunition Plant to protect and restore the environment and hold the military accountable to environmental health law and assure compliance with environmental justice mandates. By working in partnership with their Ho-Chunk and Hispanic neighbors, rural Wisconsin residents intend to heal the land and their community by working together toward a common goal – the creation of one of the largest prairie and oak savanna restorations in the Midwest.

### **Clean Air Coalition of Western New York**

\$20,000

Buffalo, NY

The Clean Air Coalition (Clean Air) is an environmental health and justice organization in Buffalo, New York. Clean Air organizes low-income and working people to win policies that protect public health, the environment and advance equity. Clean Air values leadership development, democratic decision-making and justice. The Climate Justice for Tonawanda campaign's goal is to retire the coal burning power plant in Tonawanda, New York, which has been one of the largest contributors to elevated levels of air pollution and cancer rates in the area. The Coalition will organize workers and community members to ensure that retirement is handled equitably, so that the proposed campaign will not only retire the plant, but fight for resources for workers and local municipalities so they will survive and adapt to the change in tax revenues.

### **Coalition on Homelessness**

\$15,000

San Francisco, CA

The Coalition on Homelessness, San Francisco (COH) initiates program and policy changes that result in the creation of exits from poverty. The COH organizes poor and homeless people to create permanent solutions to poverty and homelessness while protecting the civil and human rights of those forced to remain on the streets. COH's Housing Justice campaign organizes and empowers homeless and low-income parents and individuals through leadership development to create solutions to the housing and economic crisis they face. Homeless leaders will create work plans, organize various campaigns and engage with policy makers to craft housing related policy and create affordable housing for low-income and homeless people. COH also sees the creation of housing as a means to create jobs, build community, and improve health for communities in San Francisco.

### **Coal River Mountain Watch**

\$20,000

Naoma, WV

Coal River Mountain Watch (CRMW) combines local knowledge with technical expertise to fight for local and regional interests threatened by the coal industry. They tackle the problems on a range of fronts, from organizing river cleanup days, to monitoring MTR and dam hazards in their neighborhoods, to federal policy improvement. CRMW's mission is to stop the destruction of communities and the environment by mountaintop removal mining, to improve the quality of life in their area, and to help rebuild sustainable communities. CRMW envisions just and caring communities in which residents are aware of and involved in solving community issues, and in which public officials and agencies fulfill their responsibility to provide sustainable forms of economic development and a healthy, safe environment. General support funding was provided. Programs include the Citizens' Enforcement Program, including the Citizen Action for Real Enforcement campaign, to compel regulatory agencies to do their jobs; the Tadpole Project to clean up and monitor the river; the Road Show to tell their story; and the Appalachian Community Health Emergency campaign to enact lasting federal policy that would end the practice of mountain top removal.

### **Connecticut Coalition for Environmental Justice**

\$10,000

Hartford, CT

Connecticut Coalition for Environmental Justice is a small, community based nonprofit that fights major urban polluters who compromise the health and environment of the state's low-income communities and communities of color. Working in coalition with CT Fund for the Environment and Toxics Action Center in the Healthy CT Alliance, CCEJ is organizing Bridgeport residents to shut down the Bridgeport Harbor Station coal power plant, the last remaining coal-burning power plant in Connecticut. The coal plant shutdown will help reduce the city's high incidence of respiratory illness, cancer, and other diseases in a city that is a majority of people of color and where many live in poverty. CCEJ is responsible for community canvassing and outreach, as well creating forums to educate on the health risks of coal and rallying Bridgeport, CT against the facility.

### **Critical Resistance**

\$15,000

Oakland, CA

Critical Resistance (CR) is a national chapter-based organization dedicated to building a movement to dismantle the prison industrial complex (PIC). CR runs campaigns to stop new prison and jail construction, foster the leadership of imprisoned people, challenge racist policing practices, and advocate for alternative responses to violence. CR believes that basic necessities such as food, shelter, and freedom are what really make communities secure. The success of the movement requires that it reflect communities most affected by the PIC. Funding was provided for general support of Critical Resistance Oakland's (CROak) work to advance its goals of reducing mass incarceration in California (CA) and building community alternatives. CROak continues its campaign to prevent prison and jail expansion in CA, with a particular focus on abolishing the use of solitary confinement; develop neighborhood-based projects to increase community safety without engaging the police; and augment leadership of people impacted by the PIC in grassroots organizing.

### **DRUM - Desis Rising Up & Moving**

\$20,000

Jackson Heights, NY

Desis Rising Up & Moving (DRUM) is a multi generational, membership-led organization of low-wage South Asian immigrant workers, youth, and families organizing for immigrant, workers, and education rights locally and nationally. DRUM builds the power of people directly affected to win institutional change for immigration, education, economic, and racial justice through leadership development and grassroots policy campaigns. 'Desi' means people from Afghanistan, Bangladesh, Bhutan, Guyana, India, Nepal, Pakistan, Sri Lanka, Tibet, and Trinidad. General support funding was provided in support of DRUM's four programs: the South Asian Workers' Center ; YouthPower! ; the Racial and Immigrant Justice Program; and the Global Justice Program.

### **El Centro Humanitario Para Los Trabajadores**

\$20,000

Denver, CO

El Centro Humanitario Para Los Trabajadores (El Centro) is Colorado's only Worker Center dedicated to promoting the well-being and rights of Day Laborers and Domestic workers through education, job skills, leadership development, united action and advocacy. El Centro's goals are to develop a sense of community and self sufficiency among workers and to foster worker ownership over El Centro. El Centro is currently leading campaigns for statewide Anti-Wage Theft Policy and to pass a Colorado Domestic Workers Bill of Rights. General support funding was provided.

### **English for Action**

\$17,500

Providence, RI

English for Action (EFA) links language learning with social change through popular education ESOL classes and community organizing. Through participatory English language, childcare, and other educational programs, EFA focuses on leadership development and community-building, in order to affect meaningful and community-based social change in Olneyville and the greater Providence community. The Action Committee (AC) is the organizing branch of the organization that trains student leaders to advocate for themselves and effect social change. The AC leads direct actions and organizing campaigns to fight for immigrant's rights and social justice. The AC also acts as a Learner Advisory Board to EFA's Board of Directors, providing direction to the organization as a whole. Current organizing activities involve developing and pushing legislation for undocumented immigrants' driver's licenses, immigration reform, and health care reform and its impact on immigrant communities.

### **Enlace/Communities United for People**

\$20,000

Portland, OR

Enlace is an alliance of low-wage worker centers, unions, and community organizations in Mexico and the U.S working with members in national and international campaigns to motivate corporations to treat workers and communities with dignity and respect. The Private Prison Divestment Campaign is pressuring major investors in the private, for-profit prison industry to end their support for mass incarceration and cut all ties with the industry. Many of these powerful investors share lobbyists with private prison companies in addition to providing financial support. Enlace coordinates community organizing efforts around the country to expose the for-profit prison industry, pass divestment resolutions at institutions like city governments, religious organizations and universities, and build a deeply rooted movement for racial justice and immigrant rights.

### **Ex-prisoners and Prisoners Organizing for Community Advancement**

\$20,000

Worcester, MA

Ex-prisoners and Prisoners Organizing for Community Advancement (EPOCA) is a member-led organization with 326 members (the majority of whom are ex-prisoners) along with allies, friends, and family coming together to create resources and opportunities for those who have paid their debt to society. General support funding was provided as EPOCA continues work on the Jobs NOT Jails campaign, a coalition-building effort to create a public groundswell to stop Massachusetts from building new prison units, by enacting a package of criminal justice reforms. Along with coalition allies, EPOCA are petitioning the MA government to halt prison construction until these reforms can take effect and re-direct the \$2 billion saved into jobs creation and training, targeting communities with the highest rates of long-term unemployment, poverty and crime.

### **Faith in New York**

\$20,000

Corona, NY

Faith in New York is a multi-faith, multicultural federation of 54 congregations and 60,000 families in Queens, Brooklyn, Manhattan, and the Bronx, that develops grassroots leaders and equips congregations to move public policy change that supports community members' vision of a more just NYC including excellent public schools, violence-free neighborhoods, access to good jobs, adequate and affordable health care, decent housing for all, and where people of all backgrounds can fully participate in economic and civic life. General support funding was provided in support of their overarching goals under The Economic & Racial Dignity for All umbrella, which aims to:

1) deliver equity standards for \$6.3 billion in Hurricane Sandy relief funds to create 10,000 living wage jobs, 6,000 job training slots, & 5,000 new affordable housing units; 2) enact major reforms to city's economic development system; and 3) win local and national relief for immigrants.

### **Families for Justice as Healing**

\$20,000

Roxbury, MA

Families for Justice as Healing (FFJAH) is a criminal justice reform and legislative advocacy organization. FFJAH speaks from the perspective of incarcerated and formerly incarcerated women and their children, advocating for community wellness alternatives to incarceration. FFJAH raises awareness of US prison policy and organizes with the communities most affected to create community, legislative and policy alternatives to mass incarceration. General support funding was provided as FFJAH works to: stop prison and jail expansion; reduce prison populations; and promote community-based alternatives to incarceration, with a focus on women and children.

### **Flint Area Congregations Together**

\$20,000

Flint, MI

Flint Area Congregations Together (FACT) brings people of faith, institutions and organizations together to build community and address the root causes and results of poverty, violence and division. FACT's goals are to advance systemic change in housing, education, health care, public safety and employment in Flint and Genesee County. Funding was provided in support of the launch of Youth United 2 Change (YU2C), a youth community organizing effort in the city of Flint, MI that will transform and position youth to become effective community leaders. This program will use technology and virtual-learning as well as hands-on curriculum to train and equip youth to research and resolve issues that they have identified. The program will train participants to monitor and influence public policy while developing support for democratic values and principles, tolerance, and feelings of political efficacy.

### **Gardening the Community**

\$15,000

Springfield, MA

Gardening the Community (GTC) is a food justice organization based in Springfield, MA, engaged in youth development, urban agriculture and sustainable living to build healthy and equitable communities. GTC organizes to create a vibrant, healthy food system with equitable access so that racism no longer determines the health or well-being of a neighborhood or community. General operating support was provided to support their five core program areas: Youth Gardens/Urban Agriculture, Increasing Food Access, Learning and Teaching Community, Food Justice Organizing and Youth Leadership Development.

### **Georgia Latino Alliance for Human Rights**

\$20,000

Atlanta, GA

The Georgia Latino Alliance for Human Rights (GLAHR) utilizes community organizing, leadership development, political education and media campaigns to develop grassroots leadership within the immigrant community in Georgia. GLAHR's mission is to continue to build a powerful network of informed and engaged community members through base-building strategies that defend and advance the civil and human rights of Latinos, immigrants and all people of color living in the Southern United States. General support funding was provided as GLAHR aims to align organizing, leadership development, advocacy and litigation goals. GLAHR will focus on developing organizing capacity and strengthen their existing organizing groups (known as Comités Populares) throughout Georgia, to continue to challenge racially motivated practices and policies such as unsanctioned roadblocks.

### **Global Alliance for Incinerator Alternatives**

\$15,000

Berkeley, CA

Global Alliance for Incinerator Alternatives (GAIA) works to promote and assist in the shaping of environmental justice in communities around the world, local environmentally sustainable economies,



and creative zero waste solutions. GAIA initiated the Out of the Frying Pan campaign to challenge new EPA regulatory loopholes that enable trash-burning as replacement fuel in cement kilns, coal plants and industrial furnaces, undermining core safeguards for industrially-impacted communities by removing pollution controls and public consultation requirements for this toxic, costly and carbon-intensive practice. GAIA's technical assistance will be valuable in mobilizing widespread public opposition, led by environmental justice & frontline community groups. Working with a diverse grassroots network and their expertise on alternatives will position them well to prevent this threat, before it becomes entrenched in practice.

### **Granite State Organizing Project (GSOP)**

\$15,000

Manchester, NH

Granite State Organizing Project (GSOP)'s mission is to unite religious, labor, and community groups to address issues and shape decisions that will positively affect the quality of life in their communities. GSOP accomplishes this through taking issue oriented actions and mounting community-led campaigns for positive social change. Issues GSOP addresses include: safe, affordable housing; access to quality affordable health care; the right to education; worker's rights to advocate on their own behalf; and support of immigrant and refugee rights. General support funding was provided as GSOP continues their community organizing work to build capacity and power in low income and minority communities in New Hampshire's largest and most diverse cities: Manchester and Nahsua. Current focus is developing leaders for an elected tenant council, and push for code enforcement as bad acting landlords of public housing have given rise to an increase in lead poisoning of youth, among other infractions. Changing state policies on public transportation, and local school funding policies are issues their members are focused on addressing throughout the year.

### **Grassroots Collaborative**

\$20,000

Chicago, IL

Grassroots Collaborative unites 12 community and labor organizations, and works with dozens more as allies for change. They include Action Now, Brighton Park Neighborhood Council, Chicago Coalition for the Homeless, Chicago Teachers Union, Southsiders Organized for Unity and Liberation, and SEIU. Through strategic community-labor organizing, grassroots leadership development, civic engagement, and research GC builds power with working families and organizes across the city to win progressive policies and systems changes that improve the lives of low-to-moderate income residents and communities of color. General support funding was provided as GC continues work on the citywide movement Take Back Chicago. The movement is demanding government accountability by targeting abuse of tax dollars, organizing to redirect resources to neighborhoods, reforming the state flat income tax, raising wages, and eliminating racial disparities among Chicago residents.

### **Greenaction for Health and Environmental Justice**

\$20,000

San Francisco, CA

Greenaction for Health and Environmental Justice (Greenaction) is a multiracial organization that empowers, supports and unites communities to protect health and the environment and to bring about systemic change in government and industry policies and practices. The Climate and Environmental Justice Project engages in community education, leadership development, organizing and coalition building to mobilize vulnerable low-income, immigrant San Joaquin Valley communities to reduce and stop pollution that threatens health and contributes to climate change. They are organizing to stop expansion of the violation-plagued Kettleman City toxic waste landfill; the proposed Avenal fossil fuel power plant that the Environmental Protection Agency exempted from key pollution limits; and the proposed HECA coal gasification/oil extraction project. These projects highlight the social injustice of targeting low-income communities of color for polluting projects, and leverage high profile campaigns to pressure government to comply with, and strengthen, their environmental justice and climate change mandates.

### **Hearing Youth Voices**

\$10,000

New London, CT

Hearing Youth Voices (HYV) is a very new, youth-led, action research group dedicated to youth building collective power to fight for a better quality education. HYV's main constituency are low-income, public school students of color in New London, CT. In their first year of operation, students were trained in the steps of community organizing, including: issue identification, research, and campaign development. Students analyzed results from a survey they carried out and identified campaigns based on these issues: credit loss and the discipline system. General support funding was provided.

### **Juntos**

\$20,000

Philadelphia, PA

Juntos is a Latino immigrant community-led human rights organization that builds power in the Greater Philadelphia area for the community. Juntos addresses issues ranging from education reform, college access, youth organizing, immigration and public safety. By combining leadership development, community organizing, and focused collaborations with other advocates, Juntos works to help the Latino immigrant community develop the necessary tools to become active participants in civic life and socially-conscious leaders in the fight for human rights. General support funding was provided to support Juntos' current campaigns to address unjust policing policies and structures that negatively impact families like Secure Communities and ICE HOLDS; parent organizing to fight education inequities for immigrant parents and youth; and youth organizing to pass the PA Dream Act.

### **Justice Now**

\$10,000

Oakland, CA

Justice Now is a human rights organization that partners with people in women's prisons and local communities to build a safe, compassionate world without prisons. Justice Now promotes alternatives to policing and prisons, and challenges the prison industrial complex in all its forms, through programming that intersects communication, policy, human rights, and direct service efforts to challenge imprisonment and the violence that accompanies it. General operating support was provided to continue Justice Now's work to mobilize a movement of people in women's prisons. Currently Justice now is focused on the following goals: 1) Facilitate reentry and civic power of people in women's prisons; 2) Expose and stop sterilization abuses in women' prisons as part of the Gender Justice Campaign; 3) Mobilize key stakeholders in response to the dangers in implementation of gender responsive prison expansion.

### **Latino Union of Chicago**

\$20,000

Chicago, IL

The Latino Union collaborates with low-income immigrant workers to develop the tools necessary to collectively improve social and economic conditions. Their mission is accomplished by developing leadership from within the immigrant worker community, developing feasible alternatives to the injustices immigrant workers face, and building the larger movement for immigrant worker rights. General support funding was provided to improve social and economic conditions for immigrant and low wage workers through its various organizing programs; Day Labor Project, the Chicago Coalition of Household Workers, Café Chicago, the Just Pay for All Coalition, and the Immigrant Worker Action Project. Organizational objectives include advocating for the passage of the Illinois Domestic Worker Bill of Rights, building immigrant communities' capacity to resist deportations, evolving Just Pay for All Coalition into the Raise the Floor Alliance, and worker-led cooperative development through Café Chicago.

### **Little Village Environmental Justice Organization**

\$20,000

Chicago, IL

The Little Village Environmental Justice organization is a grassroots community-based organization that strives to improve the environment and lives of Little Village residents and Chicago residents at large. LVEJO accomplishes this through an inter-generational model of democracy in action. It involves and mobilizes families, workers, and neighbors in community efforts to improve the local

environment, while building their knowledge and skills in participating in democratic processes. General support funding was provided to assist with LVEJO's ongoing efforts for environmental justice in their community. Including local youth, LVEJO will engage fellow community members in a series of conversations and popular education projects aimed at developing a grassroots vision for increased open spaces and a renewable energy economy in Little Village. LVEJO will gather the community to advocate to elected officials to support the community based vision for implementation.

### **The Micah Project**

\$20,000

New Orleans, LA

Micah's is an interfaith community organization that consists of 15 Catholic, Protestant, Non-Denominational and Jewish congregations. These congregations represent over 15,000 people. A member of the PICO National Network, Micah is working to dismantle New Orleans' and Louisiana's notorious system of racialized mass incarceration. Micah places racial justice at the center of its work. General support funding was provided in support of their efforts to expand on its successful campaign to push New Orleans to fully fund a program that has reduced the pretrial detainee population at the city's local jail by 300 people a month. In addition, at the state level, with allies, Micah is moving a sentencing reform campaign.

### **Mississippi Immigrants Rights Alliance (MIRA)**

\$15,000

Jackson, MS

The Mississippi Immigrants Rights Alliance (MIRA) works to expand the rights and opportunities of immigrants in Mississippi – and by example and extension, inform the national policy debate over immigration reform. MIRA is dedicated to bringing together all workers to advocate for pro-union legislation, a living wage, and a chance for a life of prosperity free from oppression. Funding was provided for MIRA's WELCOMING JACKSON project, part of the larger WELCOMING AMERICA movement which encourages cities to create a more welcoming, immigrant-friendly environment that maximizes opportunities for economic growth and cultural vitality. The project will develop Jackson to be a globally competitive leader in showing that make communities stronger as does providing for secure families and a prosperous future for all children.

### **Movement for Justice in El Barrio**

\$20,000

New York, NY

Movimiento por Justicia del Barrio is a multi-issue, immigrant-led community organization dedicated to organizing the immigrants of El Barrio (East Harlem) to lead the way to social justice. Movement for Justice in El Barrio has built a strong movement for dignified living conditions and against the systematic displacement of low-income immigrants and people of color. Through door-to-door community organizing, leadership development, and political education, Movement for Justice in El Barrio continues to build a grassroots organization committed to self-determination, participatory democracy, and collective decision-making. General support funding was provided as community and leaders plan to expose the role the NYC Dept of Housing Preservation and Development (HPD) plays in displacement and gentrification in El Barrio, implementing a participatory survey about HPD's poor performance which has led to displacement of low-income people of color and immigrants.

### **National Manufactured Home Owners Association**

\$20,000

Seattle, WA

NMHOA was founded by manufactured home owners who rent the land under their homes and live in manufactured housing communities across the country. NMHOA works with its members on national, state and local policy initiatives, to provide stronger legal protections for these vulnerable home owners who have no security of tenure, despite owning a home. NMHOA helps home owners form resident associations as well as develop leadership and advocacy skills to effect policy changes. NMHOA envisions the day when manufactured home owners are given the same rights and privileges as other home owners and seeks to preserve manufactured housing communities as a partial solution to the affordable housing crisis. Funding was provided for in support of a new "Ambassador Program", which will enable volunteer leaders to outreach to home owners in states currently without homeowner associations who would otherwise have little or no ability to connect with

each other or with the larger organization working on manufactured housing issues. These volunteer leaders have personal knowledge and experience of manufactured home living, have been actively involved in leadership positions within their own communities/states and are now ready to help manufactured home owners in other states address issues of concern to them.

**New York State Tenants & Neighbors Information Service**

\$15,000

New York, NY

Tenants & Neighbors is a grassroots organization that helps tenants build and effectively wield their power to preserve at-risk affordable housing and strengthen tenants' rights through organizing, education, leadership development, grassroots mobilization, and policy and legislative advocacy. The Tenant Leadership Institute is a four-month intensive pilot leadership development training program for a core group of low to moderate income tenant member leaders, giving them skills to fight against displacement and gentrification. Following the initial training, participants will carry out specific leadership roles in the 2014-2015 campaign to get the rent laws renewed and strengthened before their scheduled sunset in June of 2015. Strengthening the rent laws is critical in preserving neighborhoods and addressing the underlying causes of loss of affordability.

**Northwest Arkansas Workers Justice Center**

\$20,000

Springdale, AR

The NAWAJC is a non-profit organization led by immigrant workers who organize for fair wages and safer workplaces. By empowering and mobilizing workers, people of faith, and other allies to challenge oppressive policies NAWAJC works to improve conditions of employment for low-wage workers, advocate for immigrant's rights, and promote self-development of workers in the Ozark region. Worker members are organizing for stronger worker protections in the poultry industry where safety and health conditions are weak, and to push for a countywide Anti-Wage Theft ordinance that will deter the practice and sanction employers. General support funding was provided.

**Olneyville Neighborhood Association**

\$20,000

Providence, RI

The mission of Olneyville Neighborhood Association (ONA) is to organize low income families, immigrant communities and people of color in Olneyville and beyond in a diverse, community-led movement that wins economic, social and political justice. ONA confronts discrimination, displacement, and criminalization – building towards a community where everyone is equal in dignity and rights.. With a focus on “Disrupting the Deportation Pipeline” ONA is working to stop racial profiling, fight for licenses for undocumented drivers, and combat police-immigration collaboration. General support funding was provided

**Organizing Neighborhood Equity DC**

\$10,000

Washington, DC

Organizing Neighborhood Equity DC (ONE DC) is a community organizing collective that values grassroots organizing, transformative consciousness raising, democratic leadership, caring community, human dignity, collective sharing of power and resources, and “hell-raising for justice” to achieve meaningful, systemic change. ONE DC is directed, led and staffed by low-income, long-time residents of color in rapidly gentrifying DC. General support funding was provided in support of their work to organize low income tenants at the Lincoln Westmoreland II housing development to advocate for their rights and to coordinate the "People's Platform" to bring the needs of low-income residents into the upcoming mayoral race.

**OPAL Environmental Justice Oregon**

\$20,000

Portland, OR

OPAL (Organizing People | Activating Leaders) organizes low-income communities and people of color to achieve a safe and healthy environment where they live, work, play and learn. OPAL works to create opportunities for meaningful participation in decision-making and build power to address root causes of environmental racism and oppression. Funding was provided in support of Bus Riders

Unite, OPAL's primary organizing campaign. This grant will help BRU build its membership base and leadership, focusing on youth leadership development and advancing existing/prioritized transit justice campaigns, including extending transfer times; winning sustained funding for an expanded YouthPass program; and greater accountability of the Portland public transit board. This grant will also support increased collaboration with partners integrating regional transit, housing and health equity concerns through popular education and community organizing, with a goal to increase access to opportunity for all.

**Parent Leadership Project**

\$20,000

New York, NY

The Parent Leadership Project (PLP) is a social justice organization that works to build the sustained power, leadership and organizing of low-income parents of color for educational justice. PLP combines popular education, community organizing, and advocacy with much-needed services. Based in New York City's low-income, though rapidly gentrifying and highly segregated Community School District 3, PLP works to ensure that neighborhood schools reflect, respect, and serve all families.

**People Engaged in Active Community Efforts (PEACE)**

\$17,500

Lake Worth, FL

PEACE is a congregation-based community organization comprised of 26 congregations that come together to hold systems accountable and fight injustices in the communities of Palm Beach County, Florida. PEACE members identify problems of mutual concern, research solutions to those problems, and hold public officials accountable to implementing these solutions. PEACE has been using direct action community organizing to ensure that victims of Wage Theft have a way to recover wages owed and was successful in getting the County Commission to pass a resolution declaring Wage Theft a significant issue with funding to ensure it is adequately addressed. Over the next year, PEACE will focus on ensuring the continuation of the resolution and funding, monitoring Legal Aid Society which is contract to represent Wage Theft cases, and increasing outreach and education.

**Philadelphia Area Jobs with Justice**

\$13,500

Philadelphia, PA

Philadelphia Jobs with Justice (JwJ) is a local coalition of labor unions, community groups, religious and student labor solidarity organizations. Philadelphia JwJ supports and runs direct action campaigns for economic justice, winning concrete victories for, and as, working people. The Good Neighbors campaign pressures the University of Pennsylvania to make annual PILOTs (payments in lieu of taxes) to the city, earmarked for the area's underfunded public schools and the city's essential services. The Good Neighbors campaign will engage and benefit low-income and working class communities and individuals, and will organize and unite students, faculty members, West/Southwest Philadelphia community members, churches, and unions in a campaign for economic justice. A successful campaign for voluntary payments by U. Penn would put pressure on other institutions, and will be of long-term importance for working class Philadelphians as it benefits the funding of education and public services in currently underfunded communities.

**Philadelphians Organized to Witness, Empower & Rebuild (POWER)**

\$20,000

Philadelphia, PA

Philadelphians Organized to Witness, Empower & Rebuild (POWER)'s mission is to build the power of poor and working class families in Philadelphia to address poverty, inequality and injustice through grassroots organizing. POWER achieves its mission via leadership development, skills training, bridge-building between diverse communities, and specific organizing campaigns aimed at amplifying the voice of low-income communities and winning concrete policy changes that will improve lives in significant ways. POWER's Airport Worker Justice Campaign will address poverty, inequality and unjust wages at the Philadelphia International Airport through grassroots organizing. POWER's goal is to expand the city's existing, yet narrowly applied, living wage policy so that workers employed by firms with city subcontracts (including Airport workers) aren't forced to work for poverty wages.

### **POWER -- People Organized for Westside Renewal**

\$17,500

Santa Monica, CA

People Organized for Westside Renewal (POWER) is a community organization that works in low-income areas of Los Angeles, especially Westside Los Angeles, the San Fernando Valley, and the Harbor / San Pedro area. Since its inception in 1999, POWER has built relationships with over 5,000 community members and has identified and works on critical issues of community concern. These include preserving affordable housing, education reform, welfare reform, and immigrant rights. General support was provided as POWER continues to train leaders who run direct action campaigns to advance good government, equitable development and fair taxation in Los Angeles.

### **Puente Human Rights Movement**

\$20,000

Phoenix, AZ

The Puente Human Rights Movement is a grassroots migrant justice organization based in Phoenix, Arizona, that develops, educates, and empowers migrant communities to protect and defend their families and themselves for human dignity. Puente is part of the global movement for migrant justice and human rights. General support funding was provided as Puente Human Rights Movement organizes and builds the leadership of immigrant communities to defend themselves against mass deportation and criminalization. Current activities include building a legal case to stop workplace raids, developing transparency for the city police Cite and Release policy, and organizing and advocacy for city Identification cards.

### **Resilience Advocacy Project**

\$15,000

New York, NY

Resilience Advocacy Project (RAP)'s mission is to empower young people to become leaders in the fight against poverty, by combining youth leadership programming with targeted youth-led system-level initiatives in order to tap the natural resilience of youth in poverty and help them become catalysts for positive change in their communities. YouthVoiceNYC provides organizing training and leadership development so that youth impacted by poverty can take real action on issues affecting them and secure a meaningful voice in city-level decision-making. Youth leaders identify community-level problems impacting them (e.g., community policing, over-crowded classrooms) and develop online and offline campaigns in response. They educate and mobilize other teens to get involved, and work with policy-makers to craft lasting, concrete solutions.

### **Ride New Orleans**

\$20,000

New Orleans, LA

Ride New Orleans' mission is to enhance the quality of life in the New Orleans region by promoting safe, convenient, equitable, and affordable transportation options. Funding was provided in support of the launch of Riders United, the rider-led community organizing program of Ride New Orleans. Following in the footsteps of The Labor and Community Strategy Center and the Los Angeles Bus Riders Union, Ride New Orleans seeks to empower and assist transit dependent riders in transforming public transportation planning and decision-making in New Orleans through direct action organizing campaigns.

### **Southeast Asian Community Alliance (SEACA)**

\$20,000

Los Angeles, CA

Southeast Asian Community Alliance (SEACA) works to support the development of members of their community to create new and culturally relevant solutions to deep-rooted social, economic, and racial justice issues. SEACA was founded to empower low-income Southeast Asian immigrant and refugee communities in Los Angeles through advocacy, education, leadership development, and community organizing. The Youth Organizers (YO) Program provides opportunities for low-income youth to create social change in their local communities. The YO program provides intensive training, education, and leadership development trainings. Youth have worked on campaigns to push for more affordable housing in their communities, create stronger environmental protections for local residents,

and support small mom and pop businesses that are the heart of Chinatown. Specific focus is now on ensuring that private and public developments provide community benefits such as affordable housing, local hire and living wage jobs, and publically accessible green space.

### **South of Market Community Action Network (SOMCAN)**

\$20,000

San Francisco, CA

SOMCAN is a multi-racial, community organization whose mission is to educate, empower and organize the low-income immigrant youth and families in the South of Market (SoMa) neighborhood and greater San Francisco to take collective action to advocate for improvements to their quality of life and achieve social and economic justice for all. General support funding was provided to support activities aimed at building and sustaining resident leadership in developing a proactive vision for a healthy and equitable SoMa. SOMCAN will deepen core members' skills to run campaigns, such as a citywide campaign to pass the Housing Balance policy, which will set a target ratio to maintain a mix of affordable housing. Core leaders will also work on the citywide Anti-Displacement Coalition to coordinate activities on tenant policies/legislation that is addressing soaring evictions and rent increases.

### **Student Immigrant Movement**

\$10,000

Boston, MA

The Student Immigrant Movement (SIM) is a statewide, immigrant youth-led organization based in Massachusetts. They identify, recruit and develop leaders in local cities and towns who are invested in ending discrimination and roadblocks for immigrants, creating pathways to higher education for undocumented students, and improving communities through relational building, leadership development, electoral organizing and using both strategic and motivational campaigns that build movement. SIM was founded by and for undocumented students who were facing the challenge of growing up in a country that doesn't recognize them and trying to imagine and create a future for themselves despite being shut out of opportunities. SIM holds a space for these young people to lead campaigns, to act together to transform their communities and improve their lives through public narrative, relational building, and hands on issue organizing. SIM has established SIM Chapters in Lynn, East Boston, New Bedford and Worcester and growing college teams in various parts of the state.

### **Teach Our Children**

\$10,000

New Haven, CT

Teach Our Children and Youth UnleashED is led by New Haven parents and students. Working to ensure that parents and students are authentically engaged within the educational school reform decision-making process they strive to be acknowledged as critical participants within all school improvement efforts to help ensure academic and life success for all students regardless of race, zip-code or socioeconomic status.

Youth UnleashED is a program that is youth-led and directed, working to create change within the New Haven school system. YUED develops youth leaders throughout marginalized communities and establishes Youth UnleashED chapters in high schools across New Haven.

### **Tenants and Workers United**

\$20,000

Alexandria, VA

Tenants and Workers United is a grassroots organization committed to winning social and economic justice and building power for the people of Northern Virginia including Latinos/as, African-Americans, tenants, immigrants, workers, women, youth and low-income people. TWU organizes low-income communities and workers, challenges racism and sexism through education and action, develops community leaders through education and action, and cooperatively controls community resources. Funding was provided in support of the Cab Owner-Operator Project (Co-op), which builds on worker and immigrant rights organizing campaigns. Over 450 mostly South Asian and East African cab drivers are organizing to increase incomes, stop ad hoc firings, change City and County regulations

that keep them in poverty, and organize a second worker-owned cooperative that will provide job-security, and a viable, progressive alternative economic model.

**The Street Vendor Project**

\$20,000

New York, NY

The Street Vendor Project (SVP) is a grassroots, vendor-led organization that works to advance social and economic justice for thousands of street vendors, predominantly immigrants of color and some US military veterans, in New York City. The heart of SVP's work is to organize the vendor community in campaigns for justice, while educating the public about the systemic problems vendors face. General support funding was provided for SVP's current campaign to push for changes in the arbitrarily low number of vending permits and licenses available for street vendors. The primary goal is to increase the number of permits available, allowing more people to work legally without having to turn to the exorbitant black market, or vending without a permit which involves risking arrest, property confiscation and possibly deportation.

**United Workers Association**

\$20,000

Baltimore, MD

The United Workers Association (UWA) is a human rights organization led by the poor to end poverty. UWA is run by low-wage workers, who develop leaders and organize for systemic change through community-driven accountability campaigns altering power structures, and impacting workers' lives. General support funding was provided as UWA builds membership across multiple issues and barriers to transform economic development in Baltimore from a failed trickle down approach to a Fair Development model. The work is focused on bringing low income communities together to win living wage jobs, permanently affordable housing, participatory budgeting and environmental justice through a variety of strategic campaigns.

**Warehouse Worker Resource Center**

\$20,000

Ontario, CA

Warehouse Worker Resource Center (WWRC)'s mission is to organize and support warehouse workers to improve working and living conditions for warehouse workers in Southern California through leadership development and popular education, policy and enforcement advocacy, as well as workplace and public action. General support funding was provided as WWRC continues its work to build a movement for warehouse workers' rights. WWRC has had a strong track record in developing cases of health and safety and wage and hour violations. In the next year, WWRC will support two bills in the California Legislature that would give workers more tools to enforce the law and especially to allow low wage temp workers to appeal to the state for help changing workplace conditions. Workers are also interested in pursuing a living wage ordinance for a city in the Inland Empire where many warehouse workers are based.

**WeCount!**

\$20,000

Florida City, FL

WeCount! is a membership organization that strives to build the power of Latin American immigrants and farm workers in Homestead, Florida to fulfill their aspirations of justice and equality through education, developing leaders, organizing, cultural work, building coalitions, and collective action. Funding was provided for the launch of the Justice for Plant Nursery Workers project which is a new multiyear campaign, looking to impact the plant nursery industry in Miami-Dade County. Combining worker organizing and small producer organizing, WeCount! will hold direct actions against abusive employers, as well as a corporate campaign targeting the large buyers, and a solidarity campaign to affect change in this county with the highest concentration of horticultural production in the state. WeCount! aims to ensure that plant nursery jobs are dignified, pay a living wage, with humane treatment and safe working conditions.

**Western Colorado Congress**

\$20,000

Grand Junction, CO



Western Colorado Congress (WCC) is an alliance for community action, empowering people to protect and enhance their quality of life in western Colorado. WCC works for social, economic and environmental justice, sustainable communities and a truly democratic society and brings together directly affected people in their communities to work for lasting changes to the pressing issues they face. General funding support was provided for WCC ongoing work to reform practices that are oppressive and discriminatory. Currently WCC is working to protect people's health, their land and the environment from oil and gas impacts; protect communities, lands and citizens from the impacts of uranium mining and milling; protect threatened wild lands in western Colorado; and connect family farmers with consumers to keep farmers on their land, provide high quality local foods and build vibrant economies.

### **Western Lands Project**

\$15,000

Seattle, WA

The goal of Western Lands Project (WLP) is to keep America's public lands public. Public lands include National Parks, National Forests, Wilderness Areas, National Monuments and many other designated open spaces and wild lands. WLP is currently addressing the environmental impacts of siting Industrial Solar plants in the desert. WLP scrutinizes public land trades, sales, giveaways, and any project that would cede public land, as well as the impacts on habitat and wildlife, natural resources, land use, and communities. General support funding was provided as the Western Lands Project fights to protect public lands from being privatized. Their strategy to stop the privatization of public lands varies from reacting to harmful proposals, to proactively advocating for national reform. Because each threatened parcel of public land faces different circumstances, their response is always customized to the situation at hand. The work involves using watchdogging, public education and empowerment, policy reform, advocacy, and legal challenges.

### **Wind of the Spirit**

\$15,000

Morristown, NJ

Wind of the Spirit (WotS) is a New Jersey-based grassroots, interfaith organization of immigrants from across Latin America along with non-immigrants, working in collaboration to organize and empower the community for social change, based on a vision of human rights and justice for all. Wind of the Spirit organizes to fight for the rights of undocumented immigrants, through Humane Immigration Organizing campaigns coordinated by partnering with non-immigrant faith communities. General Support funding was provided to help WotS push for humane immigration policies in NJ and nationally that address the immediate needs of undocumented immigrants, including drivers' licences, challenge exploitation of day laborers, and raise awareness on the need for federal immigration reform.

### **Workers Center for Racial Justice**

\$15,000

Chicago, IL

The Workers Center for Racial Justice (WCRJ) is a grassroots organization that organizes unemployed, low-wage and formerly incarcerated Black workers for racial and economic justice. WCRJ works to eliminate barriers to living wage employment for Black workers, strengthen economic security for Black families, and advance a pro-worker agenda. General operating support was provided for their ongoing work to remove barriers to sustainable and living wage employment for unemployed, low wage and formerly incarcerated Black workers. This includes support for the Jobs Not Jail Campaign, which works at the intersection of reducing mass incarceration and creating more job opportunities for formerly incarcerated Black workers. Ongoing work also includes WCRJ's efforts to increase the minimum wage in Illinois, along with building strategic partnerships with labor unions.

### **Yaak Valley Forest Council**

\$10,000

Troy, MT

Yaak Valley Forest Council (YVFC) is led by residents of the Yaak Valley who work to protect, restore and connect their local fragmented landscape through grassroots collaboration that maintains the ecological integrity of the landscape and creates local economies based on habitat restoration and value-added forest products. YVFC advocates for and implements conservation and restoration

programs focused specifically upon the valley's critical wildlife habitat for the myriad sensitive, threatened, and endangered species inhabiting the valley's landscape. Funding was provided for YVFC's Three Rivers Challenge/Yaak Wilderness Campaign (3RC) and Community Forest Watch (CFW) programs. The 3RC objective is the passage of the Forest Jobs and Recreation Act which seeks to protect over 100,000 acres of critical wildlife habitat and linkage zones in the Yaak and mandates restoration of the fragmented landscapes of Kootenai National Forest (KNF). The Community Forest Watch is crafting a Memorandum of Understanding for protection of roadless and wilderness areas and forest management that enhances old growth forests, wildlife habitat, and community protection, and serves as lead coordinator for the Kootenai Forest Stakeholders Coalition.

**Youth Art & Self-empowerment Project**

\$20,000

Philadelphia, PA

The Youth Art & Self-empowerment Project (YASP) empowers young people incarcerated in adult jails and prisons through artistic expression, political education, and leadership development. YASP provides space for incarcerated young people to express their voices creatively, builds platforms to share those voices, and helps young people develop as leaders both within and beyond the prison walls. General support funding was provided as YASP builds a youth-led movement to end Pennsylvania's practice of trying young people as adults, through a combination of neighborhood canvassing, public education, legislative advocacy, and youth empowerment and leadership development work. YASP youth organizers are building a base of support in Philadelphia and across the state for repealing Act 33, the 1996 amendment to the PA Juvenile Act that allows many youth under 18 to be tried directly in adult court, held pre-trial in adult county jails, and sentenced to serve time in adult prisons.