With your support, Social Justice Fund NW engages donors at all giving levels and trains leaders to organize their friends and family to fund the movement. Your donations fund the most effective, inspiring, and transformative organizations in the Northwest.

Our core model continues to be successful in developing leadership and moving money to social justice organizing. Each Giving Project guides members through a deep process of learning about race, class, fundraising, and social justice.

A member of the 2018 Black Led Organizing Giving Project during the race and class workshop.
In what was without a doubt one of the most important midterms in memory, our grantees were out in force. A few highlights:

**OREGON**

In Oregon, SJF grantees were instrumental in three major victories: Passing one good law – the Portland Clean Energy Initiative (imposing fees on the biggest polluters and funding programs for clean air and green jobs) – and defeating two bad ones – Measure 105, which would have repealed Oregon's sanctuary law and effectively legalized the profiling of immigrants, and Measure 106, which would have prohibited public funding for abortion care.

**WASHINGTON**

In Washington, the good news was the passage of I-940, requiring police to have more training in mental health and de-escalation, and requiring an independent investigation into every use of deadly force. Many SJF grantees worked hard on clean air measure I-1631, from helping to conceive and author it all the way to knocking doors across the state, but the initiative was defeated because they were up against $30 million from oil companies – a new record on money spent on a campaign in Washington. They are now regrouping and discussing legislative strategies.

**MONTANA**

SJF grantees were up against record spending in Montana too. I-185, which would have raised taxes on tobacco products in order to provide funding to expand Medicaid, lost by a hair, up against $17 million spent by tobacco companies. But our grantees had a big win in something that didn’t even appear on the ballot: an anti-trans bathroom initiative (similar to the one that was defeated in Washington a couple years ago) failed to get enough signatures to get certified to the ballot, thanks to grassroots organizing and communications strategies. A record turn out of Native voters was instrumental in keeping a Democrat in Montana’s Senate seat, thanks to the voters’ rights and voter mobilization efforts of our grantees.

**WYOMING**

In a very red state, the director of Wyoming Equality, one of our newest grantees, won a seat in the state House.

Across the region and the country, elections are important for defining the conditions we live in. But beyond one campaign, we know for sure is that the challenges ahead are going to require an even stronger and deeper base to defend the victories we did win and return to the fights that we didn’t with new leaders, coalitions, strategies, and ideas that will win lasting change. In the Northwest, count on SJF grantees for that.