

2017 ANNUAL REPORT



A Note from Our Executive Director



On the cover, SJF grantee, board member and Giving Project alum Johnny Buck of Native Youth Leadership Alliance.

Happy 40th Birthday! Did you know Social Justice Fund NW turns 40 this year? You're part of SJF – you ARE SJF, so this is your birthday too.

Forty years of people like you coming together to share, learn, grow, and build power together. Forty years of donors and activists – and we believe everyone can and should be both – constructing a movement, brick by brick. Forty years of adapting, dreaming, and fighting for a better world.

And we don't stop. I don't know if SJF has ever experienced a "typical" year, but 2017 has been anything but typical. Attacks on basic human rights, rising white nationalism, growing housing insecurity and wealth disparity, erosion of democracy, increasing effects of climate change... If you're reading an SJF annual report, you know there's plenty to worry about.

Do you also know how much there is to be hopeful about? I hope you do, because as a part of SJF, you are creating that hope.

I'm lucky because I see that every day. That's why I believe our movements can win. When I feel discouraged, I'm inspired by the courage and brilliance of grantees like the three profiled here, and dozens more. I'm humbled by the generosity and dedication of members like Alan and Ruby, and hundreds more. I get to stand at a particular vantage point and see how all these pieces are woven together.

I hope you can see that too. Whether you're a grantee, a donor, a Giving Project member, or any combination of the three, I hope you know that your thread is unique and essential; that woven together with all these other threads, you make us strong.

For 40 years we've been building that strength and we are on track to do even more. In 2017 we granted over \$1 million – a new level for us – and trained 122 new donor organizers. Right now we have three Giving Projects going strong and three more starting in the fall. We're running workshops to help people across class be strategic social justice givers; we're collaborating with other social justice funders to replicate and improve the Giving Project model. And – as always – we're using everything we have to stand with activists on the frontlines.

I'm lucky and proud to stand on 40 years of history and walk forward with you.

In solidarity and gratitude,

Mijo Lee

SOCIAL JUSTICE FUND NW: **WHAT WE DO**

Social Justice Fund NW funds social justice movements throughout Idaho, Montana, Oregon, Washington, and Wyoming. All of our grantees are grassroots organizations on the frontlines of social change. We provide them with flexible funding with the freedom to respond to community needs, to invest in leadership and relationships, and to innovate and take risks for long term systemic change.

We are member-funded and member-led. SJF is fueled by you.

Almost all of our grant making is done through an innovative model called Giving Projects. Each Giving Project is a multiracial, cross-class cohort of volunteers who come together with a shared commitment to social justice. Our staff guide them through a process of political education, community building, collective giving, grassroots fundraising, and democratic grant making; these volunteers raise the money for our grants and make the grants themselves. The result is a more accountable, sustainable, and connected form of philanthropy AND hundreds of donor organizers with the skills and analysis to resource our movements for the long haul.

We also provide Rapid Response Grants (to help communities meet urgent needs that couldn't have been anticipated) and Seed Grants (to help promising young groups gain momentum), and host Donor Advised Funds (helping higher capacity donors move money to community). And we run workshops that help people across race and class become more strategic social justice givers and more effective fundraisers, reclaiming philanthropy for all.

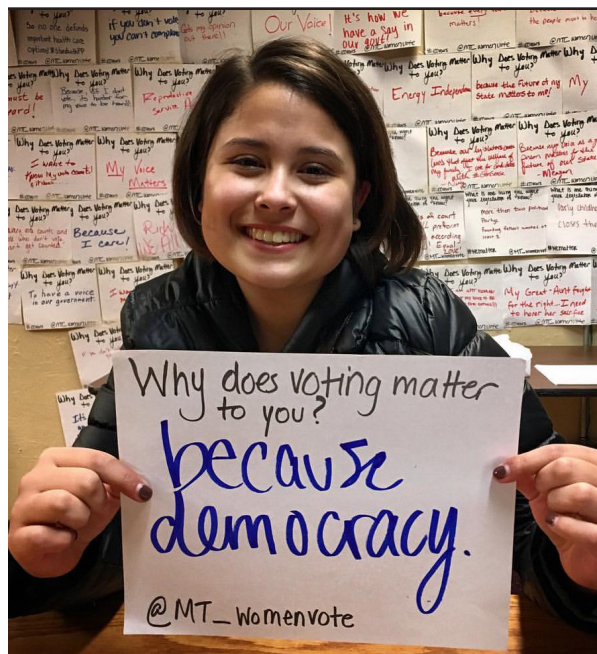
Through Social Justice Fund NW, we are all stronger together. Thank you for being part of SJF and part of a growing movement for justice.

For more information, visit SocialJusticeFund.org

GRANTEE SPOTLIGHT

WA-BLOC

Washington Building Leaders of Change (WA BLOC) seeks to disrupt educationally embedded systemic racism and dismantle the school to prison pipeline. Since 2015, WA BLOC has been organizing Freedom Schools at Rainier Beach High School in south Seattle; the 2017 Freedom School brought together 60 students to build “intergenerational place-based leaders of change” through alternative summer learning. WA BLOC leaders have also advocated for transportation justice, resulting in \$1 million for transit passes for low-income students.

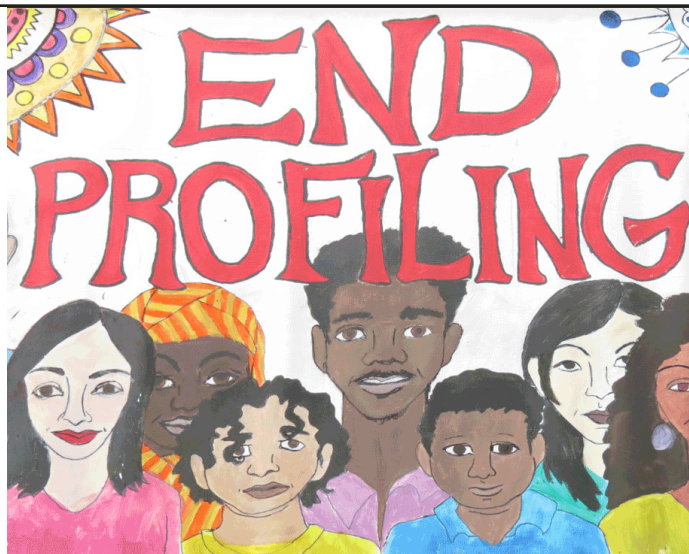


Montana Women Vote

Montana Women Vote (MWV) is a statewide coalition that organizes with and alongside low-income women as informed voters, policy advocates, and community leaders. MWV believes that civic action, policy change, and leadership development can together shift the balance of power and improve the lives of women and families experiencing poverty. In addition to organizing their most successful Women's Policy Leadership Institute to date (which gathered 180 attendees), in 2017, MWV passed legislation creating a state Earned Income Tax Credit, after a nearly 20-year campaign. The state EITC will provide cash (in the form of a tax return) to working families who need it most. Montana joins the nearly 30 other states who have created a state EITC to complement the federal program.

Unite Oregon

Led by people of color, immigrants and refugees, rural communities, and people experiencing poverty, Unite Oregon works across Oregon to build a unified intercultural movement for justice. In 2017, a bill that provides resources to end law enforcement profiling in Oregon through data collection and training passed the Oregon Senate after a campaign led by Fair Shot for All, which was led by Unite Oregon. After the vote, Unite Oregon Executive Director Kayse Jama issued this statement on behalf of Fair Shot for All: “In a political environment increasingly defined by disagreement, finger-pointing, and fear, today's vote is a sign that progress is still possible when listen with respect and come together to make our communities safer and more just.”



MEMBER PROFILES

Ruby Shirazi

Ruby Shirazi was part of SJF's Intergenerational Giving Project in 2017. Here are some thoughts about her work with SJF.

"By day, I'm an educator and consultant with (re)solution lab and spend my days redistributing power and dismantling systems of oppression within the social and public sectors. So I'm either consulting with organizations on anti-oppressive and equity-informed organizational development/HR solutions, or educating folks and promoting equity literacy, or working with impacted communities to write and advocate for policies and laws that get us closer to a more equitable society. Outside of the lab, I promote poetry and books written by underrepresented voices and tutor students historically underrepresented in higher education. But mostly, I'm just a coffee-fueled single mama; I live in NE Portland with my two kiddos and our labradoodle.

I first got involved with SJF because I believe full heartedly in its mission and its approach. Being part of multiple marginalized communities and working alongside the social sector for the past 20+ years, I am hyper aware of the colonial roots of philanthropy, so I was beyond excited when I learned of SJF's emphasis on community-driven change and the genuine value placed on folks' lived experience. Honestly, connecting with SJF was like finding my soulmate.

What I love about SJF is it's not afraid to challenge the existing systems. It recognized traditional funding models were limited and how the model often serves to perpetuate oppression, and they dared to do better – and in doing so, found a way to not only support communities in the ways they identified as helpful, but also give a real, authentic voice to the most impacted and build community along the way."

Alan Rabinowitz

IN MEMORIAM

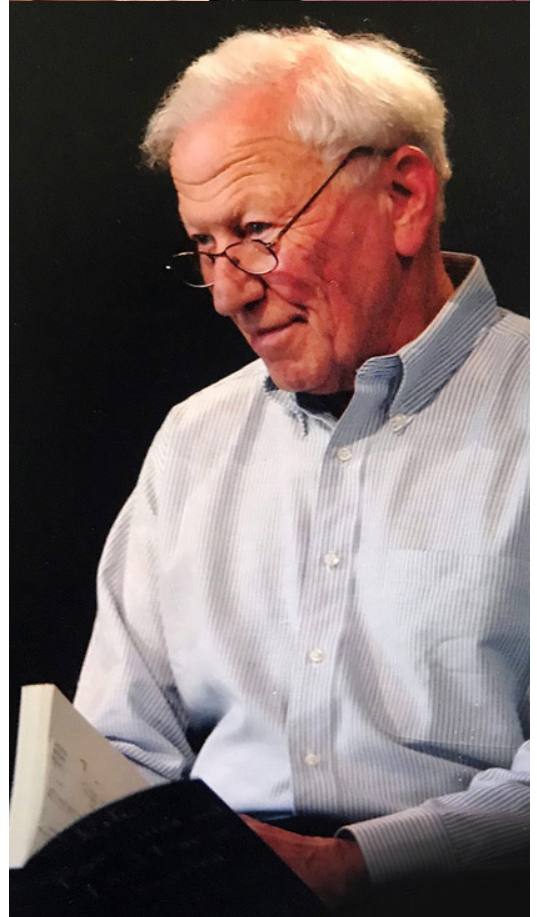
On Nov. 29, Social Justice Fund NW lost a dear friend and member of our family. Alan Rabinowitz was one of the earliest members of Social Justice Fund NW (then called A Territory Resource). It's no exaggeration to say our organization would not exist today without his support and leadership. Much more than a donor and board member, he was a champion, cheerleader, dreamer, schemer, critic, historian, and organizer. His belief in the power of social justice philanthropy went even further than ATR/SJF, it led him to help found our beloved sister organizations Western States Center and Potlatch Fund, and throw his energy behind countless other social justice organizations.

A reflection on Alan's impact from Jim Becker, a longtime SJF member and former board member: While many would describe Alan as "visionary" because he was a key participant at the beginning of many organizations, Alan was also keenly practical and could quickly get to the heart of the matter.

There were board meetings a long time ago at ATR when we'd be discussing issues like: "If we're trying to break down the dynamic of money equals power, why do we make it so expensive for people to join?" At that time Alan was not on the board, and I remember asking myself WWAD: What Would Alan Do?

Alan was in many ways a father figure for me, back in the early '90s we met often for lunch and he would offer his sage advice on basically everything, which at the time he could sense I needed. At one lunch I did eventually ask him the money-power question and I remember he said: "Jim, you have to walk the talk, if organizations are to succeed, they have to stay consistent with their values. Denial is not a wonderful thing."

WWAD. I can no longer ask him, but I can still ask the question. And what a great standard to be held to!

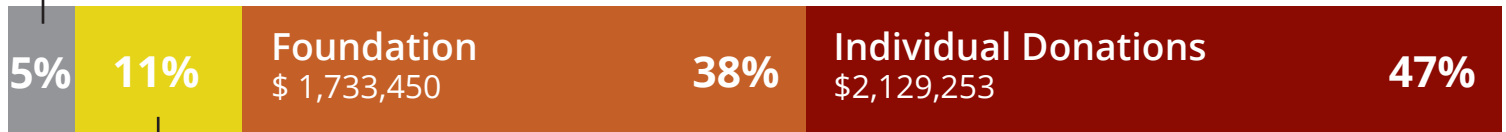


FINANCIAL OVERVIEW

2017

Other
\$209,958

\$4,575,505 **INCOME**



Donor Advised Funds
\$502,844

\$2,578,881 **EXPENSES**



Admin
\$178,344

Fundraising
\$425,032

Unaudited Financials



2017 GRANTEES

2017 GIVING PROJECT GRANTEES

Tacoma Urban League	Tacoma	WA
Chief Seattle Club	Seattle	WA
PCUN	Woodburn	OR
Mano a Mano Family Center	Salem	OR
Stonewall Youth	Olympia	WA
Queer the Land	Seattle	WA
Seattle Young People's Project	Seattle	WA
Rural Organizing Project	Scappoose	OR
Equality State Policy Center	Laramie	WY
API Chaya	Seattle	WA
Causa Oregon	Salem	OR
Indian People's Action	Butte	MT
Community Alliance of Tenants	Portland	OR
Asian Pacific American Network of Oregon	Portland	OR
Micronesian Islander Community	Salem	OR
Northwest Forest Worker Center	Albany	CA
Confederated Tribes of the Lower Rogue	Coos Bay	OR
EmpowerMT	Missoula	MT
Montana Women Vote	Missoula	MT
Mujeres Luchadores Progresistas	Woodburn	OR
Duwamish River Cleanup Coalition/TAG	Seattle	WA
Na'ah Illahee Fund	Seattle	WA
Verde	Portland	OR
Crow Language Consortium	Hardin	MT
Red Lodge Transition Services	Portland	OR
OPAL Environmental Justice Oregon	Portland	OR
Voz Workers' Rights Education Project	Portland	OR
Got Green	Seattle	WA
Native Youth Leadership Alliance	Ferndale	WA
U.T.O.P.I.A. Seattle	Seattle	WA
Hilltop Urban Gardens	Tacoma	WA
Transit Riders Union	Seattle	WA
CAPACES Leadership Institute	Woodburn	OR
Momentum Alliance	Portland	OR
MIJA	Helena	MT
Progreso: Latino Progress	Seattle	WA
Portland Harbor Community Coalition	Richmond	CA
Colectiva Legal del Pueblo	Burien	WA
Western Native Voice	Billings	MT
ROC-United	Seattle	WA
Wind River Native Advocacy Center	Fort Washakie	WY
Nimiipuu Protecting the Environment	Pullman	WA
Firs Homeowner Association	Seatac	WA
Red Line Salish Sea	Bellingham	WA
Firs Home Owners Association	SeaTac	WA
Washington Immigrant Solidarity Network	Burien	WA
WA-BLOC	Seattle	WA

2017 RAPID RESPONSE & SEED GRANTEES

Indian People's Action	Butte	MT
Portland Jobs with Justice	Portland	OR
ACLU of Idaho Foundation	Boise	ID
MIJA	Helena	MT
Refugee & Immigrant Services and Empowerment	Portland	OR
Voz Workers' Rights Education Project	Portland	OR
Verde	Portland	OR
Portland Rising Tide / Base Camp PNW	Portland	OR
U.T.O.P.I.A. Seattle	Seattle	WA
Micronesian Islander Community	Salem	OR
Duwamish River Cleanup Coalition/Technical Advisory Group	Seattle	WA
Mujeres Luchadores Progresistas	Woodburn	OR
The Noble Foundation	Longview	WA
Chaplains on the Harbor	Westport	WA
Causa Oregon	Salem	OR
UTOPIA PDX	Vancouver	WA
Naakw Dancers	Seatac	WA
Ori Gallery	Portland	OR
GABRIELA Portland	Portland	OR



2017 BY THE NUMBERS



Number of Donors

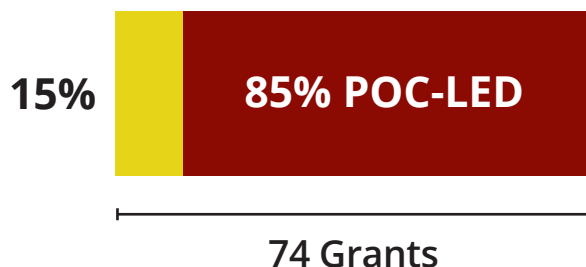


Number of Members of Giving Projects



2017 GRANTS BY POC LEADERSHIP

POC = People of Color



TYPES OF GRANTS

Giving Projects & Giving Project Grants	\$987,722
Donor Advised Funds Grants	\$217,454
Other Grants (Rapid Response and Seed Grants, Sponsorship, Misc.)	\$55,203

About the Artist

On the back page of this report, we are honored to share the work of Yegizaw “Yeggy” Michael, a Seattle-based Eritrean-American artist. This piece, titled “Community” is our gift to you. Please cut it out and frame.

For more about Yeggy, visit YeggyStudio.com.



