



2023 ANNUAL REPORT



What We Do



Social Justice Fund NW (SJF) is fueled by our community! We are member-funded and member-led. SJF 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 grantees 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 organize our members/donors through educational workshops, fundshifting campaigns, and through other progressive, democratic processes. With funding from our philanthropic partners and donor organizing methodology, SJF is able to partner with communities across our region through different grant cycles, such as Giving Projects and Grant Panels which you can read about in the grantmaking section.

Thank you for being part of SJF and part of a growing movement for justice.

SJF VALUES

- ✎ Black liberation
- ✎ Decolonization
- ✎ Collective power
- ✎ Abundance
- ✎ Equity & Accessibility
- ✎ Accountability
- ✎ Transformation



You can read more about them on our website!

SOCIAL JUSTICE FUND NW IS A REGISTERED 501C3 CHARITABLE ORGANIZATION. DONATIONS TO SJF ARE TAX DEDUCTIBLE. OUR FEDERAL TAX IDENTIFICATION NUMBER IS 91-1036971



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Letter from Board Chair

Let's be real: 2023 was a challenging year for many of us. From the heightened crisis and genocides taking place in Palestine, Sudan, and Congo, to the turmoil bubbling in the U.S. over domestic and foreign policies, all of us have felt overwhelmed or exhausted. On the other side of this exhaustion, we were left with a clearer and deeper commitment to what needs to change in our communities, in this country, and globally. During this period of activism and renewed energy, **Social Justice Fund NW remains dedicated to our goal of resourcing the frontlines for social change.**

As we reflect back to 2023 and work in 2024, SJF has been considering what it means to be an organization on the frontlines of social change. What actions does that demand of us? As we inch towards a new election cycle, what are our responsibilities? Globally and locally, there are life-threatening crises, so how do we show up best with our community?

Of course, there are no easy answers to any of these questions. If it were easy to be committed to progressive social change work, everyone would do it. Over the last few years, I have witnessed SJF practice courage and a steady commitment to change, despite knowing that our efforts will never be perfect. We know this work and the pursuit of answering these questions is worthwhile. **As you peruse this report and look back to all that was accomplished in 2023, we hope you too are reminded of all that's possible when we advocate for and resource social change.**

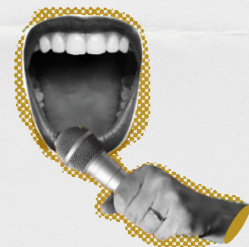
A FEW HIGHLIGHTS FROM THE YEAR WITH SOCIAL JUSTICE FUND



SJF launched a new **Tech Organizing Cohort**, which brings together tech workers from across the region to build community, fundshift, and learn about the tech industry's impact on our communities.



Granted out a grand total of **\$2,921,776** (including Donor Advised Funds). Hosted SJF's 45th Annual Celebration in the historical Washington Hall.



Led **10+ donor organizing** and **community education workshops** on issues like Progressive Estate Planning, Anti-Racist Giving Plans, Donor Advised Funds, etc. *And more, which you can read about in this report!*

We hope you will join us in continuing to invest in social justice. Make your donations, volunteer your time, organize with your neighbors, and continue showing up deeply for yourself and the people you care about.

Thank you for being part of the SJF community. We are honored to be in partnership with you.

In solidarity,
Flo Sum, *Board Chair*

SJF Grantmaking & Grantees

Social Justice Fund utilizes a diverse set of grantmaking processes in order to meet the unique needs of our grantee communities. We are committed to creating grant applications and processes that are culturally relevant, responsive to communal needs, and always open to improvement. The result of these different strategies is a philanthropy model that is more accountable, sustainable, and centered in community.

Our current grantmaking methods include:

 **Giving Projects:** Each Giving Project is a multiracial, cross-class cohort of volunteers who come together with a shared commitment to social justice. Through a process that integrates political education, community building, collective giving, grassroots fundraising, and democratic grantmaking, volunteers raise the money for and make the grants themselves.

 **Grant Panels:** A committee of diverse community members that come together for a democratic grant making process to select organizations for funding in various grants. Sponsorships: This program allows SJF to support grassroots organizing groups that are hosting fundraising, community, and cultural events, open to their membership or the public.

 **Donor Advised Funds (DAFs):** A process for partnering with high net-worth donors to move money into the community.

4 RAPID RESPONSE GRANTS: \$12,000		
ORGANIZATION NAME	GRANT AMOUNT	STATE
PNW People Over Profit	\$3,000	WA
Water Climate Trust	\$3,000	OR
PODER of Idaho	\$3,000	ID
MyAdvocate	\$3,000	OR
10 SEED GRANTS: \$50,000		
Black Lives Matter of Jefferson County	\$5,000	OR
Decolonizing Science	\$5,000	WA
QLaw Foundation of Washington	\$5,000	WA
FireGeneration Collaborative	\$5,000	WA
Washingtonians for Public Banking	\$5,000	WA
Fernland Studios	\$5,000	OR
The Consortium for Refugees and Migrants in Idaho	\$5,000	ID
We Move as 1	\$5,000	WA
Idaho Abortion Rights	\$5,000	ID
HourOfAction	\$5,000	OR



SJF Grantmaking & Grantees



14 REPRODUCTIVE JUSTICE PANEL GRANTS: \$280,000		
ORGANIZATION NAME	GRANT AMOUNT	STATE
Black Liberation Collective, Idaho	\$20,000	ID
Educate Ya	\$20,000	OR
Families of Color Seattle	\$20,000	WA
Foundation for Youth Resiliency and Engagement	\$20,000	WA
helmxilp Indigenous Birth Justice	\$20,000	WA
Hilltop Urban Gardens (HUG)-Fiscal Sponsor: Tacoma SEED	\$20,000	WA
Indigenous Idaho Alliance	\$20,000	ID
Liberation Medicine School	\$20,000	WA
Lifewerq Project	\$20,000	WA
QLaw Foundation of Washington	\$20,000	WA
Sex Ed with EU	\$20,000	ID
Surge Reproductive Justice	\$20,000	WA
Utopia PDX	\$20,000	OR
Whatcom Peace & Justice Center	\$20,000	WA
9 COMMUNITY WEALTH BUILDING GRANTS: \$450,000		
Duwamish Valley Sustainability Association	\$50,000	WA
Lavender Rights Project	\$50,000	WA
Super Familia	\$50,000	WA
yəhaw̓ indigenous creatives collection	\$50,000	WA
Wa Na Wari	\$50,000	WA
Seattle - King County African American Reparations Committee	\$50,000	WA
Wasat Community	\$50,000	WA
The CID Collective	\$50,000	WA
Lake City Collective	\$50,000	WA



Grantee Testimonial

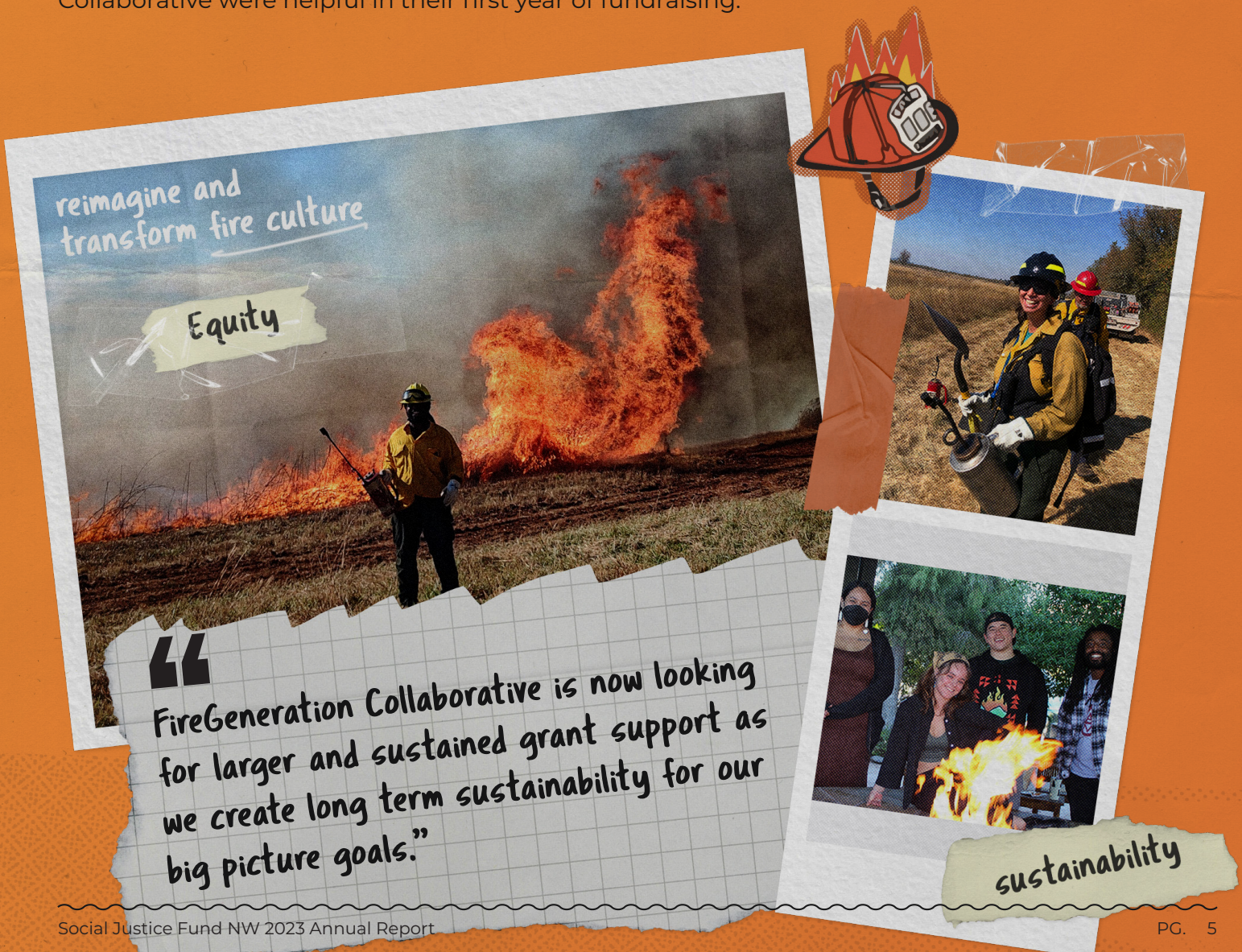
FIREGENERATION COLLABORATIVE

Mission: The FireGeneration Collaborative aims to reimagine and transform fire culture, community governance access, and equitable solutions by centering Indigenous leadership and diverse young generations.

SJF Funding Cycle: 2023 Seed Grant

FireGeneration Collaborative got connected to SJF in October of 2023 when they received a Seed Grant for \$5,000. The Seed Grant supported FireGeneration Collaborative in a critical stage of early development enabling them to fund staff time to acquire their first major donor and obtain over \$50,000 of additional grant funding.

FireGeneration Collaborative has had particular success partnering with foundations such as Social Justice Fund that are also movement and social/environmental justice centered. Seed grants and other first time awards to support new organizations such as FireGeneration Collaborative were helpful in their first year of fundraising.



“

FireGeneration Collaborative is now looking for larger and sustained grant support as we create long term sustainability for our big picture goals.”

COMMUNITY & PHILANTHROPIC SUPPORT NEEDED

Another area of support that has been instrumental in their development has been receiving intergenerational mentorship from the community. Receiving support from Black, Native, women and other folks is incredible and continues to be important as their organization moves forward.

Other forms of support FireGeneration Collaborative are seeking include sustainable philanthropic partnerships as they approach a period of hiring. As they prepare to bring back their popular fundraising event in 2025, Hoop A Thon, they are in pursuit of new partnerships with businesses, community donors, and foundations.



THE CHALLENGES

FireGeneration Collaborative is beyond thrilled to have achieved so much in their first year and a half as an organization, and are ready for the next step. The biggest challenges facing FireGeneration Collaborative right now are providing better pay and hours for their employees and strategizing growth beyond their first year of success into long term sustainability.



MOVING FORWARD

FireGeneration Collaborative is currently excited about the time they are taking for restructuring and hiring. They've learned so much in their first year and a half, from getting policy recommendations accepted at the highest levels, to organizing grassroots fundraisers and workshops that have truly brought diverse youth affected by wildfire together, to powerfully impacting the rewriting of the Northwest Forest Plan and youth engagement with that federal process. "Now we're excited to analyze lessons learned from our first year and a half as an organization and implement that feedback into sustainable structures and organizational development and hiring."

With the expansion of their team and strategic direction, FireGeneration Collaborative looks forward to:

- 👉 Consolidating accepted policy recommendations into a polished policy platform, growing our art-based programming for envisioning better futures with fire (particularly in rural areas).
- 👉 Growing our partnerships with fire affected immigrant community organizations, continuing to grow our partnership with the Forestry and Fire Recruitment Program (which works with incarcerated firefighters).
- 👉 Continuing our research project into its next methodology stage, developing further diverse youth input on fire workforce development conversations currently happening in D.C. (including sharing our unique youth-based research findings with our policy partners).
- 👉 Developing concrete pathways from their grassroots base building work to involving those youth in these opportunities to influence fire management policy.

You can learn more about FireGeneration Collaborative and support their work directly by visiting their website www.firegencollab.org.

Grantee Testimonial

KING COUNTY AFRICAN AMERICAN REPARATIONS COMMITTEE (SAARC)

Mission: Through research, education and base-building, Seattle – King County African American Reparations Committee (SAARC) is laying a foundation for passage of legislation to implement reparations for African Americans in Seattle–King County.

SJF Grant Cycle: 2023 Community Wealth Building Grant

The Community Wealth Building (CWB) grant was a unique opportunity in partnership with The City of Seattle. CWB funded organizing that aims to address economic injustice, build power to transform unjust systems, and overcome barriers to wealth for individuals, families, and communities. This is precisely what SAARC does through coalition-building and research for reparations.



Reparations



“SAARC sees an incredible opportunity for progressive philanthropy to invest in funding reparative justice for Black communities at scale”. It’s clear general operating support is necessary but also support for multi-year strategy that is specific to regional needs. Through this abundant resourcing Black communities on the West Coast, which has a smaller Black demographic, would be able to organize on a larger scale and combine efforts with Black communities across the Midwest, East Coast, and the South.

COMMUNITY & PHILANTHROPIC SUPPORT NEEDED

Additionally they need:

- ☞ To build space for intergenerational and cross-cultural dialogue within Black communities to resist erasure, colorism, tribalism, and other fractures that weaken our movement.
- ☞ To be intersectional about the breadth of our lived experience and the histories of violence both within the U.S., and throughout the world in the forms of colonization and imperialism.
- ☞ To be cognizant of that we are losing the Black Civil Rights generations at a time where we especially need their wisdom.

And finally, “we need funders and donors who recognize reparations as both a human rights and civil rights issue”.



THE CHALLENGES

SAARC utilizes research and community relationships to build broad-base support for reparations, which presents many obstacles and challenges. Like many of us looking towards the 2025 presidential election, SAARC recognizes the distinct threats of living under either a fascist government or the continuation of a neoliberal one. Neither administration strongly aligns with repairing US government and business systems that harm Black people. SAARC sees opportunities in these two challenges around creating Black civic leadership that can convene and lead multiracial coalitions that are accountable to Black communities and knowledgeable about disparities in health, housing, education, mass incarceration, wealth, and political power.



MOVING FORWARD

SAARC is looking to grow strong organizing bases who are versed in reparative justice, excited about Black Liberation, and developing an alternative to extractive economies. They do this by embracing Abundance, not as a magical thinking framework but rather as a necessary strategy and feat of radical imagination that can disrupt anti-Blackness in policy and governance. Thank you for investing in SAARC!

You can learn more and support SAARC's efforts by visiting their website www.mlkreparations.org/



SJF Member Education & Donor Organizing

In 2023, SJF had a diverse offering of training, workshops, and community building events including:

FIVE ANTI-RACIST GIVING WORKSHOPS IN COLLABORATION WITH PLYMOUTH CHURCH AND CARW

What does it look like to center the giving of money as part of our anti-racist practice? SJF (Social Justice Fund), CARW (Coalition of Anti-Racist Whites) and Plymouth Church have teamed up to present a series of interactive workshops where we will work through these questions and more together and begin to build our personal social justice giving plans.

LAUNCHED TECH DONOR ORGANIZING PROGRAM

Our Tech Donor Organizing program brings together tech workers with different lived experiences and goals who share a common value of resourcing social justice movements. In 2023 we launched this program with a demographic survey and our Tech Organizing 101 panel, we look forward to the program gaining momentum in the coming years!

PLANNED GIVING WORKSHOP: MAKING A WILL THAT REFLECTS YOUR VALUES

The workshop included an overview from a progressive estate lawyer about creating a will and vehicles for “planned giving,” as well as a panel of people who have prepared wills and included bequests or other forms of deferred giving.

MONTHLY RADICAL DONORS OF COLOR COLLECTIVE (FORMALLY SEADOC) MEETINGS

Radical Donors of Color Collective (RDCCL) is a network of donors of color who function under the umbrella of Social Justice Fund Northwest. We are building a collective, shared, and radical perspective on philanthropy formed to address the lack of collective influence we as people of color have in philanthropy.

MONTHLY WHITE DONOR ORGANIZING MEETINGS

White Donor Organizing (WDO) is an affinity group at Social Justice Fund interested in partnering with committed individuals to redistribute funds, interrogate white supremacy in philanthropy, and build meaningful relationships as donor organizers.

AND LAUNCHED OUR FIRST DONOR ADVISED FUND WORKSHOP, WITH SEEDING JUSTICE

In early 2023, SJF developed a workshop with long-time partners Seeding Justice to better interrogate the challenges and opportunities of utilizing Donor Advised Funds (DAF) as a giving vehicle. We discussed what donors should be aware of, what historical issues there's been with DAFs, and suggested new ways of being in relationship to Donor Advised Funds.

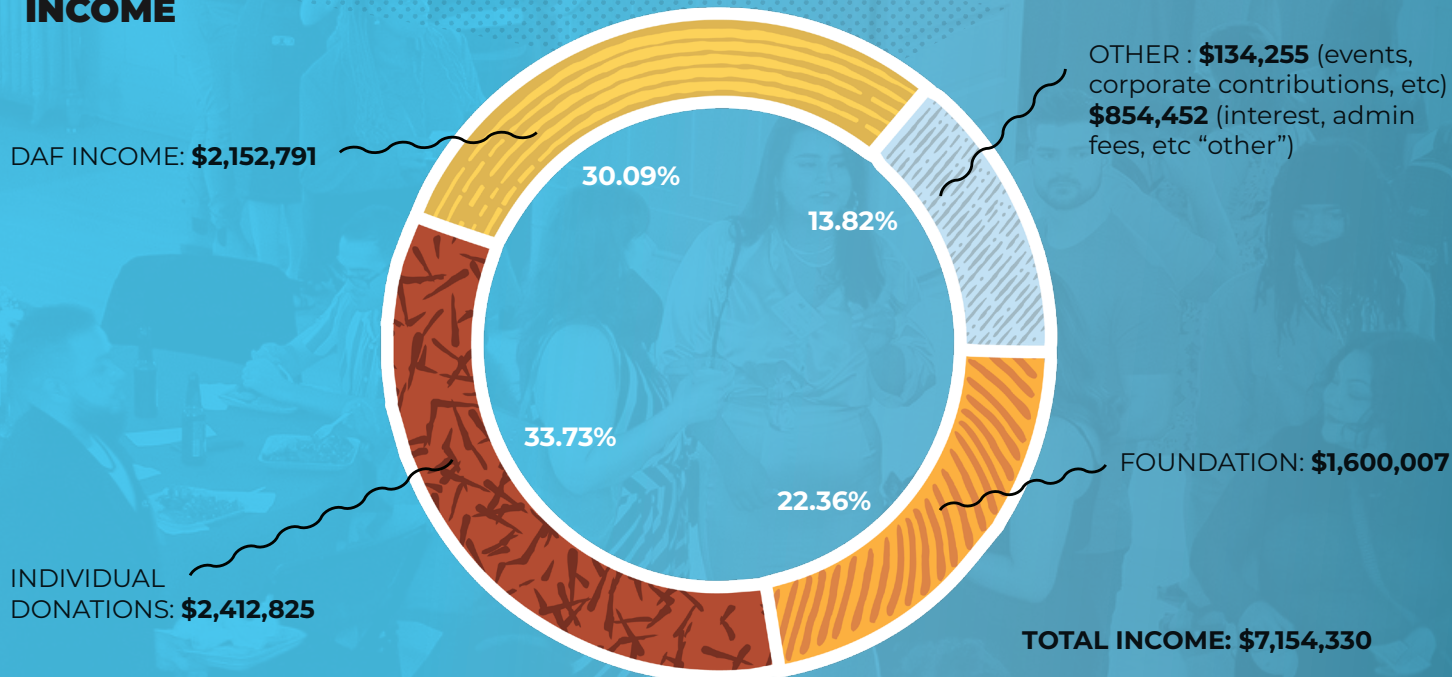


We are really proud of these special offerings that provide important learnings and critical information to our members. Thank you to everyone who attended a workshop, donated, or co-led a session! It takes all of us to offer these innovative workshops to our community.

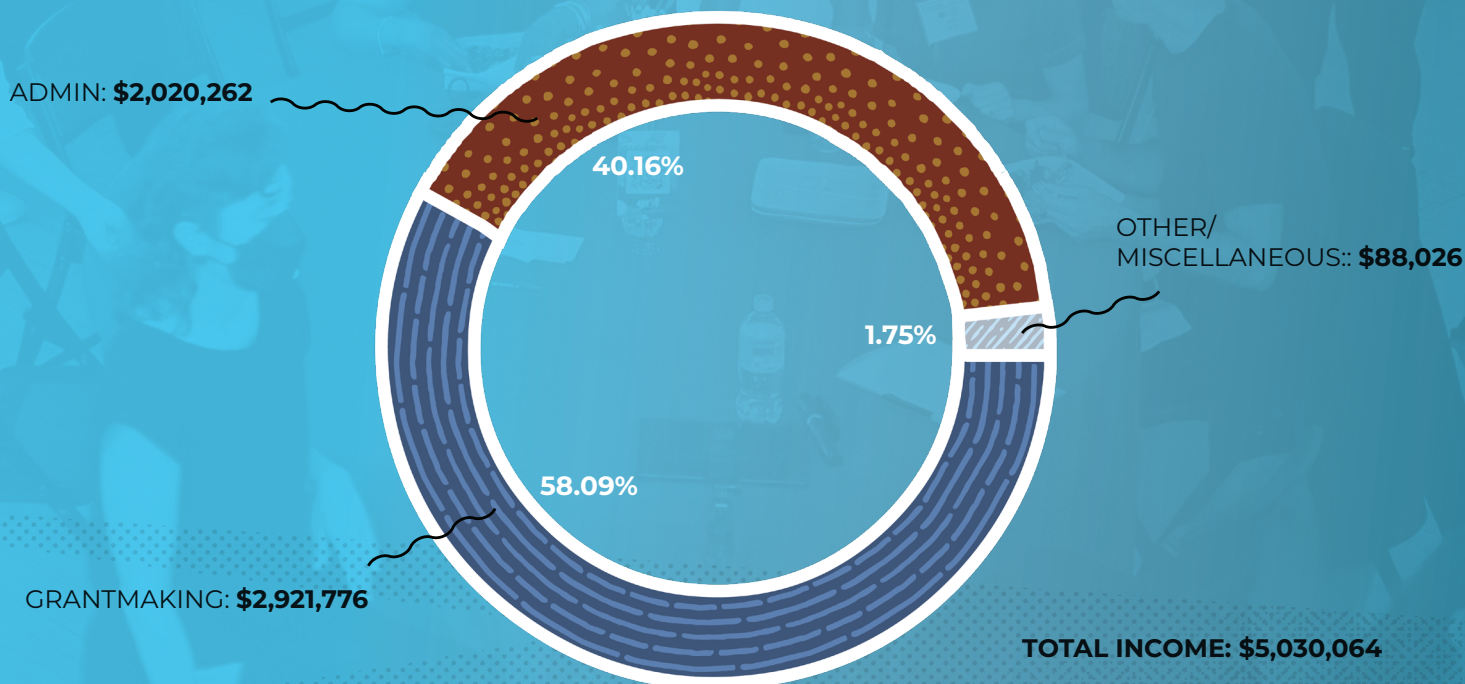


SJF by the Numbers

INCOME



EXPENSES





SOCIAL
JUSTICE
FUND
NORTHWEST

THANK YOU

