

# AT THE CROSSROADS



L to R: Edward Vogel, Jane Kimondo, Jeanne Kracher, Kristina Roque, Emmanuel Garcia, Katie Madden, Ari Pizarro, and Jon Lehman. Not pictured: Lizette Garza

# ONE MILLION DOLLARS ONE THOUSAND DONORS BUILDING MOVEMENTS FOR JUSTICE

**FOR THIRTY-SEVEN YEARS,** Crossroads Fund has bolstered movements by moving money to grassroots organizers working at the intersections of racial, social, and economic justice in Chicago. Your support has enabled Crossroads Fund to sustain the hard work on the ground during the most hostile of times, serving as an anchor organization for movement building across the city. Thank you.

This matters because our communities are under attack. There's no question about it.

In response, our grantees are vigorously resisting and proactively confronting the systems, structures, and policies attacking our youth, neighbors, and communities. From No Cop Academy, to Erase the Gang Database, to women calling out sexual violence in their workplaces, grassroots communities are building intersectional campaigns for justice and are refusing to be ignored, muted, and denied their humanity.

The unyielding commitment by Chicago's activists and organizers is matched by our community of donors and grantmakers, including our Board of Directors, Youth Fund for Social Change grantmaking committee, and Giving Project members. In fiscal year 2018, our community rose to the occasion by fundraising, pooling resources, and helping us grant \$1,068,042, the most we've ever granted in a single fiscal year. This is how we seed change in Chicago.

Not only did our donors make these immediate grants possible but we also exceeded our five-year campaign goal by raising over \$2 million for Big Change, the People's Endowment. The fight for justice is long. This endowment will ensure the long-term capacity and strength of Crossroads Fund as a reliable movement fund for years to come.

In moments of struggle, we must take the time to celebrate each win towards justice. Chicago's organizing ecosystem is thriving and we want to celebrate this with you.

Please see our 2018 Grantee list to review the impact the support of our community made possible over the last year.

The work continues.

Jeanne Kracher

Executive Director

# CROSSROADS FUND 2018 GRANTEES

**PEOPLE FOR COMMUNITY RECOVERY** is a community-based environmental justice organization that addresses pollution, the adverse impact of Chicago Housing Authority policies, and other social justice issues in the Riverdale community. Their current focus is on the development of a “solar farm” to provide alternative energy sources and create career opportunities for local residents. (SF)

## GOVERNMENT ACCOUNTABILITY AND CRIMINAL JUSTICE

**ALTERNATIVES TO CALLING POLICE DURING MENTAL HEALTH CRISES** is a community-based effort to train people in de-escalation techniques to protect psychiatrically disabled and mentally ill community members from police violence and the criminal justice system. The grant supported expanding their workshop series and technology updates. (TA)

**BLACK AND PINK CHICAGO** is a collaboration of LGBTQ prisoners and their allies working to stem the violence experienced by prisoners and end the use of solitary confinement through advocacy, public education, direct services, and organizing. (SF)

**BLACK LIVES MATTER CHICAGO** works to end state violence and the criminalization of Black communities through supporting impacted families, *Our Story* a community-centered project to lift up young people’s voices and experiences, a campaign to destigmatize mental health issues and build an alternative mental health care system, and organizing with the national *Poor People’s Campaign*. The CRF supported their Justice for RonnieMan campaign. (SF, CRF)

**BLACK YOUTH PROJECT 100** is a national member-based organization of young activists and organizers creating freedom and justice for all Black people using a Black queer feminist lens. Their focus is on transformative leadership development, direct action organizing, advocacy, research, and political education. (Grant)

**CHICAGO BOOKS TO WOMEN IN PRISON** is an all-volunteer organization that provides paperback books to incarcerated women and educates the public on the harsh realities of mass incarceration. The grant supported their attending the 15th International Human Trafficking and Social Justice Conference, where they presented on *Books-to-Prison Pipeline: Critical Support and Advocacy for Incarcerated Women*. (TA)

**CHICAGO COMMUNITY BOND FUND** operates a revolving fund that pays bond for people charged with crimes in Cook County, educates on the role of bond in the criminal legal system, and advocates for the abolition of money bond and other forms of pretrial punishment. The TA grant supported their strategic planning process. (SF, TA, Grant)

**THE CHICAGO TORTURE JUSTICE CENTER (CTJC)** seeks to address the traumas of police violence and institutionalized racism through access to healing and wellness services, trauma-informed resources, and community connection. CTJC was part of the coalition that fought and won an historic reparations package for the torture survivors of former Chicago Police Department Commander Jon Burge. (SF, CBI, GRAM, Donald F. Erickson Synapses Award)

**CITIZEN ADVOCACY CENTER** utilizes community lawyers to engage residents in DuPage County and beyond in building democracy through community organizing, coalition building, legal advocacy, civic education, and litigation to make local government more accountable, accessible, and transparent. The TA grant supported the purchase of financial management software. (SF, TA)

**LIVE FREE CHICAGO** believes that the Black church—a cornerstone in the Black community when it comes to resources, justice, healing, and restoration—is uniquely positioned to be a source of peace and systemic change. They are organizing congregations on the South and West Sides of Chicago as part of their broader campaign to create a citywide strategy to address gun violence in Chicago. (SF)

**THE WEST SIDE HISTORICAL PRESERVATION SOCIETY** highlights the historical contributions made by African Americans on the West Side of Chicago from the Great Migration to the civil rights movement to current day organizing. This is accomplished through preserving historical sites and documents, aspiring to create a museum, and holding public education opportunities and festivals. (SF)

## ECONOMIC JUSTICE AND COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT

**ALLIANCE OF THE SOUTHEAST (ASE)** is a multi-issue, community organizing group composed of member institutions on Chicago’s Southeast Side. Their work includes South Side Anti-Violence Endeavor, a youth leadership Council, mentoring/restorative justice programs, tenant organizing, and a coalition effort to obtain Community Benefits Agreements for local residents via employment, training and education opportunities, affordable housing, and environmental protections. (SF, YF)

**BLOCKS TOGETHER** is a community-led, youth-focused, multi-issue, social justice organization on the West Side of Chicago that is working on challenging the over-policing of youth, preserving quality public education, affordable housing, economic development, and participatory budgeting. They are a key local leader in the national Poor People’s Campaign. (SF, YF)

**EQUITICITY** advocates for racial equity, particularly around increased mobility, to make lives better for Black, Brown and Indigenous people of color across Chicago. The CRF supported their work to challenge the increased role of policing in the Vision Zero Chicago plan. (SF, CRF)

**LUGENIA BURNS HOPE CENTER** develops the civic engagement of residents in Chicago’s Bronzeville neighborhood through education, leadership development, and community organizing. Their work focuses on ending the displacement of low-income and working Black families by implementing rent control, empowering Local School Councils, and building police accountability. (SF)

**NORTHSIDE ACTION FOR JUSTICE** is a multi-issue organization in Uptown and Rogers Park working on campaigns for living wages, affordable housing, and quality public education. Their education campaign includes a Sustainable Community Schools Village concept in which area schools partner to create a unified vision for themselves and the surrounding community. (SF)

**RESIDENTS ASSOCIATION OF GREATER ENGLEWOOD (RAGE)** is a resident-led organization that mobilizes people and resources, breaks down barriers in communication, and promotes positivity through solutions-based approaches to force a change in the community. Their work focuses on community development and neighborhood safety. (SF)

**SOUTHSIDE TOGETHER ORGANIZING FOR POWER (STOP)** is a community organization that focuses on stopping the displacement of low-income and working-class black residents, monitoring human rights violations at Cook County Juvenile Detention Center, preserving mental health clinics, and healthcare provision especially through the trauma center on the South Side. (SF, YF)

## ENVIRONMENTAL JUSTICE

**IXCHEL FAMILIES FOR EQUITABLE EDUCATION AND ENVIRONMENTAL JUSTICE** is a community-based organization in Cicero working to dismantle the educational inequity that profoundly disadvantages Brown and Black students in local public schools. Their environmental justice work focuses on noxious odors from the water reclamation plant, proposed waste relocation from Chicago to neighboring Stickney, and the presence of lead in drinking water. (SF)

# CROSSROADS FUND 2018 GRANTEES

Crossroads Fund is proud to announce that in Fiscal Year 2018 (FY18) we gave out \$1,068,042 in grants to 120 groups working for social change.

Although the following list categorizes grantees based on one primary focus, grantees’ work is rarely limited to a single issue area. Most work across issues and prioritize the multiple needs of their diverse constituents. A notation after the grantee description indicates from which grant program(s) they received funding. Programs include the **Seed Fund (SF)**, **Technical Assistance Fund (TA)**, **Youth Fund for Social Change (YF)**, and the **Critical Response Fund (CRF)**, which provides rapid response grants to organizations working on issues that arise due to the current political moment. An organization may have also received a grant through the **Capacity Building Initiative (CBI)**, a collaborative program that supports organizational growth and development.

Grantees may have received funding from one of our **Partner Funds (PF)**, which include the following pooled funds and donor advised funds: the **GRAM Fund (GRAM)**, which supports women and girls, rights for Arab Americans, and youth projects; the **Grant Fund (Grant)**, which supports criminal justice reform, organizing—particularly Black-led organizing—and women’s rights; the **Eleuterio Fund (Eleuterio)**, which supports community-based arts, education, peace activism, and reproductive rights; the **Chicago Youth Storage Initiative (CYSI)**, a funders collaborative housed at Crossroads Fund that provides storage for youth experiencing homelessness; the **Cathy Cohen Black Youth Fund (Cathy Cohen)**, which supports black-led youth organizing; the **Vernita Gray Fund (Vernita Gray)**, which supports LGBTQ youth; and **She100 (She100)**, a giving circle that pools resources to make grants to initiatives which strengthen the power and presence of all Chicago LBTQ women.

We also list each of the awards given at our annual benefit, Seeds of Change. They are the **Donald F. Erickson Synapses Award**, the **Lynda J. Tipton Memorial Award for Social Justice**, and the **Ron Sable Award for Activism**.

In FY18, grant amounts ranged from \$500–\$80,750 and, unless otherwise noted, the grants are for general operating support.

## ARTS AND CULTURE

**BLACK PANTHER PARTY 50TH ANNIVERSARY EXHIBIT** showcases the powerful work of the Illinois Chapter of the Black Panther Party, whose programs include: Free Breakfast for School Children, free health clinics, transportation for families to visit loved ones in prison, and defending itself and the community from police harassment. (TA)

**CHICAGO PALESTINE FILM FESTIVAL** exhibits and promotes films about Palestine or by Palestinian directors that address current issues in the region and portray the daily lives of Palestinians. Their collection of films and media serves as an educational resource locally and nationally. (SF, GRAM)

**FREE STREET THEATER** creates performances by and for underrepresented Chicago artists and communities focused on justice. The grant supported their Performance for Direct Action and Intervention Series, which gave participants tools to create, organize, and implement direct actions and interventions using art. (CRF)

**HONEY POT PERFORMANCE** is a feminist, creative collaborative that uses performance to examine identity, belonging, and differences in lives and cultural membership. Ongoing projects include the Chicago Black Social Culture Map—a

digital documentation of Black social culture from the Great Migration to the early 21st century. (SF)

**ILLINOIS HUMANITIES COUNCIL** programs broaden public involvement in civic dialogue, deepen the quality of community conversation and reflection, increase public access to the humanities by lowering barriers to participation, and bring humanities activities to unexpected places. (Eleuterio)

**JAROCHICANOS** is a youth-driven arts collective that uses traditional music from Veracruz, Mexico to explore identity and self-expression. They are currently creating the concept of La Escuelita del Barrio Sobre Ruedas (The Little School in the Hood on Wheels) to visit communities in the Chicago area to offer multi-generational programming around culture, language, art, and music in order to build a cultural revolution. (SF)

**ST. KATERI CENTER OF CHICAGO** provides a space for Native American students and adults to gather, preserve, and deepen their indigenous identity while participating in the larger struggles of the community: i.e. challenging offensive school and college mascots, and participating in direct actions including the Standing Rock protest against the oil pipeline. (SF)

## About Crossroads Fund

Crossroads Fund supports community organizations working on issues of racial, social, and economic justice in the Chicago area. A public foundation, Crossroads Fund pools the resources of individuals, foundations and businesses, building a broad base of support for grassroots organizations working for social change.

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## CROSSROADS FUND 2018 GRANTEES

**LOVE AND PROTECT** supports women and gender non-conforming people of color who are criminalized and/or harmed by state and interpersonal violence. They provide immediate support to criminalized survivors, hold education and awareness-raising events, and work to develop a community-wide analysis of why survivors of violence are targeted by the system. (SF)

**MARCH TO THE POLLS: WOMEN'S MARCH CHICAGO** was the second annual Women's March in Chicago. It provided an opportunity for people to come together to build power and community solidarity for the 2018 primary and general elections. The grant supported logistical dimensions of the march and targeted outreach to communities of color. (CRF)

**MOMS UNITED AGAINST VIOLENCE AND INCARCERATION** is a mutual-support organizing group that builds on the collective strength and power of mothers directly impacted by state and interpersonal violence, particularly those who have been harmed by incarceration. They do this through participatory community defense campaigns as well as advocacy and organizing towards an abolitionist agenda. (SF)

**NO COP ACADEMY CAMPAIGN** is a youth-led effort, supported by community organizations across Chicago, that wants to see \$95 million invested in communities rather than in a new police training academy. Funding enabled them to send a cohort of young people to the Highlander Center for Research and Education for training focused on social movement's history, political education, and community organizing. (CRF, Cathy Cohen)

**RESTORE JUSTICE FOUNDATION** advocates for fairness, humanity, and compassion throughout the Illinois criminal justice system, with a primary focus on youth serving extreme sentences. They create and support policies that allow youth to go home and ensure that those incarcerated, their families, and the families of victims have opportunities for healing and justice. The TA grant supported an overhaul of their database system. (SF, TA)

**SISTER SURVIVOR** promotes the civic voice and celebrates the resilience of Black women and girls who have been harmed by America's prison policies. The grant supported the Underground Rounds discussion series that spotlights the ways in which institutional structures of domination shape Black women's public and private realities. (SF)

**SOUTHSIDERS ORGANIZED FOR UNITY AND LIBERATION (SOUL)** is led by low-income people of color working on criminal justice reform and racial equity campaigns. They are members of a coalition working on new legislation to address the needs of formerly incarcerated job seekers and enact meaningful criminal justice reform in Illinois — the Jobs Not Jail bill. (SF, Convening Grant)

**WESTSIDE JUSTICE CENTER** is a community-centered organization that promotes a holistic approach to justice by facilitating legal literacy, providing legal assistance to individuals, and nurturing community trust through restorative justice practices. The grant supports their Community Advocates program, which trains community members in accessing the justice system and advocating for their rights. (SF)

**WOMEN'S ALL POINTS BULLETIN** is composed of women survivors of police violence and their families. They advocate for more civilian oversight of law enforcement, amplify the voices of victims and survivors of police assault, provide testimony to local, national, and international bodies, and engage in building public awareness of police violence. (SF)

## HEALTH & EDUCATION

**ALLIANCE FOR COMMUNITY SERVICES** unites people with disabilities, front-line workers, community activists, and others to promote the accessibility of Medicaid, food stamps, disability services, collective bargaining, and community resources, which are all under attack due to the state's privatization of public needs. (SF)

**CHICAGO COALITION TO SAVE OUR MENTAL HEALTH CENTERS** works to expand mental health services to poor and underserved communities by empowering them to create Expanded Mental Health Services Programs. These programs, pioneered by the Coalition, empower local communities in Chicago to envision and build their own community-initiated, funded, and overseen mental health centers. (SF)

**CHICAGO WOMEN'S HEALTH CENTER** empowers women and trans-identified individuals by providing access to both high-quality and accessible health care and health education in a respectful and affordable environment. (Grant)

**ILLINOIS BIRTH JUSTICE** is dedicated to supporting incarcerated pregnant women and new mothers before, during, and after birth to build positive futures for themselves and their families. In addition, they are organizing for extended doula services to women in Cook County. (SF)

**LOCAL SCHOOL COUNCILS FOR ALL COALITION** is comprised of education justice organizations who have banded together to empower and expand Local School Councils (LSCs) in Chicago. Their goal is to institute LSCs at all schools that receive public funds, including charter/military/contract schools. (PF)

**PARENTS 4 TEACHERS** is an all-volunteer organization that brings together teachers and parents to advocate for quality schools for all. They organize against the underlying causes of inequality, i.e. institutional racism, social and economic inequity, and corporate privatization of public resources. The CRF supported their special education advocacy work and enabled them to provide resources to Spanish-speaking CPS parents. (SF, CRF, TA)

**PLANNED PARENTHOOD OF INDIANA AND KENTUCKY** is a sexual and reproductive health care provider and advocate. They work to improve women's health and safety, prevent unintended pregnancies, and advance the rights and abilities of individuals and families to make informed and responsible choices. (Eleuterio)

**RAISE YOUR HAND FOR ILLINOIS PUBLIC EDUCATION** informs and empowers parents to advocate for strong, quality public education for all children in Chicago and Illinois. The CRF supported their *Special Education Parent Advocacy Initiative*, which trained and mobilized parents/guardians to fight for—and eventually win—interventions and changes to CPS' special education provision policy. (SF, CRF, GRAM)

**READING BETWEEN THE LINES** uses a discussion of literature to build critical thinking and communication skills with formerly and currently incarcerated people. This intellectual exchange nurtures self-confidence and collaboration, offering participants a chance for a better future. (Eleuterio)

**UJIMAA MEDICS** is a collective of Black people and people of color who are committed to training residents in communities with high incidents of shootings on Urban Emergency First Response. Training focuses on crucial, immediate patient stabilization care prior to the arrival of paramedics for gunshot victims, seizures, heart attacks, strokes, car accidents, and mental health incidents. (SF)

**THE WOMEN'S VOICES FUND** is a project of independent, feminist bookstore Women & Children First. The fund seeks to support, sustain, and develop an ongoing program series focused on women's lives, ideas, and work. (PF)

## HOUSING JUSTICE

**AUTONOMOUS TENANTS UNION** is a tenant-led, all-volunteer organization building a movement of empowered tenants in Albany Park. Their goal is to secure the neighborhood as a No-Displacement Zone through organizing, advocacy, and education. (SF)

**CHICAGO HOUSING INITIATIVE** is a coalition of ten community organizations who organize the power of low-income Chicago residents to preserve, improve, and expand subsidized rental housing and stabilize communities against displacement. (SF)

## CROSSROADS FUND 2018 GRANTEES

**LIFT THE BAN COALITION** consists of organizations leading a campaign to lift the statewide ban on rent control policies and establish rent control for Chicago residents. They hope to protect affordable housing, slow gentrification, and prevent unjust evictions. (PF)

**PILSEN ALLIANCE** is committed to creating grassroots leadership and community-directed development in Pilsen and neighboring working-class immigrant communities. They are leading campaigns for quality public education, preservation of affordable housing, and Community Benefits Agreements for new neighborhood development. (SF, YF)

**PILSEN HOUSING CO-OP** is working to build a scattered-site, limited-equity, housing cooperative to counteract the aggressive gentrification and displacement of working-class families and Latinx artists in Pilsen. The grant supported their initial research on housing cooperatives and strategic planning for the organization. (TA)

## HUMAN RIGHTS AND INTERNATIONAL POLICY

**CHRISTIAN PEACEMAKER TEAMS (CPT)** places trained violence-reduction teams in crisis situations and militarized areas around the world to build partnerships with local peacebuilders to confront violence and oppression through nonviolent direct action. CPT reports to the world community on areas of conflict and human rights violations. (SF)

**COMMITTEE FOR A JUST PEACE IN ISRAEL AND PALESTINE (CJPIP)** works for a just and peaceful resolution of the Israeli-Palestinian conflict through public education, civic participation, direct action, and advocacy. The YF supported a second annual convening to bring together youth organizers and activists from around the city to learn from each other and share best practices. (SF, Convening, YF)

**NATIONAL BORICUA HUMAN RIGHTS NETWORK** raises awareness of human rights/civil liberty issues faced by the Puerto Rican community—political prisoners, the effects of colonization, international economic sanctions, displacement—and the ways in which gentrification is affecting the Chicago Puerto Rican community. They received a CRF grant for their advocacy work on behalf of Puerto Rico after Hurricane Maria. (SF, CRF)

## IMMIGRATION JUSTICE

**ALBANY PARK DEFENSE NETWORK** is a community-based, rapid-response network designed to protect neighbors from ICE raids. The grant supported expanding three areas of work: a local rapid response system, block-by-block organizing, and individual immigration defense cases. (CRF)

**ALLIANCE OF FILIPINOS FOR IMMIGRANT RIGHTS AND EMPOWERMENT (AFIRE)** is a grassroots community organization that builds the capacity of Filipino/a/xs to organize undocumented immigrants, domestic workers, seniors, and youth directly and through their legal clinic. (SF, YF)

**THE CHICAGO LAW AND EDUCATION FOUNDATION (CLEF)** provides access to legal representation and information on legal rights and responsibilities for low-income persons by utilizing schools and libraries as community centers. CLEF operates legal clinics in 20 Chicago public high schools. (SF)

**CHICAGO RELIGIOUS LEADERSHIP NETWORK** organizes congregations and people of faith to respond to injustices experienced by undocumented immigrants through the use of public witness, education, and political advocacy. Their Expanding Sanctuary framework advocates for a stronger Welcoming City Ordinance in Chicago, ending the use of the gang database, and cutting the flow of federal funding to immigration enforcement. (SF)

**ILLINOIS IMMIGRATION FUNDERS COLLABORATIVE** consists of 12 local funders and foundations working together to support issues facing the immigrant community. Funding priorities include legal assistance, community defense, and capacity building to help organizations to both serve clients and mobilize for change. (TA)

**IMMIGRANT SOLIDARITY DUPAGE** maintains a Workers Center that provides both direct and legal services to mostly low-wage workers, publishes a newsletter that features the diverse voices of the immigrant community, and serves as a community organizing axis for Latinos in DuPage County. (SF)

**NO MORE DEATHS** is a humanitarian organization based in southern Arizona that works to end death and suffering in the US-Mexico borderlands while fighting for immigration reform. The organization provides direct aid to migrants crossing the border and documents their abuse, neglect, and mistreatment at the hands of border patrol and detention center officials. (PF)

**NORTHERN ILLINOIS JUSTICE FOR OUR NEIGHBORS** provides free or low-cost expert immigration legal services to low-income immigrants, refugees, and asylum seekers in Aurora, Chicago, and Rockford. They provide education on immigration issues to members of their faith communities and the general public while also engaging in advocacy/organizing for immigrant justice. (SF)

**ORGANIZED COMMUNITIES AGAINST DEPORTATION (OCAD)** works with individuals and families to organize against deportations, detention, criminalization, and incarceration of Black, Brown, and immigrant communities in and around Chicago. This is done through organizing, advocacy, education, direct action, civil disobedience, and cross-movement building. The CRF supported their response to the dramatic increase in ICE raids in the Western Suburbs, as well as other emergency work. (CRF, GRAM, YF, SF)

**PROTECT ROGERS PARK** is comprised of neighbors who come together to protect each other, especially those who are targeted because of their nation of origin, legal status, faith, gender expression, or race. The grant supported the development of their rapid response network, as well as longer-term strategic planning. (CRF)

**PROYECTO DE ACCIÓN DE LOS SUBURBIOS DEL OESTE (PASO)** serves the Western Suburbs with a focus on leadership development, education, community organizing, civic engagement, policy, and legal services to effect change led and directed by community members. The CRF supported a response to ICE raids in the Western Suburbs. (CRF, Eleuterio, Ron Sable Award for Activism)

**THE SOUTHWEST SUBURBAN IMMIGRANT PROJECT** organizes immigrants and their families in the Southwest Suburbs to protect their rights, fight for local and national pro-immigrant policies, and hold municipal leaders accountable to the growing immigrant community. This is accomplished through youth organizing, civic engagement, and voter education. (SF)

**TELPOCHCALLI COMMUNITY EDUCATION PROJECT (TCEP)** challenges the lack of community resources available to families in the Little Village neighborhood and engages in youth organizing using a non-violence and mindfulness framework. The grant supported their *Know Your Rights!* training program in the wake of increased ICE presence. (CRF)

**UNION IMPACT CENTER** provides opportunities for youth and families of the Back of the Yards neighborhood and surrounding communities to create meaningful change by integrating organizing into its ongoing programs of youth safety, immigration, education, and policing reform. (SF)

# CROSSROADS FUND 2018 GRANTEES

## LESBIAN/GAY/BISEXUAL/TRANSGENDER

**ABOUT FACE YOUTH THEATRE** is a theatre, activism, and leadership development program offered free of charge to LGBTQI+ and allied youth. They are committed to exploring and expanding the boxes used to define our intricate intersections of race, nationality, gender, and sexuality. (YF)

**AFFINITY COMMUNITY SERVICES** serves African-American lesbian, bisexual, and transgender women in Chicago. They combine direct services with advocacy/activism, focused on coalition building, civic engagement, health and wellness, and leadership development. (SF)

**BRAVE SPACE ALLIANCE** is the first Black-led, trans-led LGBTQ center located on the South Side of Chicago that centers the self-determination of Black trans-identified individuals. Their work focuses on safety, health and wellness, leadership development, and visibility. (SF, CYSI)

**CHANGING WORLDS** provides academic and art skills for students by integrating cultural, family, and community histories with writing and the arts. This grant supported planning and implementation of *The Adelitas: Women of Courage* project celebrating the queer, cis, and trans women in the world who work for peace and social justice. (She100)

**MASJID AL-RABIA** is a women-centered, LGBTQIA+ affirming, anti-racist, accessible, pluralist Muslim organization providing spiritual care for marginalized Muslims. (She100)

**QUARE SQUARE COLLECTIVE** is a network of queer artists of color who work for greater inclusion of marginalized artists in mainstream publications, performances, and media. They produce community arts programs featuring queer artists of color. (She100)

**TRANSFORMATIVE JUSTICE LAW PROJECT** is a collective of lawyers, activists, and organizers committed to gender self-determination, transformative justice, and prison abolition. They provide direct legal services for transgender/genderqueer individuals in and outside of prison, resources and training curriculum for lawyers and social workers, and organize for policy change. The TA grant supported their strategic planning process. (SF, TA)

## WORKERS RIGHTS

**CENTRO DE TRABAJADORES UNIDOS (CTU)** is an immigrant-run organization that educates workers on their rights and develops leadership within the immigrant community while participating in broader efforts for systemic reform around wage theft and immigration. The CRF supported them in responding to increased workplace ICE raids. (SF, CRF)

**CHICAGO COMMUNITY AND WORKER'S RIGHTS (CCWR)** is a worker-led organization that employs collective strategies of resistance against labor rights abuses, fights for just living conditions, and provides emergency support for workers in crisis. The CRF supported them in responding to and providing know-your-rights trainings around increased workplace ICE raids. (SF, CRF)

**CHICAGO WORKERS COLLABORATIVE** is a coalition of temporary staffing workers based in the Latino and African-American communities. They collectively build community power to end gender-based violence in the workplace and at home and fight to reform the temporary staffing industry through organizing, public education, worker trainings, and litigation. (PF)

**HEALING TO ACTION** advances a worker-led movement to fight gender-based violence in Chicago. Working with grassroots partner organizations, they are piloting a capacity building model that provides low-wage workers a collective healing space and organizing support to fight gender-based violence in the workplace and beyond. (SF, GRAM, CBI, Convening)

**THE SEX WORKERS OUTREACH PROJECT CHICAGO** supports the rights of sex workers and their communities with a focus on ending violence and stigma through education, advocacy, and peer support. The CRF supported their advocacy work highlighting the further criminalization of sex work by the passage of SESTA/FOSTA Act. (SF, CRF)

**THE STREET VENDORS ASSOCIATION** organizes street vendors to ensure that they are able to sell food without fear of police harassment. They successfully advocated for an ordinance that legalizes street vending in Chicago for food prepared in licensed commercial kitchens and have successfully launched their own kitchen. Their current campaign is focused on changing state laws to recognize worker-owned cooperatives as legal business organizations in Illinois. (SF)

**UNITED TAXI DRIVERS COMMUNITY COUNCIL (UTCC)** organizes taxi drivers to improve the working conditions of their industry. Recent campaigns include challenging excessive police ticketing, advocating for equal industry regulations, and an end to violence experienced by taxi drivers. The TA grant supported their technology upgrade. (SF, TA)

**WAREHOUSE WORKERS FOR JUSTICE** organizes warehouse workers to defend their rights as temporary, full-time, or contract workers; challenge abuses (wage theft, sexual harassment, racial discrimination, etc.); hold employers accountable through negotiation, litigation, and policy changes; and build public support. (PF)

**WORKING FAMILY SOLIDARITY** builds interracial solidarity among low-wage workers and tenants through organizing Know Your Rights trainings and racial unity dialogues between the Latinx and Black communities. They are coalition members for the Fight for \$15 and Lift the Ban campaigns. (SF)

## YOUTH

**A LONG WALK HOME** uses art to educate, mobilize, and empower young people to end violence against girls and women. Their curriculum includes youth-led art campaigns, gender-based violence prevention, reproductive health, state and police brutality prevention, parent engagement, and youth leadership. (YF, CBI, GRAM)

**THE YOUTH LEADERSHIP TEAM AT THE ARAB AMERICAN ACTION NETWORK** runs a youth-led campaign to end racial profiling of Arabs, Muslims, and other oppressed communities. Their goal is to end the use of Suspicious Activity Reports by law enforcement and prevent the implementation of the Countering Violent Extremism program. (YF)

**ASSATA'S DAUGHTERS** is a grassroots, intergenerational collective of radical Black women who use an abolitionist framework in all their work. They provide mentoring and weekly programming for young Black girls and women around the themes of Black history and ancestry, self-care and mindfulness, grassroots organizing, resistance, and activism. (YF)

**CHICAGO FREEDOM SCHOOL** fosters a new generation of young people engaged in social justice through leadership development, the study of past social movements, and hands-on engagement. The grant supported Project HealUs, which prepared 15 young people of color to explore, engage, and expand the work of the reproductive justice movement within their communities. (YF)

**CHICAGO PARK DISTRICT'S YOUNG CULTURAL STEWARDS PROGRAM** cultivates young teens as caretakers of culture and agents of change within their parks and neighborhoods. Youth explore issues such as immigration, gentrification, police brutality, and the concept of decolonizing schools. (YF)

**CHICAGO STUDENT ACTION** is a grassroots student organization that recruits and trains college students around campaigns related to living wages, fair financial aid practices, ending racial profiling by university police, and university divestment from fossil fuels. (SF, YF)

**CIRCLES AND CIPHERS** is a hip-hop infused restorative justice organization led by and for young people impacted by the carceral state. Through art-based peace circles, education, and direct action, they collectively heal and work to bring about the abolition of the prison-industrial complex. (SF, YF, GRAM)

**ILLINOIS SAFE SCHOOLS ALLIANCE** promotes safety and support for LGBTQ youth in Illinois schools and communities through advocacy, education, youth organizing, and research. The YF grant supported Action Camp, a program for LGBTQ+ middle and high school leaders. (Vernita Gray, TA)

**IMAGINE ENGLEWOOD IF** engages youth and families in healthy living, environmental justice awareness, community safety, and other programs. The grant supported their *Growing Citizen Leaders* program, which provides youth with a deeper understanding of the connection between systemic discrimination and the current social and economic situation of Englewood. (YF)

**ONE NORTHSIDE** is a mixed-income, multi-ethnic, intergenerational organization that builds collective power to eliminate injustice through bold and innovative community organizing. The YF grant supported ONE Northside's youth leadership on their police accountability campaign. (YF, Grant)

**PRECIOUS BLOOD MINISTRY OF RECONCILIATION** engages at-risk and court-involved young men who reside in Back of the Yards. They are a longtime leader in practicing and providing training in restorative justice work. (YF)

**{she crew}** is a multidisciplinary, journaling-to-performance empowerment program for young girls in Chicago. Youth are immersed in social justice issues through a for-youth-by-youth podcast, writing, and performances. (YF)

**SOLIDARITY STUDIOS** empowers disconnected communities facing economic and political injustices by amplifying the voices of local artists and giving them the tools to organize and mobilize their communities locally and globally via music, especially hip-hop. (YF)

**SREWOLF AND NITRAM FOUNDATION H.E.A.R.T.S.** is an initiative in the south suburbs dedicated to community development. Their restorative justice programming includes a youth diversion program, training for community members, and advocacy work to get restorative justice practices implemented in public schools. (SF)

**TERRITORY** supports young people in building voice, vision, and agency through the practice of design in the Albany Park and Uptown communities. In addition to creating youth-friendly design spaces, they also provide walking tours for adults to experience Chicago as teens navigating a teen/youth-averse city. (YF)

**THE WAREHOUSE PROJECT AND GALLERY** inspires students in Summit to share and gather stories from their peers on issues important to youth. Through various forms of art, youth seek systemic changes that put them at the center of the solutions. The TA grant supported restorative justice training. (TA, SF, YF)

**UNIVERSIDAD POPULAR'S YOUTH PROGRAM** empowers youth to become change-inducing actors by helping them define peace in the Little Village neighborhood. Their three-step, youth-led campaign focuses on identifying "hotspots" of crime and violence in the community, improving these spaces with art and attention, and engaging residents in the process. (YF)

**YOUTH EMPOWERMENT PERFORMANCE PROJECT (YEPP)** cultivates a safe environment for LGBTQ youth of color experiencing homelessness to explore their history, investigate new ways to address their struggles, and celebrate their strengths through theatrical performance pieces. (SF, YF, Vernita Gray)

**YOUTH OUTLOOK** engages LGBTQ youth in Naperville, Aurora, DeKalb, and surrounding areas by providing community education workshops to counteract heterosexism, homophobia, and transphobia. The TA grant provided staff training on fundraising. (SF, YF, TA)

# CROSSROADS FUND 2018 GRANTEES

## CHICAGO YOUTH STORAGE INITIATIVE (CYSI)

*CYSI's purpose was to improve the lives of young people experiencing homelessness through the provision of physical and virtual storage access options. The funding collaborative recently concluded in July 2018, after installing 755 safe storage units. The following organizations received a CYSI grant in FY18:*

**ARRUPE COLLEGE OF LOYOLA UNIVERSITY - CHICAGO (CYSI)**  
**ASSOCIATION HOUSE CHICAGO (CYSI)**  
**BRAVE SPACE ALLIANCE (SF, CYSI)**  
**CENTER ON HALSTED (CYSI)**  
**COVENANT HOUSE (CYSI)**  
**HOWARD BROWN HEALTH CENTER (CYSI)**  
**LA CASA NORTE (CYSI)**  
**THE LOVE, UNITY AND VALUES (LUV) INSTITUTE (CYSI)**  
**LYTE COLLECTIVE (CYSI)**  
**MERCY HOME FOR BOYS AND GIRLS (CYSI)**  
**PATHWAYS IN EDUCATION - IL (CYSI)**

## CONVENING GRANTS

*Crossroads Fund believes that it is vital to the health of Chicago's organizing ecosystem to support grantees to convene with the aim of developing long-term strategies, building power collectively, and cultivating community solidarity across issues. The following are some of the convenings supported by Crossroads Fund in FY18:*

**THE POWER OF CULTURE, LEADERSHIP, AND RESILIENCY** convening was a collaborative effort with the Chicago Community Trust aimed at grantee leaders of color and their allies that focused on sustainability for the long haul. (Convening Grant)

**FOR THE PEOPLE ARTIST COLLECTIVE** consists of Chicago artists of color who work to make the radical power of art accessible to marginalized communities and movements. The grant supported *Do Not Resist? 100 Years of Chicago Police Violence*, a month-long, city-wide exhibition focused on the history of police violence in Chicago. (SF, CRF)

Critical Resistance's conference, **CHICAGO FOR ABOLITION**, featured five events that advanced a stronger shared understanding of the prison industrial complex and the abolitionist movement and amplified local organizing for social justice. (Convening Grant)

**CHALLENGING ELECTRONIC MONITORING IN COOK COUNTY SUMMIT** convened individuals and organizations who are critically impacted by electronic monitoring in the criminal, legal, and immigration systems. The event provided political education for attendees and served as the local launch of the #NODIGITALPRISONS Campaign. (TA)

**PUERTO RICO, HURRICANE MARIA, AND THE CRISIS OF COLONIALISM SYMPOSIUM** brought together scholars, organizers, filmmakers, and community members to discuss grassroots rebuilding and resistance to continued colonization and corporate exploitation in the wake of Hurricane Maria. (PF)

The Hana Center's **FIGHTING YOUTH SHOUTING OUT FOR HUMANITY (FYSH)** is a youth council that engages in education, analysis building, self-expression, and collective action for youth and their communities. They received a Convening Grant to support a Chicago delegation to the Woori Ujima: Black +AAPI Immigrants Building Power convening, which created a space for national relationship building. They also received the CRF to support their organizing around the passage of a clean DREAM Act. (CRF, YF)

**THE CHICAGO SNCC HISTORY PROJECT** works to document the history of the Chicago SNCC chapter while engaging the current generation of youth/adult activists. The Convening Grant supported a two-day Black History Month Workshop and planning meeting for their 2019 International Conference on *The Global Sixties*. (Lynda J. Tipton Memorial Award for Social Justice, Convening Grant)

# BECOME A PARTNER IN CREATING SOCIAL CHANGE

When you give to Crossroads Fund, your gift is pooled with others and becomes a significant resource to foster social change in Chicago and beyond.

Here are some ways you can give to Crossroads Fund:

## JOIN THE GIVING PROJECT

and organize with other community members across race and class to fundraise and do grantmaking.

## ATTEND OUR ANNUAL BENEFIT

on April 5, 2019 and bring friends!

## WRITE A CHECK

and return it in the enclosed remittance envelope. Find out if your employer matches contributions—that is an easy way to make your gift go much further.

## BECOME A SUSTAINER

and have your contribution deducted from your credit card monthly or quarterly. As a sustainer, you can take pride in knowing that you are one of our most reliable sources of support.

## CONTRIBUTE ONLINE

via our secure service. It's quick, convenient, and safe—just log on to [www.crossroadsfund.org](http://www.crossroadsfund.org).

## HONOR OR REMEMBER SOMEONE SPECIAL

with a gift in their name.

## CO-HOST A HOUSE PARTY

and help us spread the word about the good work of Crossroads Fund to your colleagues, friends, and family.

## REMEMBER CROSSROADS FUND IN YOUR WILL, INSURANCES, AND RETIREMENT PLAN

as all three are easy ways to have a lasting impact for social justice.

## OPEN A DONOR ADVISED FUND

and partner with us to have an impact on social justice issues.

## ESTABLISH A CHARITABLE TRUST

to benefit Crossroads Fund and reduce your tax burden.

For more information, please contact Emmanuel Garcia, Development and Communications Manager, at **773.227.7676** or [emmanuel@crossroadsfund.org](mailto:emmanuel@crossroadsfund.org)

## THANK YOU CROSSROADS FUND VISIONARIES

These dedicated individuals have included Crossroads Fund in their will or estate plan, ensuring the long-term strength and stability of the fund and leaving a legacy of their values and vision.

Anonymous (3)	Jeanne Kracher & Laura McAlpine
Bill Barclay & Peg Strobel	Nora Kyger
Henry T. Chandler, Jr.*	Nancy Fleck Myers
Ferd Eggan*	Susan Nussbaum
Sandy & Mark Ehlert	Patricia O'Brien
Susan K. Eleuterio & Tom Sourlis	Sheila O'Donnell & Nora Gallagher
Ruth & Dale Fast	Jill Rohde*
Maggie Gibbs*	Rachel Wallis & Alex Rocklin
Kathye Gorosh	Bob Weissbourd
Linda Harlan	Tom Wilson
Neena Hemmady	Iris Young*
Robert J. Horton & James C. Perry	Jaquelyn Zevin
Barbara Kemmis	

For more information, please contact Jeanne Kracher, Executive Director, at **773.227.7676** or [jeanne@crossroadsfund.org](mailto:jeanne@crossroadsfund.org)

*\*in memory*



@crossroadsfund

CONNECT WITH US!

**SAVE THE DATE: Friday, April 5, 2019**  
**Seeds of Change**  
Join grantees, board members, and friends of the Crossroads Fund as we celebrate at our annual benefit.  
Visit [crossroadsfund.org/seedschange](http://crossroadsfund.org/seedschange) for more information.

[www.crossroadsfund.org](http://www.crossroadsfund.org)

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