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## **North Star Fund Announces Largest Grants in Foundation's History**

### **New \$50,000 Movement Leadership Grants Designed to Foster Growth of Community Organizing Groups**

North Star Fund announced its first round of grants following the 2010 launch of a new grantmaking vision and guidelines.

The new Movement Leadership grants program includes both financial support for organizations, and a two-year, leadership-focused peer learning program. "We are intentionally helping grassroots activist groups and their memberships think not just about their own organizational development, but how they can connect with other grassroots organizations, coalitions and global movements," said North Star Fund Executive Director Hugh Hogan.

Grassroots Strategy grants are designed to enable groups to obtain expert research, legal, media, policy and organizing expertise at a critical strategic moment. And North Star Fund continues its seed grant program, renamed as Grassroots Action grants. For more than 30 years, this program has provided essential startup funding to emerging community organizing activist groups working in New York City's marginalized communities.

To read the full docket, go to <http://northstarfund.org/fall-2010-grants>.

### **Movement Leadership Grants**

#### **Brandworkers International (\$50,000)**

Brandworkers International organizes and trains non-union workers in the food and retail sectors to win just treatment in the workplace.

#### **Domestic Workers United (\$50,000)**

Domestic Workers United (DWU) raises the level of respect for domestic work, establishes fair labor standards in the domestic work industry, and builds power and unity across diverse communities of nannies, housekeepers, and eldercare workers.

#### **Families for Freedom (\$50,000)**

Families for Freedom addresses the most brutal aspects of immigration enforcement, especially the constitutionally questionable collaboration of local police and federal immigration officers.

**New Immigrant Community Empowerment (NICE) (\$50,000)**

On behalf of recent immigrants from Central and South America, New Immigrant Community Empowerment (NICE) organizes to prevent hate crimes, stop financial consumer fraud, safeguard workers' rights, lobby for comprehensive immigration reform, engage their members in the election process, and ensure bilingual access to public and other information.

**VOCAL NY (Voices of Community Activists and Leaders) (\$50,000)**

Voices of Community Activists & Leaders (VOCAL) is a statewide grassroots organization that aims to empower low-income people who are living with and affected by HIV/AIDS, drug use and incarceration through community organizing, leadership development, participatory research, public education and direct action.

## **Grassroots Strategy Grants**

**DAMAYAN Migrant Workers Association (\$15,000)**

With 500 domestic workers on its membership roster, DAMAYAN will use their Grassroots Strategy Grant to research and develop a campaign to end the practice of trafficking women from the Philippines to the U.S.

**VAMOS Unidos (\$15,000)**

VAMOS Unidos was awarded a Grassroots Strategy grant to advance their campaign to increase street vendor licenses available in the outer boroughs.

## **Grassroots Action Grants**

**Adhikaar for Human Rights and Social Justice**

\$10,000

Adhikaar for Human Rights and Social Justice works with Nepali communities in New York City to promote human rights and social justice.

**Al Awda New York**

\$5,000

Al Awda New York aims to protect the human and legal rights of the Palestinian Diaspora and Arab immigrant communities.

**Black Women's Blueprint**

\$5,000

Black Women's Blueprint provides training and resources to help concerned African American women use the tools of grassroots organizing to inform women of their rights when they are stopped, detained or arrested by police.

**Brooklyn Congregations United**

\$10,000

Christian, Jewish and Muslim clerics, lay leaders and grassroots supporters of the multi-racial Brooklyn Congregations United are pressuring the powers-that-be in New York to ramp up "green jobs" and other forms of economic development and extend workforce training to communities in dire need of more employment.

**Brooklyn Food Coalition**

\$5,000

In ten mostly low-income neighborhoods, the Brooklyn Food Coalition has launched campaigns to inform parents on the hazards of not eating well and empower them to hold more sway in what is served in the school cafeteria. The coalition also strives to make nourishing food more available.

**Bushwick Housing Independence Project**

\$5,000

The Bushwick Housing Independence Project (BHIP) works to repeal vacancy decontrol and preserve affordable housing for low- and moderate-income families.

**Coalition for Parole Restoration**

\$5,000

Led by the formerly incarcerated and those who had loved ones who served time, Coalition for Parole Restoration's Leadership Program preps prisoners for parole; trains the incarcerated to become community leaders after they are released; and extends community outreach, education and other services to prisoners, ex-prisoners and their families.

**Community Connections for Youth (CCFY)**

\$10,000

Community Connections for Youth advocates for more community participation and the rights of youth in how youthful offenders are handled by police, the courts and detention facilities.

**DAMAYAN Migrant Workers Association**

\$10,000

DAMAYAN was awarded a Grassroots Action grant in recognition of their promising track record using community organizing to strengthen the rights of domestic workers in New York City and beyond.

**Haitian Women for Haitian Refugees**

\$10,000

Haitian Women for Haitian Refugees (HWHR) is battling for needed services and opportunity, fairness and workplace parity for the Haitian immigrant community.

**Jews for Racial and Economic Justice (JFREJ)**

\$5,000

JFREJ engages individual Jews and Jewish institutions in the fight for social justice. Currently, JFREJ is helping to establish Domestic Worker Justice Zones where employers and their household employees raise the law's visibility in the media and other public spaces.

**Movimiento por Justicia del Barrio/Movement for Justice in El Barrio (MJB)**

\$10,000

Movimiento organizes the people of color and immigrant tenants of El Barrio to lead the fight for dignified housing by organizing tenant associations in buildings across El Barrio.

**Resilience Advocacy Project (RAP)**

\$5,000

The Resilience Advocacy Project (RAP) trains and organizes low-income youth of color to get the resources they need to succeed in life.

**Rights for Imprisoned People with Psychiatric Disabilities (RIPPD)**

\$10,000

RIPPD aims to reform how the police and courts deal with the mentally ill by creating crisis interventions that train NYPD officers to more compassionately and effectively manage police encounters with people suffering a mental health crisis.

**SEVA Immigrant Community Advocacy Project**

\$5,000

Seva works to build a broad based and sustainable network of community based organizers and members to address the critical needs of the most under resourced immigrant communities in New York City —with a special focus on elders in the South Asian and West Indian enclaves of Richmond Hill, Ozone Park, and Woodhaven, Queens.

**Streetwise & Safe (SAS)**

\$5,000

SAS is pressing the New York Police Department to stop the harassment of LGBTQ youth and young adults by falsely accusing them of prostitution merely because they are carrying condoms.

**Trinity Lutheran Church**

\$5,000

Trinity Lutheran Church is organizing Manhattan Valley's women residents. The project will create a local leadership council to work with Trinity's staff to identify and correct an array of social and economic challenges confronting.

**Ugnayan**

\$10,000

Ugnayan ng Mga Anak ng Bayan means "Linking the Children of the Motherland." This grassroots organization works to secure the rights and welfare of Filipino youth in New York City.

**Women on the Rise Telling Her Story (WORTH)**

\$10,000

An organization of incarcerated and formerly incarcerated women, WORTH tackles gender specific policies and practices in the prison system.

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**About North Star Fund**

New Yorkers deserve a city guided by a vision of peace, economic justice and equality; a city defined by strong communities, ample opportunity, and a just and fair government. Since 1979, North Star Fund has brought together New Yorkers from all backgrounds to work towards this vision by investing in grassroots community activists who make change happen.

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