North Star Fund’s Catalyst grants support new and emerging organizations built by New Yorkers who are organizing for new solutions to challenges created in our city by inequity and injustice. Like all our grantees, these organizations must be led by New Yorkers who are directly impacted by the issues they are taking on.

Catalyst grants are specifically identified to support organizations that are in startup mode. They are refining their purposes and strategies to take on tough issues that in many cases have been decades in the making.

Given the challenge that these emerging organizations face, these grants include access to resources to help them grow their leadership and deepen their strategies. We offer these organizations streamlined renewals for up to six years. If they can demonstrate ongoing progress, we will continue to support them.

Many organizations are able to use these grants as leverage to approach other foundations and major donors to build support for taking their work to the next level.

Black Trans Media
$10,000
An emerging “creator” space bringing together trans and gender non-conforming people of color to tell stories and create media that challenges discrimination and ignorance. Renewal

Equality for Flatbush
$5,000
A lean anti-gentrification powerhouse activating long-term residents in Brooklyn in three languages (English, Spanish, Haitian Creole) to confront police and tenant harassment in their community. Renewal

Foreclosure Resisters
$10,000
An all-volunteer organization led by homeowners who have banded together in Brooklyn, the Bronx and Queens to stop predatory lenders from taking their homes. Renewal
 Million Hoodies Movement for Justice
$5,000
A chapter-based national movement organized in response to the killing of Trayvon Martin that develops youth leaders organizing for the social, political and economic freedom of Black and Brown communities. Renewal

Northern Manhattan is Not for Sale
$10,000
A coalition of churches and grassroots organizations coming together to generate specific, pragmatic proposals for the city to create affordable housing in Washington Heights and Inwood. Renewal

Project Hajra
$5,000
An immigrant women-led Queens group organizing to end family and community violence by supporting peer-based transformative justice practices within and around local mosque communities. New Grantee

Queer Detainee Empowerment Project (QDEP)
$5,000
A peer-based network providing critical support to queer, transgender and HIV+ immigrants, undocumented folks, detainees and their families in NYC during and after their release from immigrant detention. Renewal

Release Aging Prisoners Project
$10,000
A partnership between current and former prisoners and community organizations educating the public about the cruelty and cost of incarcerating elderly prisoners in New York state. Renewal

Voces Ciudadanas
$5,000
A parent-led organization in Sunset Park fighting school overcrowding and reducing the barriers for involvement for Latino and Chinese parents who want to be part of their children’s education. Renewal

These grants are awarded by our Community Funding Committee, which is made up of local activists working for justice in New York City. They draw on decades of collective experience to select the most promising grantees as well as to identify emerging issues and leaders.

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These grants are possible because of support from New Yorkers who care about justice. You can learn more about how to support these organizations, and dozens more, at our website: northstarfund.org.