North Star Fund is about the power of collective, local action. At North Star Fund, community organizers lead both the work we support and our grantmaking. Our donors—both big and small—are partners in grassroots fundraising and mobilizing critically-needed resources, quickly. Together, we moved millions last year to support emerging movements in New York City and the Hudson Valley led by people of color and communities most impacted by injustice. **When we rise together, we build power for and with each other.** Thank you for your support.

Jennifer Ching
Executive Director
North Star Fund brings together a community of New Yorkers who care about social justice, who combine our resources—money, skills and networks—to fund locally-grown movements for change.

How We Work

Last Year:
- 833 Donors Made 1,778 Gifts
  - 343 for the first time

We made 262 grants

Totaling $1.2 Million through our grant programs

$1.5 Million via Donor Advised Grants

Our Programming Includes:
- Events to connect people to local grassroots movements for learning and network building
- Highlighting the issues that our grantees work on
- Building leadership to change philanthropy to make it more inclusive and responsive to the needs of communities of color and low-income communities
VICTORY STORIES

See the impact of North Star Fund grants. This is your gift to North Star Fund at work.
Problem
New York has thousands of micro-workplaces—like the corner laundromat—where isolated workers toil in unsafe and unsanitary working conditions while receiving subminimum wages.

Who’s Coming Together
Laundry Workers Center’s worker empowerment model of organizing focuses on isolated workplaces and has led to higher wages and better conditions at restaurants, warehouses and retail stores.

The Victory
Laundry workers are building sector-wide power across retail laundromats and are now leading the industry’s first safe conditions and fair wages campaign in New York City.

North Star Fund’s Role
We were one of the first funders of Laundry Workers Center in 2013. They have received multiple grants prior to our current two-year, $50,000 Movement Leadership grant to advance this challenging organizing campaign.

The Movement Leadership Program is a two-year program that grants $50,000 to grassroots organizations with a strong track record of success. The leaders of the organizations selected under this category also participate in a peer-learning program that supports them in taking their organizing work to the next level.

Families for Freedom
FIERCE
La Colmena
Laundry Workers Center
Total: $200,000
Problem
Hundreds of thousands of New Yorkers are homeless or reside in temporary housing. Meanwhile, there are vacant and underused properties in every neighborhood across the five boroughs.

Who’s Coming Together
Picture the Homeless (PTH) draws its leadership from unhoused and formerly unhoused New Yorkers. In 2006 and 2011, members conducted methodical surveys of underused properties across the city and found enough vacancies to house every homeless New Yorker.

The Victory
In response to PTH’s decade-long campaign, the NYC Council passed the Housing Not Warehousing Act, requiring the city to track vacant properties and to make the information available to the public so PTH and organizers can identify potential affordable housing sites in every community.

North Star Fund’s Role
We have supported Picture the Homeless with grants every year of this campaign, including a Movement Leadership grant in 2011 and their 2018 Grassroots Action grant.
Grassroots Action grants from $10,000 to $20,000 provide unrestricted support to organizations so they can focus on shifting the balance of power. As with all our grants, these responsive grants trust those addressing the root causes of injustice to identify and lead us toward solutions.

- Alliance for Quality Education
- Arab American Association of New York
- Black Women’s Blueprint
- Brandworkers
- BronxPOWER
- Brooklyn Movement Center
- CASA: Community Action for Safe Apartments / New Settlement Apartments
- Chinese Staff and Workers’ Association
- Community Food Advocates
- Crown Heights Tenant Union / Urban Homesteading Assistance Board
- Damayan Migrant Workers Association
- Faith in New York
- Families United for Racial and Economic Equality (FUREE)/FAC
- Flanbwayan Haitian Literacy Project
- Flatbush Tenant Coalition
- FPA-Foundation
- Jahajee Sisters Empowering Indo-Caribbean Women
- Justice Committee
- Masa-MexEd
- Mekong NYC
- Metropolitan Council/MCREF
- Movimiento por Justicia del Barrio
- Neighbors Helping Neighbors
- Neighbors Together
- New Sanctuary Coalition of NYC
- New York State Youth Leadership Council
- NY/NJ Teamsters for a Democratic Union
- NYC Coalition for Educational Justice
- NYC Community Land Initiative
- Parent Action Committee / New Settlement Apartments
- Picture the Homeless
- Riders Alliance
- Rockaway Youth Task Force
- Sapna NYC
- Street Vendor Project
- Sylvia Rivera Law Project
- Teachers Unite
- Tenants and Neighbors
- Worker’s Justice Project
- YA-YA Network
- Young Women of Color
- HIV/AIDS Coalition

Total: $420,000
Problem
Police violence is a deeply entrenched problem in New York City, with powerful institutions fighting every possible solution emerging from the community even after the violent deaths of New Yorkers.

Who’s Coming Together
Brooklyn Movement Center (BMC) organized community members affected by the death of Saheed “Sy” Vassel after he was gunned down by police in his Crown Heights neighborhood.

The Victory
“The Real Saheed” campaign countered the story about him painted in media after his death by the NYPD, who told negative stories about his background rather than allow the public to know the identities of his killers.

North Star Fund’s Role
In addition to a Let Us Breathe grant this year, BMC also received a Grassroots Action grant, a Rapid Response grant, and a Frederick Douglass Award. We also continue to fiscally sponsor and support Communities United for Police Reform, a coalition of organizations including BMC that organizes to fight discriminatory police practices.

The Let Us Breathe Fund moves resources to Black-led and multiracial organizations and movements fighting police violence and structural racism in New York City. These grants total $180,000 to 18 organizations, bringing the total grantmaking for this fund to over $700,000 since its inception in 2015.

African Communities Together
Black Alliance for Just Immigration
Black LGBTQ+ Migrant Project (BLMP)
Black Trans Media
Black Youth Project 100
Brooklyn Movement Center
Communities United for Police Reform (CPR)
Community Voices Heard
Equality for Flatbush
Faith in New York
FIERCE
Justice Committee
LGBT Faith Leaders of African Descent
Million Hoodies Movement for Justice
Picture the Homeless
Release Aging People in Prison (RAPP)
UndocuBlack Network
Urban Youth Collaborative

Total: $180,000
Problem
How can we build the transformative leadership of women in social justice and community organizing?

Who’s Coming Together
Women’s Organizing Network convenes a group of women organizers from social justice organizing groups and unions across New York City and the Hudson Valley for a five-month leadership program.

The Victory
Participants build relationships of mutual support with each other, deepen their leadership, and bring a gender lens into their work, reaching thousands of people in their circle of influence.

North Star Fund’s Role
We were one of the first funders to invest in Women’s Organizing Network in 2016, and they received a 2018 Innovative Activism grant. Most of the leaders they are developing work at current and former grantee organizations of North Star Fund.

Innovative Activism grants of $10,000 support grantees using arts, culture, and technology to engage and organize communities, shift narratives, and build grassroots power through creative action and alternative practices that strengthen communities.

The BLK ProjeK
Center For Third World Organizing (CTWO)
Global Action Project
Hattie Carthan Community Food Projects
S.O.U.L. Sisters Leadership Collective
Sure We Can
Theatre of the Oppressed NYC

Truthworker Theatre Company
The Women’s Organizing Network
The Working World / WORCs

Total: $100,000
The Hudson Valley Momentum grants awarded $10,000 and $15,000 to local organizations that serve, educate, organize, and mobilize their communities. Responsive, activist-led grantmaking paired with training and capacity building will support a growing grassroots movement for justice in the Hudson Valley.

New citizens in the Hudson Valley, many of whom are Latinx and who come from mixed-immigration status families, are ripe for civic engagement but need to be included in outreach strategies by community organizations.

Columbia County Sanctuary Movement (CCSM) brings together new citizens, other immigrants and allies in Hudson to involve them in local policymaking where their voices will have an impact.

CCSM has gone to where potential Latinx voters are, such as soccer games and local school or community events to register voters and make sure eligible voters know how to reach out to their local elected officials.

We’ve funded CCSM in each of the first two years of the Hudson Valley Momentum Grants. We are the first local community foundation to prioritize supporting grassroots organizing across issues and geography in the Hudson Valley.

#100Sistas
ADELANTE Student Voices
Black Lives Matter Hudson Valley
Columbia County Sanctuary Movement
Community Governance & Development Council (CGDCNYC)
Don Bosco Workers
Evergreen Garden
Freedom Food Alliance
Grace Latino Outreach
In Our Own Voices
Kite’s Nest
Newburgh LGBTQ+ Center
Rise Up Kingston
Schaghticoke First Nations
Staley B. Keith Social Justice Center
VOCAL-NY
Worker Justice Center of New York
Yonkers Sanctuary Movement
Total: $250,000
Catalyst grants provide seed funding of $5,000 and $10,000. They come with annual renewals, technical assistance and trainings for new organizations. This allows grantees to build their capacity and deepen their strategies, building a powerful and lasting movement.

**Problem**
New York’s Board of Parole operates with little public scrutiny while making life-changing decisions about the lives of incarcerated New Yorkers that are based on political considerations instead of public safety.

**Who's Coming Together**
Release Aging People in Prison (RAPP) brings together former prisoners, lawyers and criminal justice reform advocates focused on bringing public accountability and much-needed changes to the parole board.

**The Victory**
RAPP’s campaign, “If the Risk is Low, Let Them Go” is moving the dial on public dialogue about parole. The release of Herman Bell after nearly 45 years in prison has shown that it is possible to break the hold of political forces on the lives of prisoners.

**North Star Fund’s Role**
We’ve awarded Catalyst grants to RAPP in each of their first three years and made a $10,000 grant in 2018 as this campaign continues to build momentum.

Catalyst grants provide seed funding of $5,000 and $10,000. They come with annual renewals, technical assistance and trainings for new organizations. This allows grantees to build their capacity and deepen their strategies, building a powerful and lasting movement.

**AF3IRM NYC**
Alliance of Families for Justice

**Black Trans Media**

**Black Youth Project 100**

**Equality for Flatbush**

**Foreclosure Resisters**

**Million Hoodies Movement for Justice**

**New York Campaign for Alternatives to Isolated Confinement**

**Northern Manhattan is Not for Sale**

**Parole Preparation Project**

**Project Hajra**
Queer Detainee Empowerment Project

**Release Aging People in Prison (RAPP)**

**Voces Ciudadanas**

**Total: $100,000**
Problem
One in four low-income New Yorkers are unable to afford the cost of a MetroCard to get to work and school, and fare increases hit low-income New Yorkers the hardest.

Who’s Coming Together
Riders Alliance ran a high-profile campaign to pressure the City Council and the mayor to secure funding for reduced fare MetroCards for New Yorkers who need access to the subway and busses.

The Victory
In summer 2018, the City Council approved over $100 million in funding for a reduced fare Metrocard to begin in January 2019.

North Star Fund’s Role
We’ve been investing in Riders Alliance consistently since their founding, including with a 2015 Movement Leadership grant and a Rapid Response grant in spring 2018 that helped push this campaign to victory.

Rapid Response grants are short-term grants for up to $5,000 that help organizations respond nimbly and effectively to urgent needs on the ground and in the halls of government.

Communities United for Police Reform (CPR)
Community Voices Heard
Green Light NY: Driving Together Coalition
Jews for Racial and Economic Justice
Metropolitan Council/MCREF
Movimiento por Justicia del Barrio
Northern Manhattan is Not for Sale
NYC Coalition for Educational Justice
Release Aging People in Prison (RAPP)
Riders Alliance

Tenants and Neighbors
UndocuBlack Network
Urban Youth Collaborative
Yaffed

Total: $66,950
You’re busy, and you care deeply about justice. You don’t always have the time or energy to track down all the vibrant community organizing in New York. And you aren’t sure that “philanthropy” has anything to do with the things you care about, like your family and community.

New Yorkers from all walks of life come together at North Star Fund through events and through giving to support the movements we want to see gain power in New York City and the Hudson Valley. What we share is a commitment to justice, to sharing resources and to building the power of the grassroots.

Thanks to your presence and contributions, you provide grants, strong networks and vibrant programming to build movements for justice in New York City. From emerging grassroots movements to established institutions for justice, you can support it all here.

We convene memorable events for our community where you can learn, rise up to take action and commit more deeply to justice in our lifetimes and beyond. We share what we know and who we know. We help people decide how to make sure their giving matches their values. We build movements that last.

THERE ARE MANY WAYS YOU CAN GET INVOLVED WITH NORTH STAR FUND’S COMMUNITY:

- Make a one-time gift or become a monthly sustainer
- Open up a Donor-Advised Fund
- Come to one of our in-person events
- Join us for our 2019 gala, where we’ll be celebrating 40 years of supporting grassroots movements for justice in New York!

You can learn more about any of these opportunities at our website: www.northstarfund.org.
North Star Fund’s Giving Project is a new model of social justice that builds community and grows political and fundraising know-how. Each member of the Giving Project makes their own gift and inspires family and friends to make an investment. The cohort then decides how to distribute the money as grants, selecting from the current grantee pool. The Giving Project is a powerful tool for donors of all backgrounds to make an impact together and invest directly in building people power. Here are the grants they awarded, which ranged from $10,000 to $15,000.

Adhikaar for Human Rights and Social Justice
African Communities Together
Audre Lorde Project
Black Youth Project 100
Brandworkers
Flatbush Tenant Coalition
Girls for Gender Equity
Global Action Project
Justice Committee
Movimiento por Justicia del Barrio
New York State Youth Leadership Council
Picture the Homeless
Street Vendor Project
Tenants and Neighbors
UndocuBlack Network

Total: $179,000
Community Food Funders is a philanthropic organizing project that supports the transition to an equitable, ecologically sound and economically robust regional food system. Community Food Funders is not a grant-making entity as much as a network of philanthropic organizations and individual funders who are active in food system work. Community Food Funders facilitates roundtable discussions, funder briefings, site visits and social gatherings to foster information-sharing and networking among funders.

East New York Farms! received the second annual Community Food Funders Champions Award. The award includes a $5,000 prize.

The Challenge
Food justice funding isn’t keeping up with the urgency of problems plaguing our food system: poor treatment of workers all along the food chain, the demands of climate breakdown, and unequal access to fresh food and farmable land.

Who’s Coming Together
Community Food Funders has been convening a growing number of foundation staff and board members to learn together and better understand the needs of the field.

What They’re Changing
In 2018, Community Food Funders laid the groundwork to launch a new cohort-based leadership development program for food justice organizers modeled after our successful Movement Leadership Program, launching winter 2019.

North Star Fund’s Role
As the convener of Community Food Funders, we provide regular workshops and site visits that are attended from foundations across the region, and have provided the expertise to launch the leadership program.
This year’s donor advised grants:

**Asian American Impact Fund**
Chinatown Youth Initiatives
Gongming Collective for Language Justice
Japanese American Social Services, Inc.

**Barbara Adler Zeluck Fund**
Association for Union Democracy
Center for Changes (Solidarity)
Center for Constitutional Rights
Labor Notes
Public Citizen Foundation
Rosenberg Fund for Children
Teamster Rank & File Education and Legal Defense Foundation

**Bronx Dreaming Scholarship Fund**
Adam Fane
Leidy Periel

**Dinner Guys Giving Circle**
Gay Asian and Pacific Islander Men of New York (GAPIMNY)
National Queer Asian Pacific Islander Alliance (NQAPIA)
New American Leaders
New York Immigration Coalition
PFLAG NYC
SAGE

**Emma Goldman Fund**
MADRE
Rural Organizing Project

**International Dreamers Scholarship Fund**
Carolina Hernandez
Claudjena Jaboin
Jose A. Cedillo Rodriguez
Roberto Morales

**Joanne Lukomnik Fund for Health Care Reform**
Physicians for a National Health Program/NY Chapter

**Kindling Fund**
Black Lives Matter Network
Black Love Resists in the Rust
Black Organizing for Leadership & Dignity (BOLD)
Black Youth Project 100
Clean Air Coalition of Western NY
Communities United for Police Reform (CPR)
Community Voices Heard
Cosecha
Groundswell Fund
Make the Road New York
Mijente
Movement for Black Lives Fund
MPower Change
Showing Up for Racial Justice (SURJ)
Team Blackbird
Third Wave Fund
VOCAL-NY
Wildfire Project

**More to Life Fund**
Resource Generation
Trans Queer Pueblo

**New York City Young Feminist Giving Circle**
Third Wave Fund

**Sarah Rosenthal and Morgan Coy Fund**
Catskill Mountainkeeper
Center for Creative Education
COHI
Columbia County Sanctuary Movement
Greater Hudson Promise Neighborhood
Jane’s Due Process
Long Table Harvest
O Positive
Public Policy & Education Fund
Worker Justice Center of New York

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**Become a North Star DAF Donor!**
North Star’s Donor-Advised Fund (DAF) program connects our donors with grassroots organizations and movements for social justice. To open a DAF, individuals or groups can make a single gift or multiple contributions over time.

Our DAF program includes collective giving circles, families that coordinate giving and individuals making first-time gifts. You decide where to direct the money, and North Star Fund administers the grant for a small fee. Our staff will work closely with you to develop a giving plan that moves resources into the community in strategic and responsive ways.
North Star Fund

Political Education Network Project
Strategy Research Project

Tom and Michele Solidarity Fund

Alliance for Justice
American Jewish World Service
Brandworkers
Center for Popular Democracy
Common Cause Education Fund – New York
Communities United for Police Reform (CPR)
Community Voices Heard
Doctors Without Borders
Good Old Lower East Side
Hunger Free America
Litchfield Performing Arts
Make the Road New York
New York Times Neediest Cases Fund
Picture the Homeless

Sobelstein Fund

Political Education Network Project
Strategy Research Project

Unfettered Fund

Astraea Foundation
National Domestic Workers Association
Third Wave Fund

Anonymous

Asian Pacific Environmental Network
Brooklyn Community Foundation
Common Counsel Foundation
Communities United for Police Reform (CPR)
Community Voices for Youth and Families
Fund for Johns Hopkins Medicine/Johns Hopkins University School of Medicine
Hand in Hand: The Domestic Employers Network
Hudson Valley Community Coalition
Institute for New Economic Thinking
Justice for Migrant Families
Labor Neighbor Research & Training Center

Long Island Civic Engagement Table
Millennial Movement Summer
New Energy Economy
New York Communities Organizing Fund
New York Immigration Coalition
Nobody Leaves Mid-Hudson
NY Renews
Preparing Leaders of Tomorrow (PLOT)
Project Harmony
PUSH Buffalo
Racial Justice Action Center
Resist
S.T.R.O.N.G. Youth
SEPA Mujer
Shenandoah Valley Black Heritage Project
Southern Vision Alliance
Theatre of the Oppressed NYC
VOCAL-NY
WeCopwatch
Worker Justice Center of New York
Workers’ Center of Central New York
Youth Represent

Total for Donor-Advised Funds:
$1,534,624
Thank you to all the people who made gifts to North Star Fund from July 1, 2017 to June 30, 2018. Your contributions made the community and the work you see in this report possible.
Brad Bong  
Braeden Lentz  
Bread & Roses Community Fund  
Brendan McNallen  
Brenna Zach Epstein  
Brian Salata  
Bridgette LaQue  
Brooke Lehman  
Brooke Nash  
Bryan MacCormack  
Buddy Dikman and Chuck Davis  
Burke Stansbury and Krista Hanson  
Caitlin Munchick  
Caitlin Salemi  
Caledonia Kearns  
Candice Anitra and Adam Weinstock  
Candis Tolliver  
Caneel Fraser  
The Canon Santiago Fund  
Carlos Martinez  
Carol and Robert Adams  
Carol Lynch  
Carol Smith  
Carolina Korth  
Carolina Maestre  
Caroline Cotter  
Carolyn Antonio  
Carolyn Hall and Kelly AuCoin  
Casey Krosser  
Cassie Schwerner  
Causten Rodriguez-Woller  
Cecilia Bien  
Cecilia Lim  
Cecilia Vanti  
Celeste Lavin  
The Center for Popular Democracy  
Chad Jones  
Chad Longley  
Charitable Development Consulting  
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Christine Parker and Dennis Clare  
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Conant Family Foundation  
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cori parrish and Sierra Spingarn  
Corinna Borden  
Corinne Spingarn and Steve Bicknese  
Craig Schiff  
Cultures of Resistance  
Network Foundation  
The Custis Westham Fund  
CWA Local 1180  
Cynthia Grover  
Cynthia Nixon and Christine Marinoni  
Cynthia Williams  
Dagan Bayliss and Holly Thomas  
Dan Saferstein  
Dan Silverman and Barbara Deinhardt  
Daniel Altschuler  
Daniel Backman and Ryan Flamerich  
Daniel Dromm  
Daniel Glover  
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The David and Amanda Basler Family  
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Denise Aquino  
Dennis Guya  
Diane and Steve Eidman  
Diane Chen  
Dick Riseling  
Dimitri Holtzaman  
The District Council 37, Local 371  
Dominic Gabello  
Dominique Tan  
Don Bassell  
Donald Goldberg and Tracy de la Mater Goldberg  
Donato Visco  
Donna Katzin and Alan Altschuler  
Doris Duke Charitable Foundation  
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Eileen and Abraham Uchitelle  
El Centro del Inmigrante  
Elaine Kim  
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Nitika Raj
Norm Fruchter
NoVo Foundation
NYC Grassroots Media Coalition
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Patriot Threads LLC
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Professional Staff Congress
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Roger and Jennifer Tjong Tjin Tai Ron Ferreirae
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Rosenberg Fund for Children
Ruchir Khaitan
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Saamon Legoski
The Sagner Family Foundation
Sailendra Chatterjee
Sallie d’Orsay
Sally K. Donaldson, Ph.D.
Sam Jacobs
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Sam Tabet and Milo Chesnut
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Sprocket Foundation
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Communities United for Police Reform

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Richard Lefkowitz
Rick Hobish and Flo Wiener
Riggy Henery
Rini Banerjee
Robert Ackerman
Robert Cermel
In Honor Of

Additionally, we received gifts in honor of these individuals and families. Thanks to all of you for being part of the North Star Fund community and in many cases, introducing new people to North Star Fund.

Adam Liebowitz
Adama Bah
Alvarez Symonette
Ange Losco
Anne Tatreau
Barbara Winslow
Bolden Kekoa Jones
Carla Ellonis
Carolyn Silveira
Christine Parker
Cristina Jiménez Moreta
David Alexander
David Kevorkian
Davna and Sonia
Elz Cuya Jones
Gary Williams
Genny Basler
Harrison Humphrey
Héctor J. Figueroa
Helen F. Stillman
Jane Hogan Moffitt and Rachel Hogan Moffitt
Jasmin Berrios
Jasmine Jeffers
Jeanne Haws
Jennifer Ching
Jennifer Flynn
Jessica Garcia
Johnny Sanchez
Jon and Darla’s Wedding
Katherine Crowe
Katie Goodman
Kendall Jackman
Kevin Duarte
Kwele Serrell
Larry Peron
Liza Jonny Goodhue
Lucille Gold
Lynda Rodolitz
Maritza Osvak
Marjorie Fine
Mary Humphreys
Marybeth Moser
Matt Shear and Sarah Lewin
Mayra Hidalgo Salazar
Meeta Anand
Michael Gottwald
Michele and Linda Lopes
Miriam Fogelson
Nisha Atre Richardson
Patty Cannizzaro
Paul Richer
Phoenix Casino
Priscilla Acuna
Saidi Chen
Sarah Allison
Sarah Frank and Joshua Wessler
Sarah Lewin and Matt Shear
Shana Bhattacharya
Stephen Ady Guirgis
Susannah and Cedric Bien-Gund
Tata Jane Gould
Tod Monaghan
Tyler Gund
Xavier Stewart

Sharing a Just Future

North Star Fund is committed to making deep, long-term investments in grassroots activism to ensure a just and equitable future for all people in the New York City metro region. A planned gift, which is a charitable gift from your overall estate or from non-cash-financial assets, is one of the most powerful ways you can ensure a just future for all New Yorkers.

To learn more, reach out to Development Director Kofo Anifalaje, at 212.620.9110 or kofo@northstarfund.org.

Thank you to our Legacy Circle members, who have answered the call to Share a Just Future by including North Star Fund in their estate plans.

Arva Rice
Asa Johnson
Barbara Winslow
Betty Kapetanakis
(In memoriam)
Betty Millard (In memoriam)
C. Edwin Baker (In memoriam)
Cory Greenberg
David Alexander
Elizabeth Melamid
(In memoriam)
Jean Riesman
John Sayles and Maggie Renzi
Kamryn Wolf
Kynaston McShine Fund
Lise Vogel

Lloyd V. Martinez
Maggie Williams
Marjorie Fine
Merry Tucker
Michael Waterman and Yuka Hagiwara
Nisha Atre and Art Richardson
Peter Brest

This list represents gifts received July 1, 2017 to June 30, 2018. If there are any errors or omissions on this list, please accept our apologies and reach out to us with updates or corrections at seun@northstarfund.org.
LEADERSHIP

2017-2018 Board
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Michael Tikili
Rob Robinson
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Susanna Blankley, Co-Chair

Our leadership is largely drawn from activist communities in New York, drawing leaders from across lines of race, age, gender and class. What we have in common is a commitment to a just and equitable New York where everyone is welcome and can expect to be treated fairly. As a community, we take risks and invest in emerging issues and a combination of new and established leadership.
Staff

Adam Liebowitz, Community Food Funders Director

Angbeen Saleem, Digital Communications Coordinator

Catherine Eusebio, NYC Program Officer
cori schmanke parrish, Deputy Director

Elz Cuya Jones, Deputy Director

Helen Stillman, Donor Program Director

Jennifer Ching, Executive Director

Jodi Sh. Doff, Operations Manager

Kathleen Pequeño, Communications Director

Kofo Anifalaje, Development Director

Leyana Dessauer, Administrative Assistant

Mayra Hidalgo Salazar, Hudson Valley Program Director

Michelle De León, Betty Kapetanakis Memorial Intern

Seun A. Owolabi, Development Manager

Past Staff and Interns

Emily Sloss
Stephanie Mendoza

Consultants and Volunteers

Abrazos Music & Entertainment
AHOY Studios
Alison R. Park
Almoradie Media
Amanda Gentile
Ana Espina, Thomas & Associates
Ariel Ottey
Bryan Potter Design
Caracol Interpreters Cooperative
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Simran Noor
Stephen Pellegrino
Superfine Printing
Support Group
Tumblr
Universal Partnership
Ventucom
Wingo, Inc.
Woke Foods
Zahida Pirani
Zerandrian Morris
North Star Fund continues to have a strong financial position that allows us to be a responsive and enthusiastic financial supporter of local movements. We maintain reserves to ensure our stability in the face of the current uncertain times, and are committed to being a long-term resource for organizing. If you have questions about these financial statements or our overall financial position, you can reach out to cori parrish at cori@northstarfund.org
North Star Fund prides itself on integrity and transparency as the cornerstone of social justice philanthropy.
IT’S ALL ABOUT POWER

We raise money from New Yorkers for grants to support grassroots organizing in New York City and the Hudson Valley. Both our grants and our grantmaking are about building power.