North Star Fund makes Rapid Response grants year-round to support organizing and activism in response to urgent threats or breaking opportunities for organizing. Most of these grants go to organizations that have received grants through our other programs, enabling them to respond to events that have emerged since their latest grants. Rapid Response grants support our grantees to be nimble and in some cases can help to bring their campaigns the final steps to victory.

**CAAAV Organizing Asian American Communities**

$5,000 ... for building power against Amazon’s new headquarters (HQ2) in Long Island City. Awarded December 2018. *As of January 2019, this organizing project is ongoing.*

**Families for Freedom (FFF)**

$2,500 ... for an emergency campaign to reinstate FFF’s hotline in detention centers. Awarded October 2018. *As of January 2019, the FFF hotline is back up and running.*

**Grannies Respond**

$2,000 ... for a caravan to McAllen, Texas in order to take action to end family separation. Awarded September 2018. *As of fall 2018, the caravan successfully made it to Texas to be part of the vocal, nationwide movement of people demanding an end to family detention and family separation.*

**Mekong NYC**

$5,000 ... for stopping the sudden mass deportation of Cambodian and Vietnamese immigrants who’ve lost protected status. Awarded December 2018. *As of January 2019, most of the 46 detainees were deported, although 22 members of Congress signed a letter to the White House and ICE will now give 14 days notice to people they plan to arrest.*

**Newburgh LGBTQ+ Center**

$5,000 ... for organizing against hate crimes in the Hudson Valley. Awarded August 2018. *As of January 2019, this organizing project is ongoing.*

**New York Civic Engagement Table**

$5,000 ... for a voter education campaign about a city ballot initiative to expand participatory budgeting. Awarded September 2018. *In November 2018, the ballot measure passed overwhelmingly, bringing participatory budgeting to every corner of New York City.*

**Upstate/Downstate Housing Alliance**

$5,000 ... for a statewide retreat to build momentum for an expansive, inspiring, and successful rent law fight in 2019. Awarded October 2018. *Follow-up: the alliance held a successful retreat in Rochester, New York, to lay out their plans for an active session where housing rights will be at the forefront.*

**Yonkers Sanctuary Movement**

$5,000 ... for responding to the mass eviction of undocumented families in Yonkers due to landlord negligence. Awarded November 2018. *As of January 2019, most of these families were able to return to their homes.*
January to June 2019
Our Rapid Response grants in the first half of 2019 supported several mobilizations of New Yorkers to advance campaigns years and decades in the making, from real rent reform and education justice to drivers licenses for all.

Green Light NY: Driving Together Coalition
$5,000
...for the final push for a bill that will enable all immigrant New Yorkers to obtain drivers licenses. Awarded May 2019. Thanks to the hard work of organizers that mobilized hundreds of people across the state to the Capitol, the Green Light bill was signed into law in June 2019.

IntegrateNYC
$5,000
...to amplify a students’ policy platform to end school segregation as the mayoral administration prepared final recommendations on school diversity in June. Awarded April 2019. The Board of Education, together with the mayor, has largely adopted the students’ demands, announcing the 5Rs of #RealIntegration becoming a citywide blueprint.

Movement for Justice in El Barrio
$2,500
...for lobbying the federal government in D.C. in response to budget increases for the Department of Homeland Security. Awarded May 2019. As of June 2019, the agency received their budget without making additional oversight commitments, but public pressure to end the inhumane treatment of migrants at the southern border, especially asylum seekers, continues to grow.

New York City Coalition for Educational Justice
$5,000
...for development of a communications strategy highlighting the importance of culturally responsive education in public schools, as right-wing media publish unrelenting attacks on anti-bias trainings for New York City teachers. Awarded May 2019. As of June 2019, this campaign is ongoing.

NYC Veterans Alliance
$2,500
...to mobilize veterans to oppose the federal ban on transgender military service, in effect as of April 12. Awarded April 2019. As of June 2019, this campaign is ongoing.

Release Aging People in Prison (RAPP)
$5,000
...to expand organizing into Long Island in preparation for an expected backlash to changes to the Board of Parole that make it more fair-minded and rehabilitation-focused. Awarded April 2019. As of June 2019, this campaign is ongoing.

Street Vendor Project
$5,000
...to support the training and mobilization of street vendors for an April City Council hearing on a bill to increase the number of vendor licenses. Awarded February 2019. As of June 2019, this campaign is ongoing.

Upstate/Downstate Housing Alliance
$10,000
...to support a historic, statewide mobilization of 1,500 tenants to Albany to expand rent regulations as they faced expiration this June. Awarded May 2019. The package of rent protections—some of the strongest rent protections the state has seen—was passed within weeks and then signed by Governor Cuomo.