DEFUND
THE NYPD
#NYCBudgetJustice
Tzedek, tzedek, tirdof - Justice, justice, you must pursue

I am honored to serve as board chair of North Star Fund, your community foundation tirelessly pursuing justice, where we’re building a community made up of all of us.

As you’ll hear in A Guide to Freedom: A North Star Fund Podcast, I was invited to join this community in the mid-80s, as a reproductive rights activist on the Community Funding Board. And I’ve been proud to be a part of this growing community for decades.

Whenever you joined us—in the 80’s, 90’s, the 2000’s, or our newest decade—I thank you for showing up for justice. Especially this last year.

When people were needed on the street, our community put on their masks and marched.

When people needed food and personal protective equipment, North Star Fund grantees showed up all over our region with money, food and supplies.

When North Star Fund donors got the call that financial donations were needed immediately, you mailed checks, contributed online or made generous gifts from your Donor-Advised Funds.

Your financial contributions are fueling organizations, communities and movements of justice seekers.

Whether that’s justice for over-policed Black communities, justice for workers who have been deliberately excluded from COVID-19 economic relief, or justice for people who have no way to pay their rent in our collapsed economy.

Thank you for financial donations this year. I know you will do it again, for justice.

As activists, organizers, teachers and advocates, you are my heroes. You are the bedrock of North Star Fund and I deeply thank you.

Let’s keep pursuing justice—Tzedek—together,

Marjorie Fine
Board Chair
Looking backward is a privilege I rarely afford myself. **Instead, I look towards a world where we are all free.** I focus my energy and my heart on this beautiful future.

Sometimes, though, the opportunity to look back is a reminder of the power we have, and the hearts and hands that have been a part of this journey.

In early 2020, we finalized a new strategic plan, centering North Star Fund’s work to build a powerful ecosystem of grassroots organizing while also dismantling white supremacy as it appears in philanthropy’s entrenched practices. Weeks later, we found ourselves in a pandemic, an economic and democratic crisis, and in a long-overdue public reckoning with police killings and structural racism.

As our 2020 Action Report shows, New Yorkers responded to our calls to action with an unprecedented energy. This past year, over a thousand people like you became North Star Fund supporters for the first time, or joined us online or to learn more about building power through grassroots organizing.

In a time when we cannot be in a room together, we wanted to bring as many voices to you as we could—**more than could fit in these pages.**

The voices you’re used to hearing—whether at our Community Gala, or through our various events—can be found here in the six episodes of *A Guide to Freedom: A North Star Fund Podcast.*

We commissioned an audio introduction with the Gulp Podcast team—who bring you along on their journey of getting to know North Star Fund, and how to make sense of all that is happening around us through the lens of effective and powerful organizing.

Thank you for being a part of our movement, whether it’s by showing up in the streets, joining us for an online event or making a contribution. I can’t wait until we see each other again.

Jennifer Ching
Executive Director
In 2020, New York’s overlapping crises of health, wealth inequality and racism have led more New Yorkers than ever in our history to reach out to us asking what they can do. Over one thousand people reached out to us to become donors for the first time, to join an online event with us for the first time, or to learn more about the role of organizing in creating a city we can all live in with dignity.

We also had the biggest two weeks of grantmaking in our history: $1.7 million dollars to support our grantees at the start of the New York COVID-19 lockdown.

This past year we have found ourselves introducing our unique community and mission over and over again. So this year’s Action Report is an audio introduction to North Star Fund—from our founding principles to our historic levels of grant making this year.

We commissioned a six-episode podcast with the Gulp Podcast team—Maureen Sebastian
You can also go online to get a fuller picture of our year—the podcast as well as this year’s grants lists, our donor thank you list and financial information—by scanning this QR code with your mobile device. Or by visiting northstarfund.org/2020AR.

Listen to our podcast

and Risa Sarachan, to bring you along on their journey of getting to know our community and what we have been up to this year. They discovered for themselves what we can offer to New Yorkers who want new ways to tackle the challenges brought on by the unequal distribution of money and power in New York.

You can find A Guide to Freedom: A North Star Fund Podcast anywhere you listen to podcasts.
2019-2020 at a Glance

2,873 gifts from 1,744 donors totaling $5.8M

1,225 donors made gifts for the first time

We made 876 grants

$5.8M via Donor-Advised Funds

$3M via our Grants Programs
North Star Fund’s financial year matched the ups and downs of 2020. Our grantmaking program and our fiscally sponsored projects were faced with uncertainty caused by the pandemic. Ultimately, we saw our communities come together and act. This led to an increase in both income and expenses related to our grantmaking response to the pandemic, as well as the ongoing calls for racial justice.

This year we also launched our partnership with the Amalgamated Charitable Foundation for the management of our Donor-Advised Funds. This resulted in a significant transfer of assets.

We ended the year with strong reserves, which continue to provide stability and allow us to invest more deeply in organizing in 2021 and beyond. If you have questions about these financial statements or our overall financial position, you can reach out to Ivan Rosales at ivan@northstarfund.org.

### Income

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Source</th>
<th>Amount</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Individual Donors</td>
<td>$5,167,379</td>
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<tr>
<td>Foundation Partners</td>
<td>$672,680</td>
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<td>Donor-Advised Partners</td>
<td>$6,501,484</td>
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<tr>
<td>Contributions to Fiscally-Sponsored Projects</td>
<td>$2,233,774</td>
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<tr>
<td>Fees and Investments</td>
<td>$341,638</td>
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<tr>
<td><strong>Total Income</strong></td>
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### Expenses

<table>
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<tr>
<th>Category</th>
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<tr>
<td>Grants and Programs</td>
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<td>Donor-Advised Grants*</td>
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<tr>
<td>Development</td>
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<td>Management and General</td>
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<tr>
<td><strong>Total Expenses</strong></td>
<td><strong>$18,112,817</strong></td>
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</table>

*Some of these funds ($5,962,471) were transferred to Amalgamated Charitable Foundation for future Donor-Advised Fund grants.*

**Net Income/Loss** $-3,195,862
With almost 900 grants to list and over 1,700 donors to thank, we’re saving a lot of trees by posting our usual action report lists online. You’ll find them along with A Guide to Freedom: A North Star Fund Podcast by scanning this QR code with your mobile device.

Cover image: Justice Committee March
Back Cover: Occupy City Hall Action
both images by Neha Gautam