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Dear friends,

This is a significant year for Amplify Fund!

As we continue to do our everyday work – funding our grantees and their collaborative endeavors, bringing people together in learning spaces, and organizing with our Steering Committee for change in philanthropy – we are also in the midst of planning for Amplify 2.0. Since the process is being led by Amplify grantees, we're confident that the outcome will be a bolder and clearer vision for the future!

If our grantee-led work intrigues you, join us in nurturing and strengthening the conditions they need to build power!

In solidarity,
Amy, Melody, Renata and Nicole (The Amplify staff team)

Grantees continue to guide our work



In my 30+ years of work in the nonprofit economic justice movement never have I been invited to participate so intimately in a foundation's strategic planning process. The Amplify Fund views us as peer leaders and not subjects of charity. Amplify has developed a model approach to philanthropy that the philanthropic field should follow.



BERNIE MAZYCK
PRESIDENT & CEO, SCAED
MEMBER OF THE FOA ORGANIZING COMMITTEE



Amplify never ceases to amaze me, this process we are currently engaged in is literally next level! Having a voice in how this fund will behave and operate going forward is truly how we build collective power. If this process becomes the norm for philanthropy then our ability to have a wide spreading impact is just a matter of time.



ODESSA KELLY
EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR, STAND UP NASHVILLE (SUN)
MEMBER OF THE FOA ORGANIZING COMMITTEE



It has been an inspiring experience to work closely with community leaders from different parts of Puerto Rico and the Continental U.S. to support the growth of Amplify. As a group, we have connected not only on Amplify's vision and values, but also in our own personal and professional struggles, learning from each other ways to live (not just survive) while doing the work that we do."



COLIBRÍ SANFIORENZO-BARNHARD
DIRECTORA EJECUTIVA, HACIENDO ACCIONES SOCIO-ECOLÓGICAS RESILIENTES (HACER)
MEMBER OF THE FOA ORGANIZING COMMITTEE

From the beginning, we have followed the lead of local experts, positioned communities as decision-makers, and prioritized Black, Indigenous and POC leaders. After we got clear that Amplify Fund would extend beyond its original 4-year lifespan, we worked with experienced consultants to create a grantee-led process that would determine the future of Amplify while staying true to our original values. The values undergirding our redesign process are:

- Reorganize who has decision-making power so grantees and other local leaders are in front
- Center Black women and women of color without burdening them
- Design towards greater sustainability for everyone involved in Amplify Fund

You can learn more about the process, including details about roles and the timeline, [in this 2-page overview](#). And, in just a few months, we'll share more information about Amplify 2.0 based on decisions our grantees make. So keep an eye out!

Aligned with our commitment to “fund an ecosystem of groups and prioritize deep collaboration,” we introduced a new grant opportunity in 2021. Through the first two cycles of our Collaboration Grants program, we awarded 16 grants to campaigns, coalitions, and collaboratives that Amplify grantees are leading with their trusted allies.

While we heard great feedback from grantees about the program (particularly that collaboration grants are incredibly useful alongside general operating grants), we also refined our process along the way. For instance, we learned to:

- Ask for specifics about how money will be split amongst collaborators up front
- Give Amplify grantees the flexibility to apply for funds with whomever they want, including organizations not currently funded by us
- Include information about full decision-making criteria for grantmaking decisions in the RFP so grantees were fully aware up front
- Consider next steps for deferrals or declinations to mitigate the potentially negative consequences of competitive grants
- Share proposals with funder colleagues as a strategy to raise more dollars and awareness for collaboration

You can find descriptions of all 16 amazing collaborations in [this linked PDF](#) along with more detail about our process and the lessons we’ve learned.

All these projects need additional funding, so we invite you to co-fund this amazing work with us! If you have any questions or would like a connector email, please reach out to Melody Baker, Director of Programs. Melody@nfg.org

\$634,000 to 16 grantee collaborations



What funders are saying about Amplify

In the December 2021 article "[How General Service Foundation Champions Social Justice](#)" featured in *Inside Philanthropy*, writer Ade Adeniji highlights the foundation's participation in the Amplify Fund as one of the "Latest Big Moves." She also speaks to the boldness and clarity of Executive Director Dimple Abichandani's leadership, someone we're proud to call an Amplify Steering Committee member.

In 2021 we were excited to welcome three new funders into our community (Resourcing Justice Fund, the Susan Sandler Fund, and an Anonymous donor), and already in 2022 we welcomed a new partner, the Geraldine R. Dodge Foundation.

It is still a good time to join us! If you have questions about joining Amplify Fund, reach out to Amy Morris, Senior Director.

Amy@nfg.org



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Being a part of NFG's Amplify Fund gives us an opportunity to learn from and be in community with other place-based funders and colleagues. Particularly, as we develop and put into practice our funding priorities and approaches centered on a just and equitable New Jersey.

MARIANNA SCHAFFER
VICE PRESIDENT OF PROGRAMS
THE GERALDINE R. DODGE FOUNDATION



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