



Dear Friends,

This year, like many of you, we decided to update our grantmaking strategies to ensure we remained relevant given the significantly changed landscape of 2025. Our first step was to communicate with all our grantee partners about the process and to make closeout grants based on the existing strategies. Then, we embarked on deeply participatory journeys in the places where we work to create new local strategies.

Like in our original strategy development process, we selected 4–8 local advisors in each place to co-design the strategies and we interviewed local movement leaders (including over 100 grantees, values-aligned funders, and other organizers) to help inform the process. Over the span of approximately 3 months, the local advisor teams convened for in-person meetings, and then wrote and edited the local strategy documents.



We will share the individual place-based strategy documents in 2026, but we wanted to share some of the common priorities that we heard across all of the places and advisors:

- **Housing issues were dominant** with movement leaders naming various factors including, displacement, heirs' property challenges, corporate purchasing of housing, and landlord accountability.
- With the price of basic goods and services (food, housing, medical expenses, childcare) increasing this year, movement leaders identified affordability challenges. **Wages are not keeping up with the cost of living** came up as a major issue that could lead to deeper poverty especially in communities of color.
- Compounding crises, like the continuing impact of the COVID-19 pandemic, climate disasters, and increasing state terror, are resulting in **mental health concerns** for organizers and their base.
- The widespread use and presence of ICE in 2025, brought the concepts of **criminalization and militarization** back into funding conversations as strongly as they were in 2020 when the murder of George Floyd sparked global outrage about police violence.

We feel a sense of urgency to fund organizations working on these issues, leaning on our deep knowledge of our places and the trusting relationships we have built with movement leaders and funders. We hope you do too. If you are interested in learning more about our local strategies, reach out to Leticia Peguero at [leticia@nfg.org](mailto:leticia@nfg.org) and keep your eyes peeled for more announcements early in the new year.

Always,  
The Amplify Team – Cassi, Leticia and Renata

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## What grantees said when asked:

### **"What are you able to do because of support from the Amplify Fund that you might not have been able to do otherwise?"**

“Thanks to Amplify's funding, we exist. It's that simple.”

“We were able to hire a full-time executive director, a researcher, and a part-time community outreach coordinator. It's very difficult to secure sufficient funding for this type of investigative and organizing work.”

– **La Comisión Ciudadana para la Auditoría Integral del Crédito Público (Puerto Rico)**

“Because of Amplify Fund's early support, we transformed from an all-volunteer response network into a regional leader in environmental fairness.”

“That first investment allowed us to hire staff, formalize our programs, and file groundbreaking petitions and suits to the U.S. EPA. Amplify's partnership positioned us to grow into a trusted federal grantee leading one of the nation's first community-led environmental restoration programs”

– **Democracy Green (North Carolina)**

“Because of Amplify, we've been able to invest in more housing justice organizers and their leadership development, resulting in the development of tenant leaders who are now canvassing and educating their neighbors about...pro-tenant laws that passed this year. ”

– **Progressive Leadership Alliance of Nevada (Nevada)**

“Amplify Fund’s support was catalytic.”

“It gave us the flexibility to continue to grow beyond a Nashville-centered organization and build power across Tennessee’s Black communities in a way that was intentional, strategic, people and place-rooted.”

– The Equity Alliance (Tennessee)

“Amplify Fund’s support has been vital to sustaining and refining BOSS as a leading summer training ground for emerging Black organizers.”

“The investment made it possible to cover a portion of fellows’ stipends and key operating costs, ensuring accessibility for participants at pivotal moments in their lives and careers.”

– Action St. Louis (Missouri)

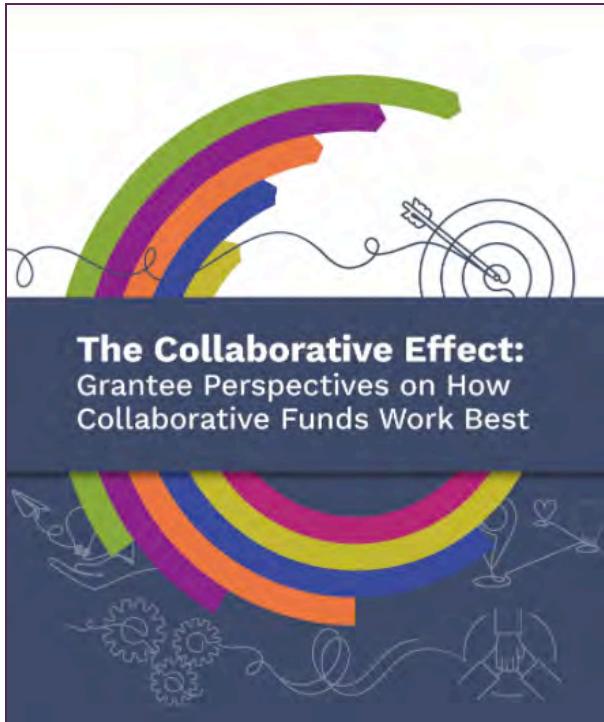
“Throughout the year, we received a lot of positive feedback from our staff about the wellness stipends made possible by Amplify. This funding supported our team’s mental and physical health, as employees were able to be reimbursed for activities they found personally beneficial, like therapy, hobby classes, and gym memberships.”

– Center for Coalfield Justice (Pennsylvania)

“Our first general operating grant of \$67,500 from Amplify Fund arrived at a critical moment, fueling our vision to expand equitable pathways for formerly incarcerated women to heal, grow, evolve, and thrive by uplifting their voices for change.”

“Amplify’s partnership—and its leadership trainings—empowered us to build people power, and strengthen our advocacy rooted in justice.”

– Step by Step Ministry Hope Project (South Carolina)



## Hot off the Press!

Read (or watch a webinar) about Amplify in this brand new report, *The Collaborative Effect: Grantee Perspectives on How Collaborative Funds Work Best*.

Collaborative funds are reshaping philanthropy — but how do they work for the organizations they're created to support? This report led by Vital Impact, Redstone Strategy Group, and Philanthropy Together, with support from the Hewlett Foundation, the study lifts up grantee voices in the most comprehensive analysis to date of grantee about their experience with mid-sized collaborative funds across the United States.

[Read the Report](#)

[Watch the Webinar](#)