



2025

YEAR IN REVIEW



We Rise Together. ✨



IN
COMMUNITY
THERE'S
POWER

Dearest members,

We have all felt this year, deeply. In a year defined by rising authoritarianism, global instability, and increasing pressure on movements and philanthropy alike, Women Donors Network and Women Donors Action met the moment with clarity, courage, and collective action.

Together, we moved **\$24 million to 249 grantee partners**—\$15.9 million through WDN and \$8.1 million through WDA—investing not only in rapid response needs, but in the long-term infrastructure, leadership, and connective tissue that movements need to endure, scale, and win. Across issue areas including reproductive justice, democracy, immigrant rights, climate, Palestinian freedom, and economic justice, our funding helped stabilize the frontlines, sustain our partners, and expand the capacity of movement ecosystems.



At the same time, we strengthened and grew our community. We welcomed **50 new members**. We deepened engagement through programs and regional gatherings. We expanded leadership pathways across our network. From virtual peer communities and learning spaces to Basecamp in Skamania, Washington, our members showed up with commitment and purpose.

This year also marked significant organizational milestones. We raised more than **\$31 million across WDN and WDA**, exceeding fundraising goals and building one of the strongest funding bases in our history. We launched new initiatives like the **Woven Futures Fund**, expanded the Block & Build Funder Coalition to include hundreds of institutions and leaders, and continued evolving our participatory grantmaking model. And our work was recognized nationally with an **IMPACT Award for Bold Peer Organizing**, affirming our leadership role within philanthropy.

Behind the scenes, we became stronger from the inside out. We invested in organizational resilience, strengthening security, compliance, and cross-functional infrastructure to meet an increasingly volatile environment. At the same time, we built new partnerships with aligned funders, legal experts, and movement leaders to prepare for emerging threats and protect the broader ecosystem.

Importantly, 2025 was not just a year of defense—it was a turning point. As the landscape shifts, so must we. We began pivoting from a posture of readiness to one of **proactive offense**: aligning resources, deepening collaboration, and developing strategies to counter authoritarianism.

Despite immense challenges, we worked to seed what comes next. We expanded our influence, strengthened our foundation, and delivered meaningful impact. As we look ahead, we do so with an understanding that preparedness alone is not enough. The work now is to claim our role in shaping the future and building a better world that we know is possible.

With gratitude and resolve,

Leena Barakat
President & CEO

2025 HIGHLIGHTS

OUR COMMUNITY



members,
representing
34 states and
3 countries



new members
in 2025

EVENTS

50+

virtual and
in-person
events hosted

185

members
attended
at least one
event in 2025

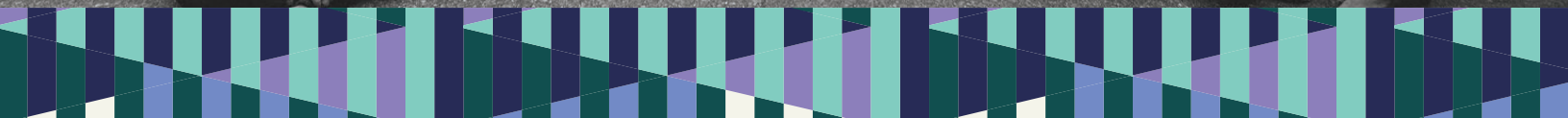
OUR IMPACT

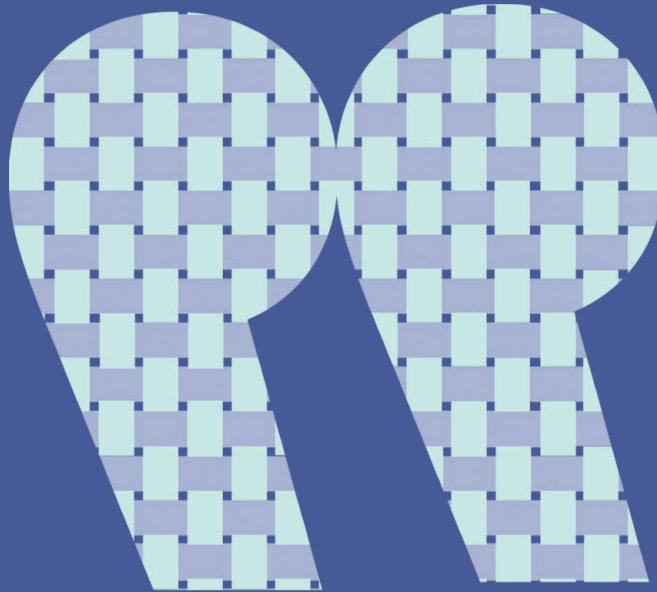
\$24 million in collective grantmaking
through WDN and WDA

\$15.9 million in c3 funding moved through WDN

\$8.1 million in c4 funding moved through WDA

249 organizations
& projects funded





"There's organizing, and then there's organizing. Women Donors Network speaks truth to power, galvanizes their philanthropic peers to action, and mobilizes their own members to act in solidarity, not fear. **This is what leadership looks like.**"

*–Ben Barge
National Committee for Responsive Philanthropy*

"Your grantmaking approach restores in us increased strength and hope. The kind of hope that makes us raise our fists here in solidarity with you, knowing we are not alone in this fight. **Thank you for standing with frontline organisations and movements**, for keeping faith with those who refuse to give up, and for doing it with such heart and care."

*–Corporate Accountability and Public Participation Africa
WDN Grantee Partner*

"Our community has **risen to meet the demands of our times** in ways that have been both inspiring and powerful: moving funds to the frontlines of our movements, organizing to build power, and taking care of one another and the communities we are a part of."

*–Suhad Babaa
2025 WDN Board Chair*

OUR COMMUNITY

2025 was a year for strengthening our community and deepening connections. We welcomed 50 new members to the network and engaged through programs, gatherings, and intentional community design.



Member Connections

WDN hosted 18 regional gatherings in 2025. These popular gatherings provided in-person space for members to connect in their local area and mobilize around issues that matter in their backyard. Together with our monthly Community Calls, these events laid the groundwork for more engagement and connection among us.

Most Attended Network Events

- WDN Connect, Skamania, WA
- February State of the Network
- Woven Futures Fund Briefing
- ABC Fund Briefing
- How Political Money Moves, hosted by Women Donors Action

State of the Network

One of our most cherished traditions that happens three times a year, State of the Network provides a comprehensive snapshot of what's happening across the network. In a year rife with chaos, fear, and fracture in the world, these events kept us aligned and inspired, and provided meaningful ways for members to connect and engage.



WDN Connect 2025: Welcome to Basecamp

Our annual conference is the heart of our programming—a chance for members and movement partners to come together in person to center joy, care, healing, and connection. In 2025, WDN Connect took place at the beautiful Skamania Lodge, located in the Columbia River Gorge National Scenic Area. It was a gathering point for strategies and conversations on how to conquer the mountains we may face in the future.

Jessica Byrd served as our “Camp Director,” and speakers included Prentis Hemphill of The Embodiment Institute and Congresswoman Pramila Jayapal, among others. Attendees got a chance to dig deep in workshops on topics like battling disinformation, multi-entity giving, and conflict resolution. And during our down time, we chased waterfalls, biked, made s’mores, and connected at the campfire. With 120 participants, 32 of whom were first-time attendees, WDN Connect 2025 marked a moment of deep strength and joy.



“As history has shown us from deconstruction comes the possibility of rebirth, envisioning new political systems and institutions and policies. I want us to leave this gathering knowing that this **moment is a true new beginning.**”

—Hillary Holley
Managing Director of Politics & Advocacy

Member Organizing Spotlight

In September, Microsoft blocked Israel’s use of its technology in mass surveillance of Palestinians—and that’s in part thanks to efforts by WDN members and former Microsoft employees **Laura Saunders, Sharon Chen, and Ruth Lipscomb**. Together, they organized employees and shareholders to pressure Microsoft to acknowledge and subsequently block the Israeli military from storing surveillance data on the company’s Azure platform. This effort to pressure Microsoft grew out of Divest4Pal, a collaboration across donor networks led by WDN member **Dorianna Blitt**, and was supported by reporting from Local Call, a news site of WDN grantee partner Just Vision. This is proof that companies can—and will—respond to public pressure. And it’s a reminder of the power we have when we boldly mobilize together.



Peer Communities & Affinity Groups

Peer Communities are cohorts of WDN members who come together around shared interests that align with our network's North Star, mission, and values. They are member-led and designed to be both intimate and impactful. In 2025, WDN members took part in four Peer Communities:

MOBILIZE4PALESTINE

Mobilize4Palestine (M4P) is a space for WDN members to work in solidarity for Palestinian freedom, human rights, and liberation. In 2025, M4P offered opportunities to learn, divest, and take action in support of Palestinian liberation, grounded in the understanding that this struggle is deeply connected to broader fights for justice, freedom, and collective liberation globally.

PROTECT OUR DEMOCRACY

Our Protect Our Democracy Peer Community brought together more than 50 members to focus on fighting disinformation, supporting independent media, and bolstering the processes and infrastructure that allow for free and fair elections.

BEYOND CAPITALISM

Beyond Capitalism aims to build collective consciousness about the role capitalism plays in driving the crises of our time. Members discuss assumptions about economic possibilities, grow their sense of agency to make new choices, and take risks to invest in alternatives. In 2025, they also funded two groups advancing the solidarity economy.

JEWS4JUSTICE

Jews4Justice facilitated discussions inspired by current events, readings, films, and guest speakers. They dove into difficult conversations about issues like ending the ongoing harms of the Israeli military occupation, Israeli apartheid, Right of Return, and more.

Southern Strategy Group

In the Deep South, progressive infrastructure and power-building are often deprioritized, leaving opportunities on the table. This challenge was the inspiration behind our Southern Strategy Group, where members are identifying strategic opportunities to invest in advocacy and organizing throughout the South.

In Louisiana, this work is anchored by the leadership of long-time member **Nancy Aronson**, who led efforts to launch the Louisiana Alliance donor table. Fellow WDN members helped move the Alliance from a pipe dream to a reality, Nancy says. Member **Tamara Kreinin** is a key member of the leadership team, along with member **Maggy Baccinelli**, who joined the Alliance in 2024 as the founding Executive Director.

Member Highlights

Drawing from her experiences in real-life giving circles, **Hali Lee's** 2025 book *The Big We* challenges our understanding of giving, showing how everyday people can take back philanthropy from billionaires and make the world a better place.



And **Melissa Hale Woodman** spread joy with her *Beastly* tour, a one-woman show that blended perimenopausal standup with a strategic call to action.



PARTNERSHIPS AND COALITIONS

Partnership building is a core value of our work at Women Donors Network.

The Block & Build Funder Coalition

In June 2024, grassroots leaders were targeted with baseless accusations that threatened their rights and ability to organize. Understanding that attacks on one movement are often deployed against other movements for justice, WDN and Solidaire Network convened the Block & Build Funder Coalition (BBFC) as a bold, coordinated response.

In 2025, BBFC saw extraordinary growth, with more than 500 participants representing 225 philanthropic organizations joining. Members met monthly to build solidarity, coordinate strategic defenses against authoritarian threats, and align on opportunities for proactive collective action and resource mobilization to protect targeted movements.



A highlight of the year was receiving a **national award for Bold Peer Organizing** from the National Committee for Responsive Philanthropy as part of its 2025 IMPACT Awards. "The Committee chose Women Donors Network for their extraordinary work to help donors and foundations respond to this challenging environment," said NCRP's Aaron Dorfman.



Kathryn Snyder speaks at the 2025 HIP conference.

In 2025, we deepened our commitment to collective action by joining forces with fellow donor networks to protect communities from the threat of ICE enforcement. Recognizing that these moments demand a coordinated philanthropic response, we aligned resources, shared strategies, and mobilized giving in defense of immigrant rights. We also continued to work in deep partnership with the Palestinian liberation ecosystem through involvement in Funding Freedom and Funders for Palestine.

Our partnerships extended beyond the funding community and onto national stages. Director of Movement Partnerships Kathryn Snyder was honored to speak at Hispanics in Philanthropy's (HIP) conference, joining leading practitioners in conversations about equity-centered grant-making and the evolving role of donor networks.

2025 IMPACT

In 2025, we mobilized more resources than at any point in our network's history: \$24 million in grants to 249 organizations through Women Donors Network and Women Donors Action.



WDN's Grantmaking Strategy

Our network invested deeply in movement infrastructure and community power. We also embraced more transparent and equitable funding through the expansion of Participatory Grantmaking (PGM) in several of our initiatives, centering movement leaders' voices and their lived and professional experience in decision-making, so funding priorities reflect actual needs. PGM has spread across several of our key initiatives—including the Abortion Bridge Collaborative (ABC) Fund, Woven Futures Fund, Jean Hardisty Initiative, and the Safe and Sustainable Future for All Impact Collective—and our members are playing a critical role in relationship building, outreach, and engaging in calls to action to further our impact.

LONG-TERM MOVEMENT BUILDING

One of our greatest areas of impact is our commitment to resourcing grassroots organizing and strengthening movement infrastructure.

PARTICIPATION & REPRESENTATION FOR ALL IMPACT COLLECTIVE

Building Multigenerational, Multiracial Coalitions

Mobilizing a multigenerational, multiracial coalition enables us to build movements at scale, and WDN grantee **Alliance for Youth Organizing (AYO)** is a critical player in this strategy. As a network of 21 youth-focused affiliates across 19 states, AYO bridges the gap between national resources and local organizing initiatives, focusing its efforts on youth civic participation. One of their key projects is the Youth Civic Accelerator, an operations hub and incubator created to launch and scale youth-led civic infrastructure in the states that need it most. They launched four new state chapters in 2025, helping organizers focus on organizing instead of on back-office infrastructure.

“This investment will directly **strengthen our efforts to advance disability justice** and build power for disabled people across the South — particularly in communities that have long been left out of conversations about equity and change.”

—New Disabled South, WDN Grantee Partner

OPPORTUNITY & EQUALITY FOR ALL
IMPACT COLLECTIVE // GRANTEE SPOTLIGHT

New Disabled South

Another example of multigenerational, multiracial organizing is the work at **New Disabled South (NDS)**, the first and only regional disability organization in the country. One of their flagship programs is the Black Disability Institute, which initiates original research and bolsters advocacy efforts examining issues uniquely affecting Black people with disabilities. An example: They’re investigating racial disparities in Home and Community-Based Services (HCBS) waitlists—vital supports that Black disabled Georgians often wait years to receive, as well as how policing intersects with disability and race in the South.



Advancing Climate Resilience Efforts

The Safe & Sustainable Future for All Impact Collective provides support for emerging work and long-term partnerships that advance climate resilience efforts in alignment with the Just Transition framework. In the face of growing ecological and environmental disasters, WDN supports groups in the U.S. and Global South as they hold corporations and governments accountable for the harm they cause, while building and sustaining systems for thriving communities.

Ekvn-Yefolecv (“ee-gun yee-full-lee-juh”, pictured below) is an intentional ecovillage community of the Indigenous Maskoke people. In Maskoke, the name means “returning to the earth” and “returning to our homelands”—a poignant name for a community that, 180 years after being forcibly relocated, at last returned to their ancestral lands in 2018 in what is known as Alabama. Ekvn-Yefolecv is fighting to reverse the legacies of colonialism and assimilation, and to restore and celebrate Indigenous practices, culture, and connection of the Maskoke people to their homeland.

The **Climate Mobilization Project** brings young leaders together to usher in a new climate movement rooted in resilience and sovereignty. The organization’s Climate Survival Initiative has provided more than 100 hours of programming to more than 120 leaders. This work aims to break down silos between issues, while launching survival initiatives.

Cooperative Food Empowerment Directive (CoFED) is a Queer, Trans, Black, Indigenous, and People of Color-led (QTBIPOC) organization that helps young leaders build food and land cooperatives. In 2025, the organization redistributed \$100,000 to 10 farmers and cooperatives and gave two leaders a fellowship opportunity to learn and dream of a new world. One fellow advanced a healing-centered curriculum for Black girls in the Deep South. Another laid groundwork for a decentralized mushroom-growing network rooted in land restoration, communal nourishment, and cultural memory.





OPPORTUNITY & EQUALITY FOR ALL IMPACT COLLECTIVE

Centering Collective Care

WDN is proud to support a multitude of organizations centering community care and healing. **Alianza Nacional de Campesinas** (pictured above) is doing crucial work as the U.S.'s first national women's farmworker network. They trained over 58 campesinas promotoras to provide Know Your Rights Training to over 900 women who work as temporary agricultural workers who face the highest risk of extreme human rights abuses at work. The **Birth Center Equity Fund**, a national network supporting nearly 60 birth centers led by Black, Indigenous, and people of color, launched a new project called The Beloved Economy Studio, to strengthen birth infrastructure and build wealth by establishing a one-stop shop for human, social, financial, and capital resources for community birth centers.

JEAN HARDISTY INITIATIVE // GRANTEE SPOTLIGHT

Get Free Movement Fund

At a time when the powerful are ruling for a wealthy, white few, **Get Free Movement Fund** is working to flex their power, repair damage, and rewrite the rules. Get Free is a youth-led movement to repair past harms, remove ongoing barriers to equality, and realize a future where freedom is for all. They train young people to run local and national campaigns that shift national narratives and build consensus toward truth, reconciliation, and reparations. And through their online hub "The Grapevine," they create, seed, and spread calls to action.



Countering Political Violence & Protecting Democracy

Blueprint North Carolina is a critical convener and connector of voter justice groups in North Carolina. In the wake of the 2024 election, they were inundated with requests for security and safety support to counter threats of political violence. Blueprint responded to more than 50 requests, providing training, research and data support, and on-the-ground volunteer assistance.

Michigan Voices (pictured at right), along with Promote the Vote, the ACLU Fund of Michigan, and other organizations in the state, protected voters through the work of their Election Protection Coalition. From precinct to precinct, these groups ensured that concerns at the polls were not just identified, but quickly addressed.



Strengthening Global Solidarity

It is becoming increasingly important to recognize the interconnectedness of our movements in the U.S. with global movements. In 2025, WDN grants included transnational power-building organizations working at the intersection of environmental justice and human rights, like **Corporate Accountability & Public Participation Africa (CAPPA)**. The fifth annual Africa water week of action demonstrated the power of the movement CAPPA is driving to prevent continent-wide privatization of water systems. CAPPA and **Corporate Accountability** co-lead the Our Water, Our Right Africa Coalition (OWORAC), which is preventing a corporate takeover of water from Senegal to Cameroon, Zimbabwe to Kenya. WDN also provided support for the **Asian People's Movement on Debt and Development**, 50 peoples' movements, organizations, coalitions, and networks focused on economic and climate justice across the Global South.

Abolitionist Law Center (ALC)

Just as human rights violations and state violence travel across borders, our movements for justice must also be international. In response to the current legal landscape, the **ALC's Human Rights Program** builds innovative challenges to U.S. state violence domestically and abroad through advocacy and litigation. After briefings with partners, ALC settled their case against the Departments of Defense, Homeland Security, and State for failing to produce records related to the detention of thousands of Afghans abroad. Because of their work, federal agencies are required to produce records relating to their FOIA request by the end of 2026.

SEEDING NEW OPPORTUNITIES

Another area of significant impact is in our role as a catalytic funder. Through strategic investments and a powerful incubation model, we find and fill gaps in the movement ecosystem, supporting critical work that would have potentially gone unfunded or unrealized.

ABORTION BRIDGE

COLLABORATIVE FUND

Ensuring Abortion is Accessible Now and Always

The abortion access landscape in 2025 was dire, but WDN's **Abortion Bridge Collaborative (ABC) Fund** was prepared to fill the gaps. In 2025, the ABC Fund moved nearly \$4 million to more than 40 organizations in support of abortion access and practical support for abortion seekers. These grants resourced new or alternative pathways to care, from online pharmacies to self-managed abortion trainings, doula collectives, and more. The ABC Fund also resourced efforts to disseminate accurate and accessible information about how to obtain safe proximate abortion care.

Be on the lookout for ABC Fund's 2025 Annual Report for more information about its impact and strategy.

Beyond the Grant

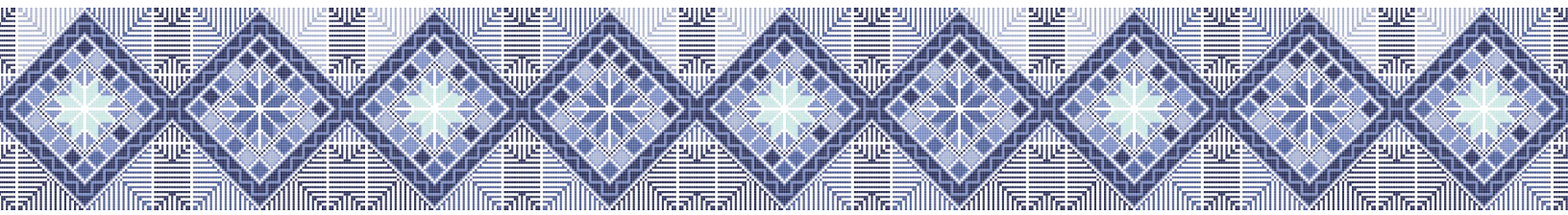
In 2025, the ABC Fund launched a **Technical Assistance Program** to offer clinic grantees pro bono consulting services. Designed to help organizations strengthen their operations across financial management, strategic planning, organizational development, human resources support, and more, this program helps grantees navigate an increasingly challenging landscape.



GRANTEE SPOTLIGHT

RISE Collective

In May of 2025, Boulder, Colorado made headlines when a longtime abortion provider of more than 50 years—one of the few providers in the country performing abortions later in pregnancy—permanently closed its doors. This left a gap in abortion access not just in Boulder, but throughout the U.S. The same day this clinic closed, 13 employees got together to create something new: **RISE Collective**, owned entirely by the employees. They saw their first patient six months later, and the ABC Fund provided their very first grant. In late 2026, RISE will open the doors to a new permanent building that will allow them to continue operating safely and securely.



The Woven Futures Fund

In 2025, we launched our newest incubated initiative, the **Woven Futures Fund**—a first-of-its-kind Palestinian movement-led fund and national donor collaborative strengthening the U.S. movement for Palestinian rights at a historic juncture in the struggle for collective liberation. The Palestinian freedom movement is both a canary in the coal mine and a catalyst for justice. By defending this movement, we are defending the frontlines of multi-racial democracy and helping unlock freedom for all.

With support from over 40 founding donors and a five-person movement-led advisory committee, the Woven Futures Fund moved more than **\$2.02 million to frontline organizations in its inaugural year**. These grants sustained grassroots organizers amid a turbulent year; supported efforts to shift the narrative toward truth and human rights; and strengthened movement safety and legal strategies. It also provided space and seed funding for Palestinian leaders and organizers to dream, innovate, and launch bold strategies that advance liberation beyond crisis.

GRANTEE SPOTLIGHT

Al-Shabaka

Al-Shabaka is the first and only global Palestinian think tank. Over the past year, they responded to the growing need for policy analysis that centered Palestinian expertise in the ongoing genocide and colonization. Their publications have been cited by movement leaders, organizations, teachers, and student activists. In 2025, the organization published 22 peer-reviewed publications, held 10 virtual policy labs, and released monthly episodes of their podcast, *Rethinking Palestine*.

GRANTEE SPOTLIGHT

Palestine Reporting Lab

Despite being one of the most reported on issues across the globe, journalists in Palestine are routinely sidelined, censored, and denied the support to report stories that they are best positioned to tell. **Just Vision's Palestine Reporting Lab** aims to fill this media gap by building a "newsroom without walls" by incubating ambitious, time-intensive investigative stories that uncover hidden harm, focus on accountability, and serve communities affected by abuses of power. The Lab provides journalists with critical infrastructure, rigorous editorial guidance and mentorship, financial backing, and opportunities for collaborative reporting and research. In partnership with *New York Magazine*, the Lab produced "Watched, Tracked, and Targeted," a story by Mohammed Mhawish exploring the deep material and psychological impacts on Palestinians in Gaza living under extensive surveillance by the Israeli government.



GRANTEE SPOTLIGHT

Coalition for Liberated Ethnic Studies

The **Coalition for Liberated Ethnic Studies** (CLES) is a national coalition working to reclaim, defend, and advance liberatory, critical ethnic studies across U.S. academia. It mobilizes a network of more than 190 individual members and 35 partner organizations—including scholars, K–12 educators, students, and families—to counter disinformation, challenge anti-Palestinian education policies and legislation, and equip communities. Through this support, this network has the tools for movement defense and safety amid escalating political repression and right-wing attacks. For Woven Futures Fund, this is a strategic investment in defending a primary battleground for the movement: the academic landscape, where social movements, history, and culture are taught and contested.

THE NEXT PHASE OF THE REFLECTIVE DEMOCRACY CAMPAIGN

The Collective for Democratic Practice

Founded by WDN in 2014, the **Reflective Democracy Campaign** set out to investigate and explore strategies for dismantling the structural barriers faced by women and people of color seeking elected office. Over 10 years later, the Campaign is evolving into a feminist hub known as **The Collective for Democratic Practice**. This new Collective is committed to understanding American democracy with a race, gender, and class lens. It will continue to weave together research and organizing; conduct rigorous intellectual work that won't be kept behind the walls of universities or the paywalls of academic journals; develop and fund new democracy-building efforts; and remain in dialogue with movements and events in the world. This evolution from an incubated project to an innovative, independent project is a testament to the success of our catalytic funding model.



RAPID RESPONSE FUNDING

When a crisis hits, organizations can't always wait for the next grant cycle—so neither do we. Our funding model allows us to quickly move resources to the field when urgent needs arise.



From Hammer & Hope's 2025 Winter issue

Protecting Communities Targeted by ICE

2025 was the deadliest year for people in ICE custody in over two decades, with at least 32 deaths recorded and a record high 68,000 detained. As this reign of terror moved from city to city, anti-ICE protests broke out across the country, and we witnessed how communities can move in formation thanks to sustained investment in movement organizing. We moved rapid response funding to immigrants rights groups in Los Angeles and Minneapolis, among other cities. These grants supported groups like the **Haitian Bridge Alliance**, which provided critical humanitarian, legal, and social services for Black immigrants and survivors of human rights abuses, and the **Minnesota Immigrant Rights Action Committee**, which conducted rapid response trainings and hosted sit-ins and rallies.

Supporting Movement Media

In a media landscape where legacy outlets are collapsing or weakened to serve harmful agendas, movement journalism is the anecdote. In 2025, we added new media outlets to our growing movement journalism portfolio, including **Hammer & Hope**, **TransLash Media** and **Movement Media Alliance**, all providing truly powerful community reporting.

Fighting the Authoritarian Takeover in DC

In August, the Trump administration declared a national emergency in the nation's capital, despite a 30-year low in crime rates. They temporarily gained control of the district's police force and activated 800 members of the National Guard to address "crime," which disproportionately attacks Black residents, immigrants, and unhoused people. To support the response on the ground, WDN resourced two groups: **Empower DC**, which organized and built political pressure to reject the federalization of D.C., and **D.C. Migrant Solidarity Mutual Aid**, which operated an ICE hotline.

Response & Resilience During Climate Disasters

In October, Hurricane Melissa unleashed devastating damage across Jamaica, the Bahamas, Cuba, Haiti, and the Dominican Republic, with tens of thousands displaced in Haiti. In response, WDN resourced **María Fund** (also a grantee of WDN's Safe & Sustainable for All Impact Collective) as they worked with the Jamaican and Haitian diaspora to provide immediate aid to their families and communities back home.



The Texas Redistricting Fight

When our friends in Texas fell into the kickoff redistricting battle, it resulted in a new map disenfranchising voters of color while giving white Texans control of 79% of the state's Congressional seats—despite making up only 40% of the population. WDN mobilized rapid response grants to groups like **Texas Civil Rights Project**, a group of lawyers running community mobilizations and trainings; **Texas Freedom Network Education Fund**, which hosted a rally and prepared for future special sessions; and **Transgender Education Network of Texas**, which educated residents on the anti-trans measures included in the bill.

Emergent Fund

WDN co-founded Emergent Fund in 2016 to move rapid-response resources to communities under attack by federal policies and priorities. In 2025, Emergent Fund distributed over **\$3 million in grants to more than 300 grassroots organizations**, \$1 million more than anticipated.

Emergent Fund also anchors the **Action for Transformation Fund (AFTF)**, a trans-led rapid response fund for transgender-led groups leading intersectional racial and gender justice work centering interdependence and care. Last year, AFTF granted over \$1.3 million to trans-led grassroots groups. The Emergent Fund is fiscally sponsored by Amalgamated Foundation, and WDN is proud to remain a sustaining funder.

WDA IMPACT



At Women Donors Action, we believe our political systems should reflect and be accountable to the people. We mobilize c4 resources to build a multiracial democracy that delivers the policies and solutions our communities need to thrive.



WDA's Grantmaking Strategy

Our grantmaking strategy focuses on three primary areas of investment: long-term movement building, rapid response funding, and seeding catalytic opportunities. This means we support intentional organizing to build toward a just, equitable, and multiracial democracy — not just by leveraging the power that exists now, but by forging a new vision that advances gender, racial, economic, and climate justice.

LONG-TERM MOVEMENT BUILDING

One of our greatest areas of impact is investing in the infrastructure — people, tools, and strategies — of movements.

Year-Round Organizing & Power-Building

Year-round organizing is critical to a healthy, thriving democracy. We invested early dollars to sustain the organizing efforts of our grantee partners across the country, building trust with voters, organizing around important issues, fighting back against rising authoritarianism, and working alongside values-aligned elected officials to create and implement policies.

In Pennsylvania, on-the-ground organizing by grantees like **CASA in Action**, **One PA**, **APIPA**, **POWER Action** and **Make the Road PA** (pictured below) engaged voters on critical issues like protecting voting rights, education, healthcare, and workers' rights.



Long-time grantee **Alliance for Youth Action** catalyzed youth engagement across their network, focusing on issues like abortion access, climate justice, housing, reimagining public safety, voting rights, and more.

In Michigan, **Detroit Action** activated voters on gun violence, housing affordability, and workers' rights—paving the way for a paid leave ballot referendum they will run in 2026.

Grantees **Georgia Conservation Voters**, **Asian American Advocacy Fund**, and others engaged voters around countering the rise of data centers, understanding the role of the Public Service Commission, addressing utility affordability, and advancing climate justice.

Fueling Issue Advocacy & Policy Change

Women Donors Action doesn't just support organizations based on the number of doors they knock, the number of calls they make to voters, or the number of social media clicks they generate. We support on-the-ground, grassroots movement building—from co-governance programs to lobbying and advocacy for policies that support impacted communities across the country.

In 2025, **Wisconsin Muslim Civic Alliance (WMCA)**, an organization that works to organize, educate, and empower Wisconsin Muslims, helped to create the state's first-ever Wisconsin Muslim Legislative Caucus. WDA also funded **The Institute for Middle East Understanding**, the **U.S. Campaign for Palestinian Rights Action**, and **A New Policy** to coordinate advocacy and lobbying efforts to block aid to Israel during the ongoing genocide in Gaza.

After federal funding cuts slashed Medicaid funding, **Care in Action** (pictured below) stepped up as a leader in the fight against large-scale federal program and funding cuts. Their federal policy team worked to seed comment testimony about the importance of Medicaid. They also led a "Care Can't Wait Action" coalition, which connected at least 18 groups to push for a robust care infrastructure and invest in our nation's caregivers.

Attacks on the trans community continued to escalate in 2025, and our partners at **Equality Federation** dug into legislative advocacy work—tracking bills, attending hearings, coordinating peer-to-peer texting programs, and more. They also ran paid call programs for defensive and proactive bills supported by their partners. Through these programs, the Federation has worked to combat more than 550 anti-trans bills that have been up for consideration in 46 states.

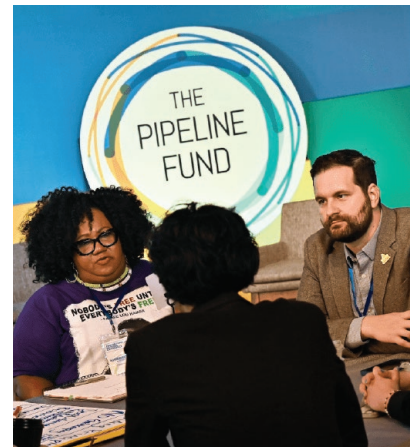


SEEDING NEW OPPORTUNITIES

Through strategic investments, we fund new ideas that drive innovation and fill gaps in the ecosystem.

One example of this work is **The Pipeline Fund**, which is building a reflective democracy where skilled, diverse community leaders are fully supported to run for office, lead effective campaigns, and advance policies that address the urgent needs of all Americans. As a coalition of more than 100 groups, they are investing in the next generation of leaders and plan to expand into 20 states over the next three years to strengthen leadership pipelines.

We also funded **Disability Victory**, which is building the political power of disabled people through training, leadership development, and networking. Throughout the year, they hosted year-round accessible programs for advocates, organizers, campaign staff, and candidates. And their Disability Victory Leadership Network offers ongoing support to program participants and electeds, demonstrating the effectiveness of accessible and community-centered co-governance programs.



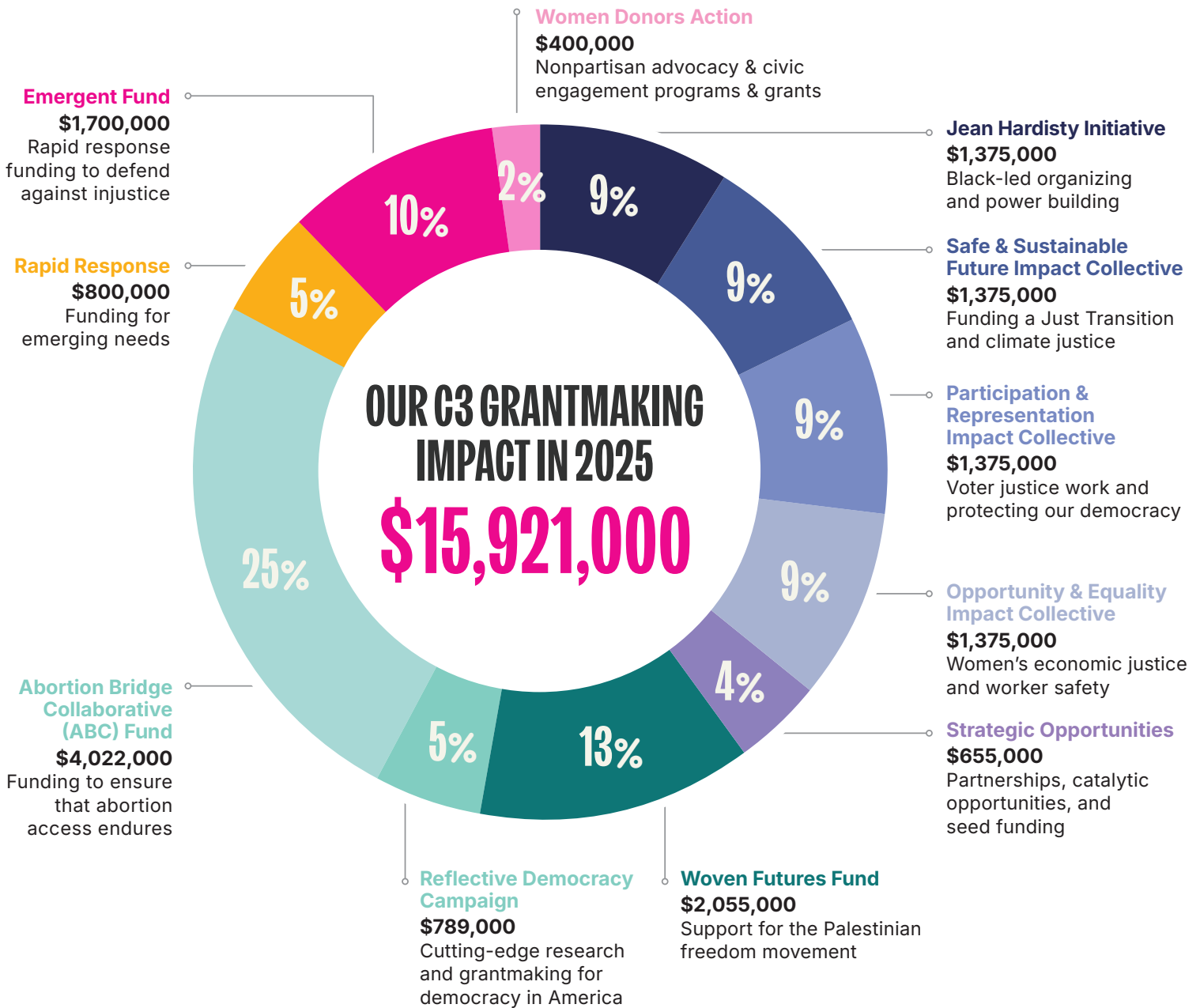
RAPID RESPONSE FUNDING



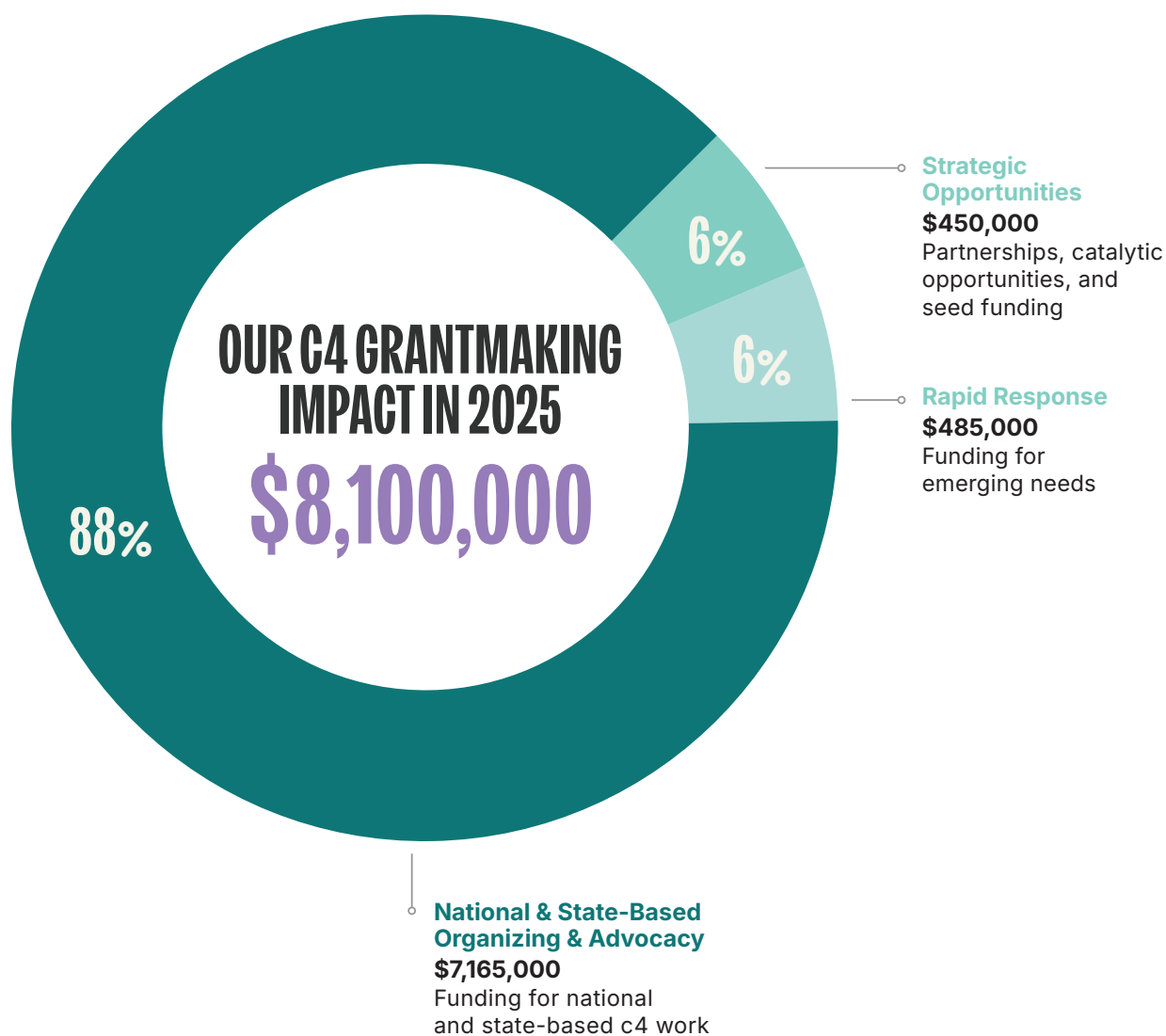
In 2025, we witnessed appalling attacks on our democracy, through rigged redistricting measures; the rollout of federal troops and ICE across the country; and the gutting of Medicaid, SNAP, and Medicare for millions. In response, WDA mobilized rapid response c4 dollars for groups leading direct defense against authoritarian overreach and working to hold elected officials accountable.

When National Guard troops were deployed across the country, WDA resourced response efforts in several areas. In Chicago, grantee **Illinois Coalition for Immigrant and Refugee Rights Action** coordinated organizing efforts and conducted political education to help communities understand the connection between harmful policies and the electoral power of the people. In Tennessee, **Memphis for All** ran accountability campaigns against the city's Mayor and City Council for their cooperation with federal agents. And on the West Coast, **Protect Oregon** coordinated statewide response efforts after two people were shot by federal agents in East Portland.

GRANTMAKING BY THE NUMBERS



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womendonorsnetwork.org
womendonorsaction.org

Women Donors Network and Women Donors Action are separate organizations. Our missions are complementary, with differentiated capabilities and strategies to drive change, and separate resourcing that reflects our distinct funding vehicles and legal requirements. Women Donors Network is a 501(c)(3) nonprofit organization and does not support or oppose any political party or candidate for public office. Women Donors Action is a 501(c)(4) social welfare organization that primarily supports issue advocacy and civic engagement.