

## COMMUNITY-IDENTIFIED ISSUES

The Foundation supports

grassroots leadership development to build a strong base of civic activism on a range of issues important to local low-income communities. The following grantees are developing grassroots leaders and activists of color in Boston and Chelsea, including immigrants and teens, who are engaging collectively to identify priorities and advocate for change.

### Center for Teen Empowerment, Inc.

\$40,000

CTE engages youth of color and low-income youth in Boston and other neighborhoods in grassroots leadership development and activism.

- CTE's youth leaders are focusing attention on creating positive relationships and mutual understanding between its youth members and Boston Police officers, along with other issues of concern to its youth.

### Centro Presente, Inc.

\$40,000

CP Coordinates the Trust Act Coalition that secured passage of Trust Act Ordinances in Boston and Lawrence, preventing local law enforcement from assisting in the deportation of non-criminal, undocumented immigrants.

- While advocating for state-wide Trust Act bill, the Coalition continues to advocate for municipal ordinances in Lynn and possibly in New Bedford, Haverhill and other gateway communities.

### Fourth Presbyterian Church

\$30,000

The Church's Youth Organizing Project successfully engages youth leaders and activists to identify and work on community issues. Areas for future campaigns in South Boston include:

- The displacement of low income families from private housing; and the growing problem of substance abuse and addiction in the community.

### Hyde Square Task Force, Inc.

\$50,000

As a powerful voice for the Jamaica Plain Latino community, HSTF's youth organizers are developing a campaign to restore and expand the range and availability of arts education in Boston Public Schools.

- The group is also working to secure economic development and programming resources needed to realize Hyde Square's designation as Boston's cultural "Latin Quarter."

### Mass Alliance of HUD Tenants

\$45,000

MAHT works to preserve the affordability of privately owned HUD-subsidized rental housing at risk of being lost due to expiring use restrictions.

- MAHT develops tenant leadership to collectively address housing issues at the building level and to engage in policy campaigns to increase affordable housing resources.

### MA Immigrant & Refugee Advocacy Coalition

\$90,000

Promoting the rights and developing immigrants and refugees as leaders, MIRA's legislative priorities include:

- The Safe Driving Bill, which would remove immigration status as a barrier to receiving a valid driver's license and insurance; and The Trust Act, which prevents local police from detaining and assisting in the deportation of non-criminal, undocumented immigrants.

### MA Senior Action Council, Inc.

\$50,000

MSAC empowers its elder community members to collectively address key public policy and community issues that affect their health and well-being.

- MSAC's "Bridge the Gap" campaign seeks to reform policies that currently create barriers to affordable healthcare for seniors with incomes below 300% of the federal poverty line.

### Project R.I.G.H.T., Inc.

\$45,000

Project Right is a coalition of residents and community associations that work together to address a range of issues identified by Grove Hall residents.

- Agency develops grassroots leaders, whose current priorities include advocating for increased resources and institutional change in areas ranging from effective policing to transit and educational equity.

### Sociedad Latina, Inc.

\$50,000

Sociedad Latina plays an important role in developing the leadership skills of low-income Latino youth in the Roxbury, Mission Hill and Jamaica Plain areas through its Youth Community Organizing (YCO) program.

- Youth leaders are currently focused on increasing "cultural competence" within Boston Public Schools and ending the use of plastic and paper bags by retailers in Boston.

### South Boston en Acción, Inc.

\$40,000

SBEA is a member-driven organization that builds connection and leadership among Latino families by addressing common problems and creating solutions for change.

- SBEA engages, trains and organizes residents to collectively advocate for just and equitable resources in the South Boston community.

### Youth Jobs Coalition (Massachusetts)

\$50,000

YJC is a coalition of 40 youth organizing groups across the state dedicated to creating more job opportunities for teens.

- The YJC will utilize youth jobs budget advocacy to secure funding and private sector support as part of the Jobs Not Jails Coalition, for a justice reinvestment bill which would redirect saved public dollars to education and youth jobs.

**IMPORTANT RACIAL JUSTICE ISSUES** The Foundation supports grassroots leadership development **and** institutional and policy change to address **three specific racial justice issues** of critical importance in Boston and Chelsea today. The following grantees are developing grassroots leaders and activists of color, including immigrants and teens, and are working to advance policy and institutional solutions that can dismantle persistent, racialized economic disparities.

### Action for Regional Equity

\$80,000

- ARE is a coalition of community groups and activists working to ensure equitable access for residents of color to permanent jobs associated with the Wynn Casino Resort development in Everett.

### Bessie Tartt Wilson Initiative for Children, Inc.

\$35,000

- BTWIC is the lead convener of the Putting MA Kids First Coalition, a coalition of center and community-based childcare providers rallying around the issue of pay equity for front-line childcare workers.

### Boston Private Industry Council, Inc.

\$50,000

- BPIC's Youth Transitions Task Force (YTTF) advocates for more alternative education programming and adoption of supportive practices for youth to reduce school dropout in Boston.

### Boston Student Advisory Council

\$55,000

- Youth On Board's BSAC will monitor and support enforcement of Chapter 222 and the BPS district's new Code of Conduct to limit student suspensions and expulsions to a last resort and ensure district and school compliance.

### Boston Tenant Coalition, Inc.

\$70,000

- BTC supports the coordination of a coalition of member-led organizing and other groups advocating to strengthen inclusionary development and other policies that increase access to affordable housing.

### Chinese Progressive Association

\$60,000

- As a member of several coalitions, CPA pursues a shared organizing platform leading to more equitable land development, affordable housing, and access to jobs for Boston's communities of color.

### Citizens for Juvenile Justice

\$45,000

- CfJJ is working to decriminalize school offenses of "disturbing lawful assembly" and "disorderly conduct" and provide for the sealing of juveniles' criminal records for certain offenses.

### Immigrant Worker Center Collaborative

\$95,000

- IWCC has been developing a campaign to address wage theft and substandard work conditions and to pass statewide legislation to curtail wage theft.

### Lawyers' Committee for Civil Rights and Economic Justice

\$30,000

- The Committee engages and educates parents and provides legal support to enforce implementation of MA Chapter 222 school discipline law and address patterns of disproportionate racially biased school exclusion.

### Massachusetts Advocates for Children, Inc.

\$40,000

- MAC seeks to reduce the disproportionate discipline penalties faced by youth of color through Code of Conduct revision and monitoring, and increasing the cultural proficiency of Boston teachers.

### Massachusetts Communities Action Network

\$55,000

- MCAN is conducting grassroots leadership development on proposed state legislation to raise the minimum wage in the chain retail and restaurant sectors.

### Mass Mentoring Partnership, Inc.

\$30,000

- MMP is focusing its policy advocacy on the creation of "graduation coaches" in high schools across the state to decrease drop-out rates and racial/ethnic achievement disparities.

### Multicultural Dropout Outreach Collaborative

\$20,000

- MDOC advocates for legislation to promote quality instruction and parental involvement for English language learners, who are over three times as likely to be suspended as their white peers.

### Restaurant Opportunities Centers United-Boston

\$30,000

- ROC-Boston is seeking to address low wages, lack of benefits and wage theft experienced by restaurant workers, many of whom are people of color and women.

### "Unnamed" Youth Organizing Coalition

\$50,000

- This coalition of youth groups is building a Boston youth movement to address issues of racial and economic justice by focusing on racial disparities in job opportunities and housing in Boston.

### United Teen Equality Center, Inc.

\$40,000

- UTEC's Teen's Leading the Way Coalition advocates for legislation providing automatic expungement for youth up to age 21 sentenced for misdemeanors and expungement of non-heinous felonies by petition to a judge.

### Wage Action Coalition

\$50,000

- Coordinated by Mass. Jobs with Justice, this coalition of community and labor groups advocates for a state-mandated \$15/hour wage and "fair scheduling" for low-wage fast food and retail workers.

For more information about the Foundation's new strategic plan and application guidelines, contact **Angela Brown** at [abrown@hyamsfoundation.org](mailto:abrown@hyamsfoundation.org) or call **617-426-5600**.