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facts  
you should  
know  
about the

# FUND TO BUILD GRASSROOTS POWER

In 2018, The JPB Foundation established the [Fund to Build Grassroots Power](#) (FBGP) at the Windward Fund to accelerate a just transition by strengthening, growing, and supporting four national grassroots networks.



Leaders from these networks serve on an advisory board to provide strategic guidance and input on grant-making priorities and decisions to ensure that the FBGP is responsive to the member organizations' needs. To date the fund has distributed two rounds of grant funding in 2019 and 2020.

**123**  
applications received

1

The fund is helping to meet the tremendous gap in funding for building the capacity of grassroots organizations that are advancing environmental justice across the country.<sup>1</sup>

**\$13.4MM**  
in total requests received

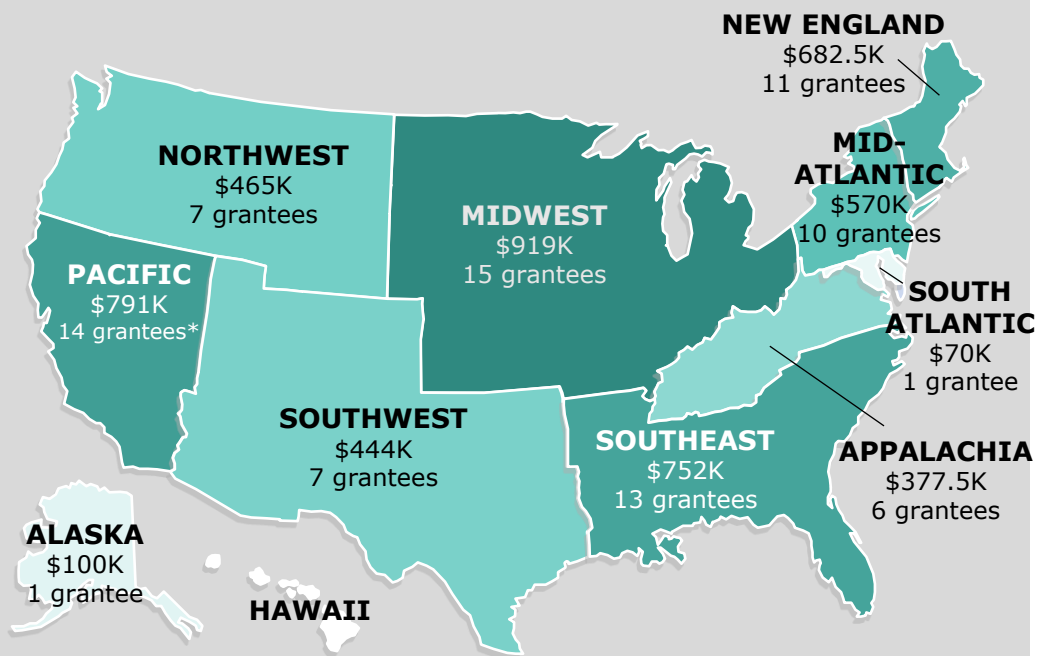
**\$61K**  
average grant amount awarded, ranging from \$10K-\$110K

**\$5.2MM**  
awarded in grants to 85 grassroots organizations

2

The fund reaches frontline communities that have historically been underfunded by philanthropy but are achieving impressive victories with fewer resources. In 2019-2020, the fund prioritized:

1. Organizations that represent or are led by representatives who are predominantly Black, Indigenous, or immigrant, undocumented, or refugee communities.
2. Organizations working in the Southeast, Midwest, or other regions understood to be disinvested by philanthropy.
3. A mix of local (city, county, rural, urban), regional (multiple states), state, national, and tribal levels.



\*The Pacific region, a non-priority geography, had a greater number of grantees than the priority Southeast region, but a greater percentage of Southeast grantees were chosen from the applicant pool.

3

**ORGANIZATIONS SUPPORTED BY THE FUND HAVE:**



Assembled the first-ever Presidential forum on environmental justice



Established an award-winning watershed restoration training program



Prevented pipelines from being built on tribal lands

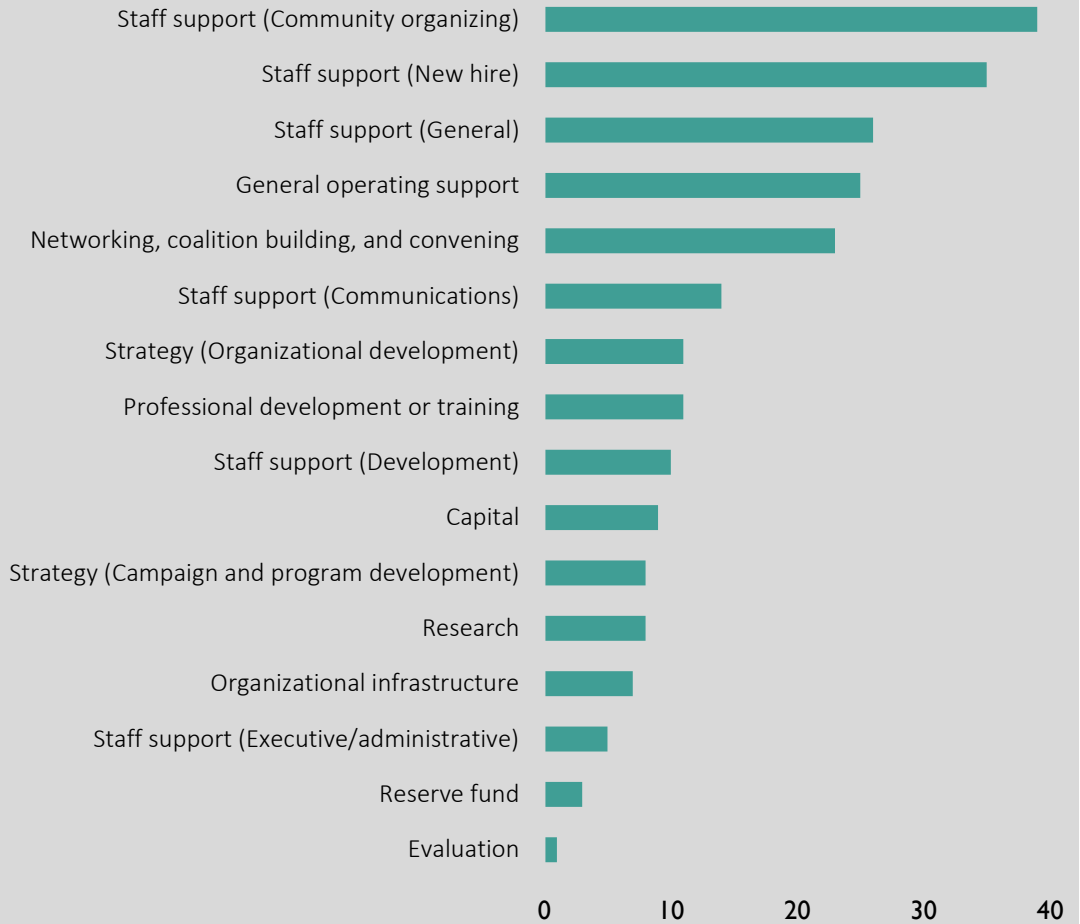


Organized and built public will for the concept of a Green New Deal

4

The fund’s grant-making approach is flexible to help organizations build capacity and power. Applicants were able to self-define their capacity-building needs, and grantees determined their own grant timelines to maximize the impact of their grant.

**TYPES OF CAPACITY-BUILDING EFFORTS PLANNED BY APPLICANTS**



5

The fund is designed to quickly and effectively move funding to grassroots organizations because of its organizational infrastructure and established relationships. For example, as the COVID-19 crisis deepened in early 2020, with additional responsive funding from The JPB Foundation, the FBGP’s governing bodies decided to award small, rapid-response grants to over 70 members and affiliates of the four national networks to address basic needs for responding to and surviving this crisis.

**TYPES OF COVID-19 SUPPORT REQUESTED**

- Basic needs assistance (food, housing, transportation)
- Mutual aid funding
- Personal protective equipment
- Technology (hotspots, tablets, videoconferencing)
- Digital organizing
- Volunteer stipends
- Language translation services

**RAPID-RESPONSE GRANT AMOUNTS**

