



2019

Strategy, Action, and Impact

GROUNDSWELL FUND'S
EVALUATION OF THE REPRODUCTIVE JUSTICE MOVEMENT



GROUNDSWELL
FUND

KORWIN CONSULTING

Advancing Social Justice Solutions



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Advancing Social Justice Solutions

Korwin Consulting centers equity and inclusion, identifies community strengths, deepens organizational capacity, and evaluates and communicates impact.

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Welcome

I write this in the summer of 2020, in the middle of the first wave of the coronavirus pandemic in the U.S. and uprisings for Black liberation. The future is uncertain. What remains certain is that the world as we knew it is changing. Whether that transformation will be towards reproductive justice (RJ) or against it depends on the power of grassroots movements. **In reflecting on the impact of Groundswell Fund's 2019 RJ grantees, what has become certain is that we need the intersectional and strategic leadership of RJ organizations for the challenges and opportunities that lie ahead.**

As funders who care about reproductive justice, this moment calls for us to throw our full might behind RJ leaders with the clearest vision and path to radical transformation that leaves no one behind. At Groundswell Fund, we have been resourcing the boldest RJ organizations in the U.S. for over a decade.

This evaluation features the strategy, action, and impact of 70 RJ grantees in 2019, a year of relentless attacks on abortion access, transgender and immigrant rights, and social justice. In the face of these threats to RJ, Groundswell's RJ grantees fought back and engaged in visionary proactive work. **Collectively, they organized over half a million people throughout the U.S.** to defend, reclaim, and expand the essential human rights encompassed by the RJ movement.

The below achievements of the 2019 grantees speak to the growing power of the RJ movement to organize, hold decision-makers accountable, and win systemic changes:

- ▶ **Grantees were instrumental in helping to win 104 pro-RJ policies** and advancing bold campaigns in 2019—more than in any prior year.
- ▶ **Grantees helped to block 32 harmful policies.**
- ▶ **Groundswell's Integrated Voter Engagement (IVE) grantees reached 96,813 low-propensity voters**—an approximately 24% increase over the 78,000 voters reached in 2017, the prior non-election year.
- ▶ **Groundswell grantees developed the leadership capacity of 60,600 people**, encouraging them to take on increased leadership responsibilities, from attending skill-building trainings to running for office (a 72% increase over 2018).
- ▶ **In addition, RJ grantees demonstrated leadership by organizing for bold demands** and advocating for first-of-their-kind policies and systems change; **by centering healing and safety** to ensure community members feel safe and can heal as an integral strategy for long-term, sustainable engagement in the movement; and **by cultivating solidarity among movement allies.**

The 2019 RJ Impact Evaluation marks the final evaluation of Groundswell's last 2015 – 2019 Blueprint (strategic plan). In accordance with our strategic goals, we significantly increased support and capacity building for the RJ movement. **We spurred \$40 million in new investment for the RJ movement between 2015 and 2019.** Our learning has also been tremendous, helping to inform our path ahead. **In Groundswell's new 2020 – 2025 Blueprint, we dedicate ourselves to increasing resources to the RJ movement and intersectional movements.**

As we celebrate the past five years of resourcing the RJ movement, this evaluation is a chance to look back and pinpoint the successes and challenges of RJ grantees. This report offers timely recommendations for funders (Page 32 – 34) to understand the barriers, accelerators, opportunities, and the factors that helped RJ grantees in 2019. This critical information provides guidance for funders who care about RJ to understand the best ways to support grantees.



Naa Hammond
SENIOR PROGRAM OFFICER,
GROUNDSWELL FUND

As funders, we must match grassroots leaders' dedication. Now in this moment of uncertainty, we must deepen our commitment to those working on the frontlines every day to protect our rights to bodily autonomy, to justice, and lives with dignity. Those knocking doors on weekends to spur our communities to fight for RJ, those empowering young people to know their rights, those organizing mutual aid networks block by block to care for their neighbors, and those staying up late preparing women of color and transgender people of color leaders who have been impacted by harmful policies to speak their truths at their state Capitol. The RJ movement is dedicated to investing in leaders standing at the intersections of oppression: leaders with the clearest vision about how to address reproductive injustice. **The world is changing: RJ leaders have the foresight, resolve, and solutions to ensure that none of us are left behind.** I believe investment in RJ movement organizations and its leaders will ultimately light our way to freedom.

We hope this evaluation offers a window into the strength, strategies, and wisdom of RJ organizations that are organizing to defend and protect reproductive justice, and offer a new way forward.

"Groundswell has proven that a foundation led by women of color who are former grassroots organizers can succeed in mobilizing resources at scale. We've proven it is possible to maintain integrity and accountability to the communities we serve in how we're moving the money and who we are moving it to."

— VANESSA DANIEL,
GROUNDSWELL FUND
EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR

Executive Summary

In the face of unrelenting attacks on reproductive justice (RJ), Groundswell Fund's RJ grantees engaged in visionary proactive work. They fought back in 2019, organizing over half a million people throughout the U.S. to defend, reclaim, and expand the essential human rights encompassed by the RJ movement.¹ Published annually, the RJ impact evaluation report presents findings from the largest dataset available on the RJ movement in the U.S. This year's report relies primarily on grantee surveys completed by 70 RJ organizations in 2019. In addition to documenting the grantees' strategies, wins, lessons, and challenges, this report highlights trends across several years, including Groundswell's role in helping to catalyze philanthropic giving to the RJ movement.

Resourcing the Movement

Groundswell Fund strengthens U.S. movements for reproductive and social justice by resourcing intersectional grassroots organizing and centering the leadership of women of color—particularly those who are Black, Indigenous, and transgender. Through grantmaking, capacity building, and organizing funders and donors, Groundswell has awarded more than \$60 million to the field since 2003.

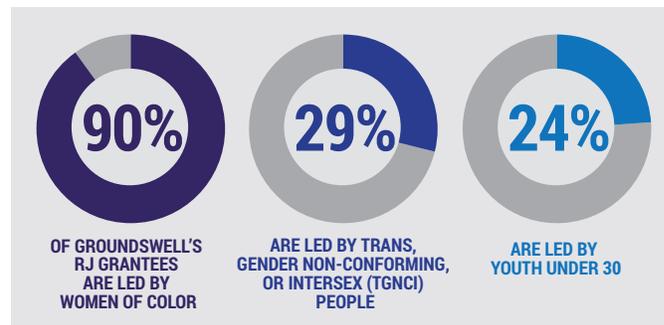
In 2019, Groundswell awarded \$10 million to the RJ movement and social justice movements. Thanks to its matching grants program, Groundswell's investments in RJ organizations and seven grantmaking partners² helped to leverage \$21 million to the RJ movement. Groundswell invested an additional \$4.7 million in capacity-building support for grassroots organizations through its Integrated Voter Engagement (IVE) program, Grassroots Organizing Institute (GOI), and Ecosystem Initiative.

Groundswell has met and exceeded a number of its 2015 – 2019 Blueprint strategic plan goals, directly moving \$40M to the RJ movement and helping to spur action to address the wide gap in funding for organizations led by and for women of color and transgender people.

2019 RJ Movement Achievements

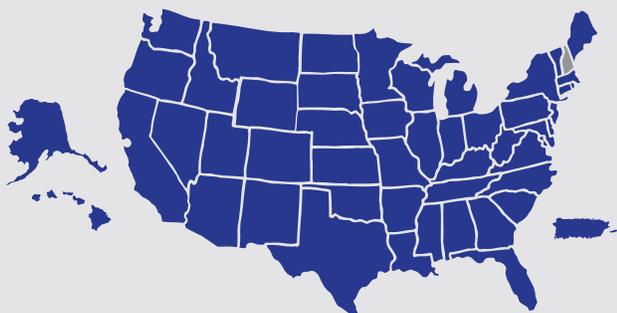
BASE-BUILDING AND LEADERSHIP DEVELOPMENT

RJ grantees organized more than 573,000 people in 2019—78% more than the prior year's 322,000. Over 60,600 of these people took on leadership roles, from attending skill-building trainings to running for office—72% more than in 2018. They form the base of the organizations and are referred to as “leaders” throughout this report. **Grantees that received six consecutive years of Groundswell support increased their numbers of engaged leaders by 176% between 2018 and 2019 and by 417% between 2014 and 2019.**



Eighty-one percent of grantees named low-income people as a primary constituency, and youth under 30 were primary constituents with 57%. Other prominent communities were LGBQ (cited by 43% of grantees); immigrants/refugees (37%); and trans, gender non-conforming, and intersex people (31%). Twenty-eight percent of grantees' leaders were Black/African American, and 24% were Latinx/Hispanic.

THE 2019 RJ GRANTEE'S



ORGANIZED IN
49
STATES + D.C. + P.R.

70% INCREASED BUDGETS

56% INCREASED STAFF

64% OF FUNDING IS FROM NATIONAL FOUNDATIONS

KEY STRATEGIC THREADS IN THE RJ MOVEMENT IN 2019



Organizing for Bold Demands:

Employing innovative and visionary short- and long-term organizing strategies and advocating for first-of-their-kind policies and systems change.



Centering Healing and Safety:

Offering spaces, services, and processes that ensure community members feel safe and can heal as an integral strategy (not an afterthought or add-on) for long-term, sustainable engagement in the movement.



Cultivating Ally Solidarity:

Building allies' understanding and political commitment to support RJ strategies and goals, including racial and gender equity and following the leadership of communities most impacted by RJ disparities and injustice.

POLICY AND JUDICIAL ADVOCACY

Grantees were instrumental in winning 104 pro-RJ policies

and advancing bold campaigns in 2019—more than in any prior year.³ Grantees organized to ensure access to medication abortion on public college campuses in California; worked to repeal unconstitutional barriers to reproductive healthcare by guaranteeing abortion rights in Illinois and New York if *Roe v. Wade* is overturned; won a precedent-setting local policy banning toxic chemicals that threaten children's health in Alaska; and helped to address racial disparities in perinatal mortality in California, Colorado, and Nevada. Grantees organized for other landmark laws, including: restoring and expanding abortion rights (WA); prohibiting shackling of incarcerated people during pregnancy, labor, and postpartum (GA, TX); protecting the rights of domestic violence survivors (CO, FL, NY, WA) and low-income workers (CO, IL, MS); and ensuring global bans on two highly-toxic industrial chemicals.

Grantees helped block 32 harmful policies, including ones that would have rolled back farmworker protections against toxic pesticides (federal), criminalized abortion (CO, FL, KS, MT, OH, PA, SC, TN, and federal), and threatened the rights of people living with HIV to obtain supportive housing (federal); allowed businesses to refuse service to LGBTQ people based on owners' religious beliefs (CO); prohibited sanctuary cities (FL); made midwife licensing more difficult (GA); and codified fetal personhood (KS, MT, OH, SC). *(Please see the full report for a comprehensive list and details about these and other wins.)*

Grantees that participated in Groundswell's Integrated Voter Engagement (IVE) program helped pass 43 of the 104 pro-RJ policies and block 18 of the 32 anti-RJ policies in 14 states and on federal and international levels. They cite IVE funding, coaching, and access to voter engagement and data collection tools as instrumental in their effectiveness and impact.

Groundswell's RJ grantees developed, strengthened, or maintained relationships with 3,684 public officials at all levels of U.S. and Tribal governments—an 18% increase over the 3,114 in 2018. Grantees that received six consecutive years of Groundswell's funding increased total relationships with decision makers at all U.S. and Tribal levels by 75%; **those in the IVE program increased them by 95%.**

ORGANIZING AT THE GRASSROOTS

In 2019, Groundswell grantees organized to defend and advance reproductive justice. Base-building is a core tenet of developing strong grassroots campaigns for reproductive justice. The vast majority of grantees (87%) organized around core reproductive health and rights issues: general reproductive healthcare services, abortion, birth control access, and comprehensive sex education. The majority of grantees say that their constituents took action around racial justice, gender justice, abortion access, immigration justice, and economic justice/workers' rights.

Groundswell's RJ grantees successfully organized **78% more constituents in 2019** than in 2018 and **nearly 593% more than in 2014.**





In 2019, Groundswell's Grassroots Organizing Institute (GOI) strengthened base-building and leadership development programs for 10 grantees.

GOI grantees helped pass 17 pro-RJ policies and block five anti-RJ policies in eight states and on the federal level.

ALLIANCES

The RJ movement is inherently intersectional, as low-income women of color, trans, and gender non-conforming communities face interrelated issues of race, class, gender, and colonization. Grantees rely on allies within the RJ movement, as well as those outside the sector that are aligned with specific RJ issues.

While many alliances are short-term and campaign-specific, grantees identified 876 very strong partnerships (a 17% increase over 749 in 2018), involving deep commitments to collaborate on organizing strategies and share resources.

Grantees that received six consecutive years of Groundswell funding doubled the number of these very strong alliances between 2014 and 2019.

ACCELERATORS, BARRIERS, AND OPPORTUNITIES

Leadership development, cultivating allies with shared values, and GOI and IVE capacity-building support helped grantees in 2019. Their most common barriers were white supremacist, misogynist, anti-worker, and anti-immigrant ideologies and policies—and trauma from constantly fighting them; fear in communities that hindered organizing; and the dismantling

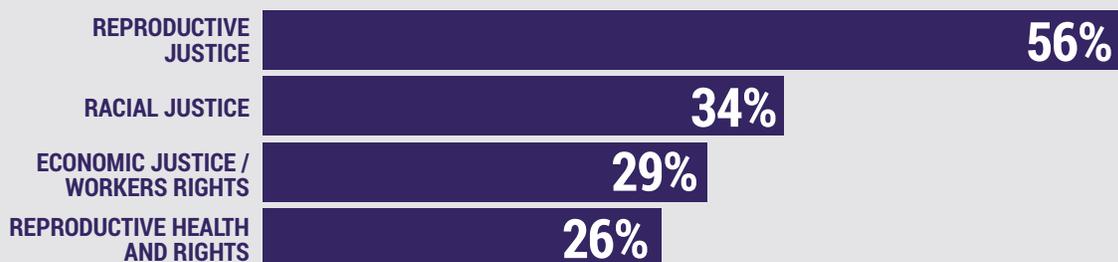
of worker and environmental protections. Their experiences point to several opportunities for funders, including investment in staffing, general operating expenses, integrated voter engagement, rapid response needs, political education for constituents, and healing justice initiatives; support for grantees to convene with peers and allies at their request; and resources to help them build stability, effectiveness, and wellness within their organizations.

Conclusion

Groundswell's RJ grantees won significant victories for RJ in 2019 while building a grassroots base capable of sustaining a long-term fight. In addition to defensive action to prevent new anti-RJ policies, grantees also implemented proactive, bold campaigns for visionary community goals. The expertise and reputations grantees have cultivated through grassroots organizing over time yielded larger bases, deeper engagement, and, ultimately, more wins for the RJ movement in 2019.

Those with six consecutive years of support from Groundswell's Catalyst Fund for Reproductive Justice have achieved progressive gains over time, and grantees in the IVE and GOI programs reached even greater organizing milestones—proving that long-term investment and capacity-building support help groups maximize their effectiveness. With Groundswell's partnership and funder organizing, the RJ grantees are forging a powerful movement for the long haul.

RJ grantees' most important allies in 2019 came **from four movements**, although grantees cited over a dozen.



Groundswell Fund's Theory of Change and Strategies

Groundswell Fund believes:

1. The people living at the sharpest crosshairs of race, class, and gender injustice often have the clearest insight into systemic oppression and the best solutions for dismantling it for all people.
2. The chasm that exists between the progressive values held by the overwhelming majority of people in the U.S. and regressive systems and policies that govern their lives can only be closed through powerful grassroots organizing that empowers voters and communities at large to hold public officials accountable.
3. Intersectional organizing (with a race, class, gender, decolonization lens) is the most effective at energizing and sustaining a grassroots base of support and winning and protecting material improvements in peoples' daily lives.
4. Philanthropic giving, when done right, is an opportunity for people of all races, classes, and genders to return to right relationship with each other by transcending greed and control to share a more just and equitable world, one in which large-scale philanthropy will no longer be necessary to advance freedom.

The indicators Groundswell Fund uses to measure grassroots power were co-designed with its grantees. They include:

- ▶ Number of constituents who act in response to an organization's outreach.
- ▶ The size of the base—constituents who engage as leaders at various levels, from those who can run a meeting to those who can design and lead organizational strategies and actions.
- ▶ Number of organizational allies at various levels of partnership—from those who will join a sign-on letter to those who align values and collaborate on multiple campaigns.
- ▶ Number of relationships with elected officials, from those who will meet with constituents to those who will co-sponsor legislation and host a town hall.
- ▶ Number of voters contacted and activated voters identified as being pro-RJ.
- ▶ Number of pro-RJ policies passed and anti-RJ policies defeated.

It is worth noting that policy change is not the ultimate goal. As Groundswell's Executive Director Vanessa Daniel notes, **"Policy wins are paper thin without a sustained and organized grassroots base to prevent their repeal and ensure their implementation."** For Groundswell, the base itself, capable of winning again and again over the long haul, is the end game.

Groundswell Fund shares the ultimate goal of the RJ movement: that all people have the economic, social, and political power and resources to make healthy decisions about their gender, bodies, sexuality, and reproduction for themselves, their families, and their communities. Groundswell Fund supports the field in three ways: **grantmaking, capacity building, and funder organizing.**

GRANTMAKING:

Groundswell moves grants through five funds:

- ▶ **Catalyst Fund for Reproductive Justice** supports grassroots organizing led by women of color, transgender people of color, and low-income people for reproductive justice in the U.S.
- ▶ **Birth Justice Fund** supports birth workers of color working to eliminate disparities in pregnancy, birth, and postpartum outcomes experienced by women of color, low-income women, young women, and transgender people by expanding access to midwifery and doula care, training, and advocacy.
- ▶ **Liberation Fund** supports the strongest intersectional organizing by women of color and transgender people of color across a diversity of social change movements in the U.S.
- ▶ **Rapid Response Fund** provides fast funding to grassroots organizations in critical but unexpected fights to protect and advance reproductive and social justice.
- ▶ **Black Trans Fund** supports Black transgender, gender non-conforming (TGNC), and nonbinary communities to build power towards collective liberation.

CAPACITY BUILDING:

Groundswell expands grantee access to capacity-building resources that build the skills and infrastructure needed to accelerate grassroots power building.

- ▶ **Integrated Voter Engagement (IVE)** blends community organizing and voter engagement to boost the scale and ability of grant partners to win systems change.
- ▶ **Grassroots Organizing Institute (GOI)** supports the nuts and bolts of organizing and the fundamentals of base-building, including how to identify issue priorities and demands, conduct community asset mapping, analyze the political landscape, and much more.

FUNDER ORGANIZING:

Groundswell organizes philanthropic institutions, individual donors, and affinity groups to unlock more resources for the organizations it supports—whether or not those resources come through Groundswell's doors.

Introduction

The 2019 RJ evaluation was conducted with an eye to how Groundswell’s RJ grantees addressed pressing issues while positioning themselves to lead in 2020. The evaluation relied on: the Groundswell RJ Impact Survey,⁴ financial investment data by Groundswell’s matching grantees and grantmaking partners,⁵ a focus group in mid-2019 with a subset of grantees, and interviews and communications with Groundswell staff.

Groundswell supports organizations that are led by women of color, transgender, gender non-conforming people of color. Collectively, these communities are referred to in this report as Groundswell’s “communities of focus.”

This report is best understood in the context of intersectionality and the need to address continuing threats to RJ at the local, state, and federal levels, and via the range of strategies that grantees are using to bolster their organizing for greater impact.

- ▶ **Intersectionality**, a term coined by Black feminist scholar Kimberlé Crenshaw, is core to the RJ movement.⁶ The chart below provides examples of how a few of the 2019 grantees, working within the RJ framework, linked multiple issues through their work.

	Arise Chicago	Bold Futures (formerly Young Women United)	International Indian Treaty Council	New Voices for Reproductive Justice	Women Engaged
Access to abortion, contraception, and/or other reproductive healthcare					
Economic justice/Workers’ rights					
Gender justice					
Immigrant justice					
Racial justice					
LGBQ and/or TGNCI justice					

- ▶ **Continued and escalating threats to RJ** identified by grantees as being especially prominent in 2019 included barriers to healthcare and abortion, anti-immigrant policies, anti-TGNC/LGBQ policies and violence, environmental threats, voter suppression, and white supremacy.

Grantees met these and many other critical threats with vigilance and strong, visionary leadership. Importantly, **when grantees dedicate intensive time and resources to these defensive fights, they must often make painful decisions to defer or reduce work toward much needed, proactive goals.**

STRATEGIC THREADS

In this report we will lift up strategic threads that exemplify the ways in which RJ grantees responded to urgent needs and opportunities for action. Three that emerged across organizations in 2019 were:



Organizing for Bold Demands: Employing innovative and visionary short- and long-term organizing strategies and advocating for first-of-their-kind policies and systems change.



Centering Healing and Safety: Offering spaces, services, and processes that ensure community members feel safe and can heal as an integral strategy (not an afterthought or add-on) for long-term, sustainable engagement in the movement.



Cultivating Ally Solidarity: Building allies' understanding and political commitment to support RJ strategies and goals, including racial and gender equity and following the leadership of communities most impacted.

Each of this report's strategic threads includes a focus on the present—by facing pressing issues—and the future, when long-range goals, authentic relationships, and safe and supported community members can carry out the vision of the RJ movement.



How to Read This Report

Organizations in the RJ movement address interrelated issues that impact their communities using **multiple, complementary strategies**. This report is divided into separate sections to focus on each strategy in some depth, including grantee stories that illustrate how those strategies are being implemented. **Grantees whose work exemplifies each of the strategic threads are featured in spotlight sections throughout the report.**

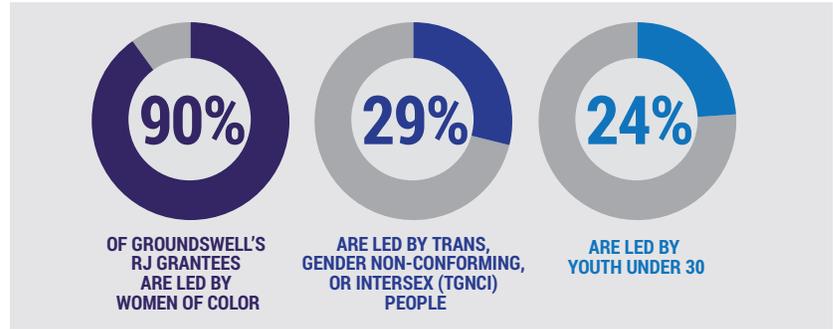
Grantees featured in this year's report received funding through Groundswell's Catalyst Fund for Reproductive Justice, Grassroots Organizing Institute (GOI), Integrated Voter Engagement (IVE) program, and/or Ecosystem Initiative. The full list of RJ grantees, including their budget ranges and type(s) of Groundswell support received in 2019, can be found in the Appendix.

A Note About Terminology

Whenever possible, stories about grantees' work featured in this report preserve words the grantees use to describe the people and communities they center. The main narrative of the report adheres to Groundswell's terminology preferences.

Resourcing a Grassroots Movement

Groundswell's RJ grantees are almost exclusively led by and for women of color and trans and gender non-conforming people of color. These organizations represent the most underfunded constituencies by philanthropy.⁷



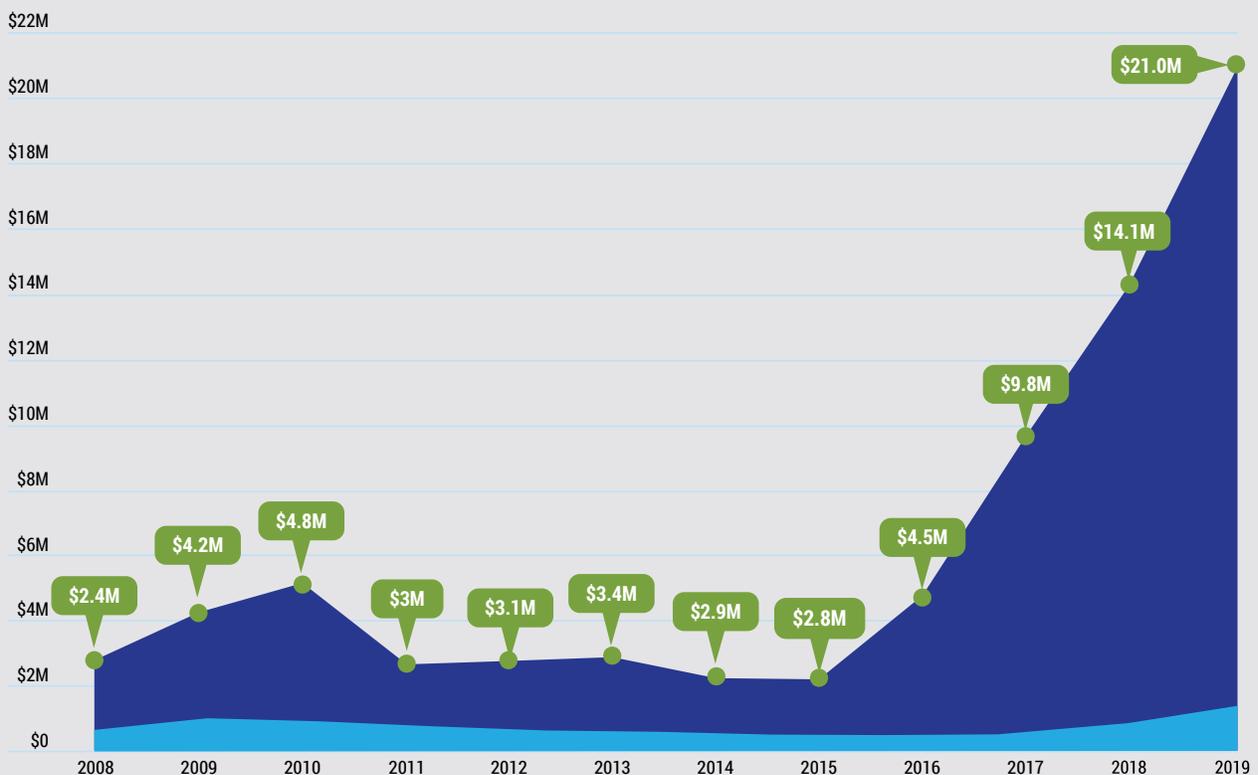
Financial Investment

Groundswell leveraged the support of national funders and donors to resource 72 RJ organizations in 2019, including 11 grantees and seven grantmaking partners⁹ that received Catalyst Fund for Reproductive Justice matching grants (listed in the Appendix). With matching grant support, grantmaking partners and matching grantees mobilized \$21 million for RJ. In part due to the strong fundraising capacity of two newer grantmaking partners and one new national grantee, this was a 49% increase over 2018 and illustrates continuing growth in the movement.

RESOURCES MOBILIZED PRIMARILY FOR RJ ORGANIZATIONS LED BY WOMEN OF COLOR AND TRANS, GENDER NON-CONFORMING PEOPLE BY GRANTMAKING PARTNERS AND DIRECT RJ GRANTEEES

Groundswell Fund, grantmaking partners, and direct grantees have invested a total of \$76 million in RJ since 2008.

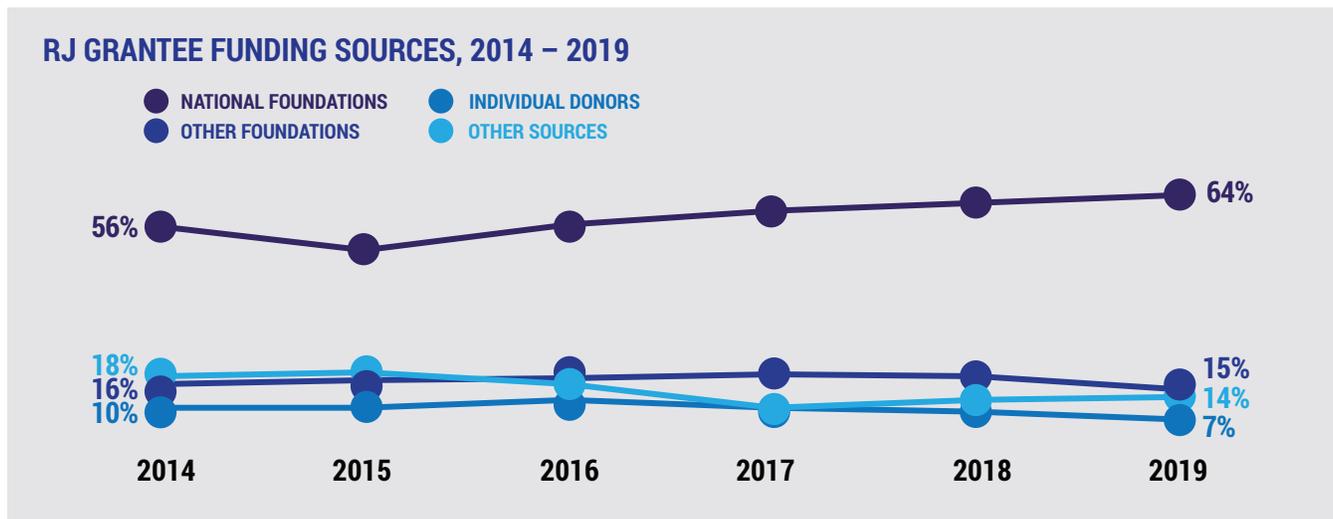
■ CATALYST MATCHING GRANTS
■ ADDITIONAL RESOURCES RAISED



As part of its commitment to leverage resources for community-led organizing at the heart of the RJ movement, Groundswell moved an additional \$5.1 million in capacity-building support to RJ organizations in 2019 through its Integrated Voter Engagement (IVE), Grassroots Organizing Institute (GOI), and Ecosystem Initiative.⁹

Grantee Organizational Infrastructure

The most significant change in grantee funding sources has been an **increased reliance on national foundations**, accounting for 64% of their total budgets in 2019.



Grantees' budgets ranged from \$8,500 to \$8.5 million in 2019, with the support of foundations, individual donors, and other sources.

Funder Organizing

Groundswell takes continuous action to raise awareness of the potential power of a well-funded RJ movement led by those who face the greatest reproductive health disparities, while historically receiving the least philanthropic support. Throughout the year, Groundswell hosts funder education briefings and speaks at events. In 2019, Groundswell was an active participant and thought leader in conversations shaping strategy in the following funder networks:

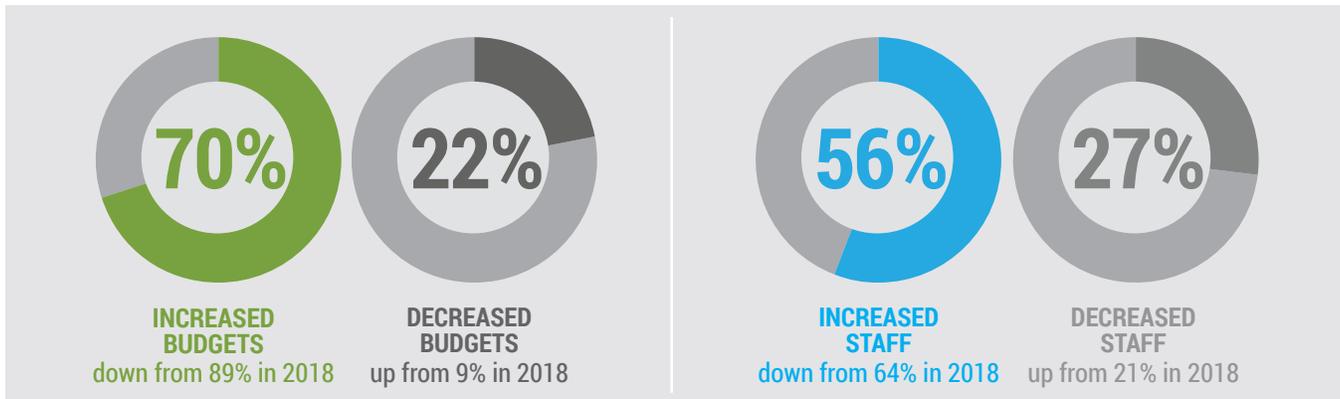
- ▶ Funders for Reproductive Equity
- ▶ Funders for LGBTQ Issues
- ▶ Funders' Committee for Civic Participation
- ▶ Health & Environmental Funders Network
- ▶ Justice Funders
- ▶ Neighborhood Funders Group
- ▶ Rapid Response Coordination Table
- ▶ Rights, Faith, and Democracy Collaborative
- ▶ Midwifery Funders Group

Groundswell's donor community also connects it closely to the following donor networks with which it often communicates and/or collaborates:

- ▶ Donors of Color Network
- ▶ Resource Generation
- ▶ Solidaire
- ▶ Women Donors Network
- ▶ Women Moving Millions

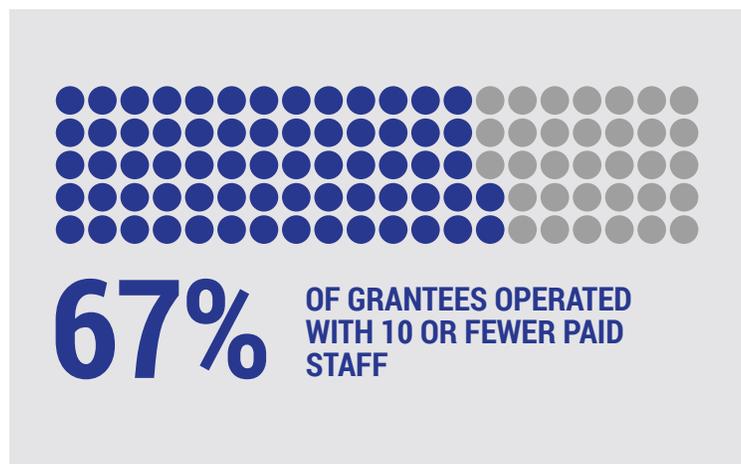
While 37 grantees included other sources of income (the most common being fees for services and programs, with smaller numbers earning speaking fees, interest/dividends, and other means), grantees **increasingly rely on national funders** actively supportive of grassroots groups led by women of color and trans and gender non-conforming people of color. Since these organizations may find themselves vulnerable to funders' shifting priorities over time, Groundswell is in the process of enhancing the wraparound infrastructure support it offers its capacity-building grantees to diversify revenue streams.

Many organizations increased their budgets and staff sizes in 2019. They had an average of 12 paid staff, although a solid majority had 10 or fewer, and several saw drops in budget or staff levels.



Grantees rarely offered reasons for declines in budget or staff (and some had fewer staff members, even when their budgets did not drop); one grantee described difficulties securing grants after increasing its budget past a small grassroots level. Another likely reason for lower staffing and budgets is that many grantees pushed to increase both during the 2018 mid-term election year, with reductions in the following off-year. Many, however, described a toll from decreased budgets—difficulty retaining personnel and limited capacity—and staffing—burn-out and delayed program implementation.

An increasing number of grantees have undergone leadership transitions—which may include senior management—since 2016, and 74% of grantees underwent leadership transitions in 2019 (71% did so in 2018). While transition can be a healthy sign of new leadership in the movement, some grantees report that the strain of continuous battles against RJ threats and the inability to offer competitive salaries and benefits were factors leading to turnover. The demands of ensuring effective succession planning and building healthy organizations will require responsive, capacity-building funding.



RJ grantees were active in Tribal nations, 49 states (all but NH), Washington, D.C., and Puerto Rico. (See map, pages 8 – 9.) Nearly all (97%) worked in urban communities, while 53% worked in suburban and 51% in rural communities; 16% organized on Reservations—more than in any of the five prior years.

As the charts below show, growing numbers of grantees expected to have impacts at the local and state levels, while a smaller majority continued to work at the increasingly hostile and gridlocked federal level. Working with progressive and public officials that come from communities organized by RJ groups, they are often able to engage large numbers of constituents in local work and bring about more radical changes than would be possible at the federal level. These wins set precedent for other locales and states.

GROUNDSWELL GRANTEE REGIONAL FOCUS, 2014 – 2019

LOCAL

Grantees have steadily increased focus on impact at the **local** level.



STATE

In recent years, grantees have increased focus on impact at the **state** level.



NATIONAL

The proportion of grantees focusing on **national** level impacts has declined over the past 5 years.



Organizing the Base



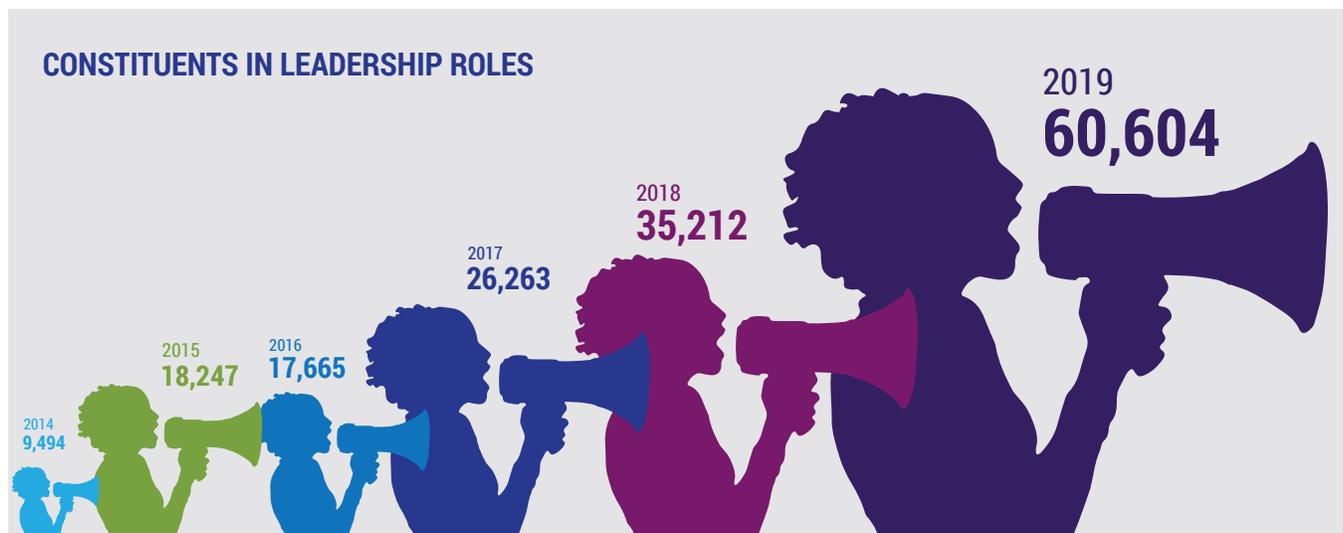
Colorado Organization for Latina Opportunity and

Reproductive Rights (COLOR) (DENVER, CO) (CATALYST, IVE) (\$1 MILLION

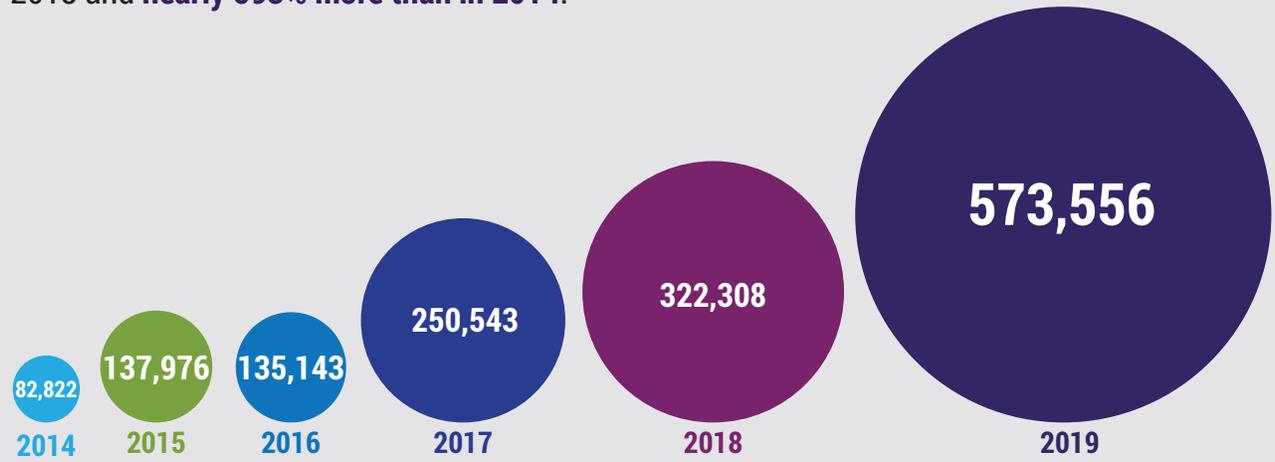
AND ABOVE BUDGET) deepens grassroots leadership and organizing skills among Latinx youth through its Latinas Increasing Political Strength (LIPS) program, which includes a focus on sex education through the lens of the Latinx experience. In 2019, Jacky, a LIPS graduate, joined other COLOR community leaders to provide testimony in committee hearings for the Comprehensive Human Sexuality Education bill. The bill requires Colorado school districts to offer instruction that includes a discussion of consent, uses non-stigmatizing language around the health needs of LGBTQ+ people, and does not claim abstinence is the only effective method of contraception. Jacky, who had never provided legislative testimony before, explained to policy makers why the bill was so important: "I have talked to friends trying to make healthy decisions and form loving relationships and no one was talking to them about what that means or what that looks like." The young leaders who advocated for this policy saw their hands-on participation in the policy process contribute to its passage into law.

In 2019, grantees organized half a million people to take action for RJ—60,600 of whom took on leadership roles, such as planning campaigns, facilitating trainings, recruiting new members, or running for office. (These individuals form organizations' base and are referred to as "leaders" throughout this report.)

The number of leaders has increased with each year's RJ cohort. The graphic below shows the growth since 2014, with a 72% increase in leaders between 2018 and 2019.¹⁰

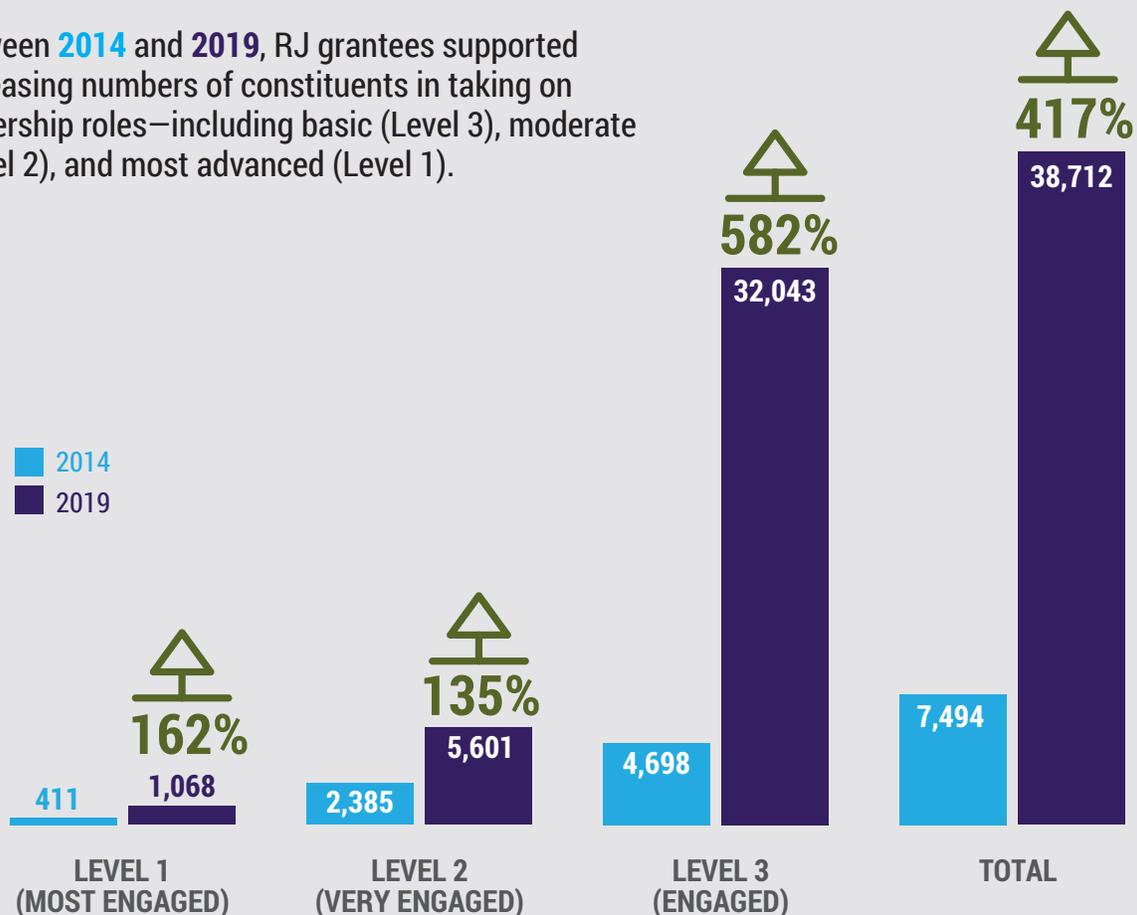


Groundswell's RJ grantees successfully organized **78% more constituents in 2019** than in 2018 and **nearly 593% more than in 2014**.



As further evidence of the RJ movement's growing reach and organizing impact, an analysis of the 22 organizations that have received six consecutive years of support from the Catalyst Fund for Reproductive Justice shows a 176% increase in leaders since 2018 and a **417% increase since 2014**.

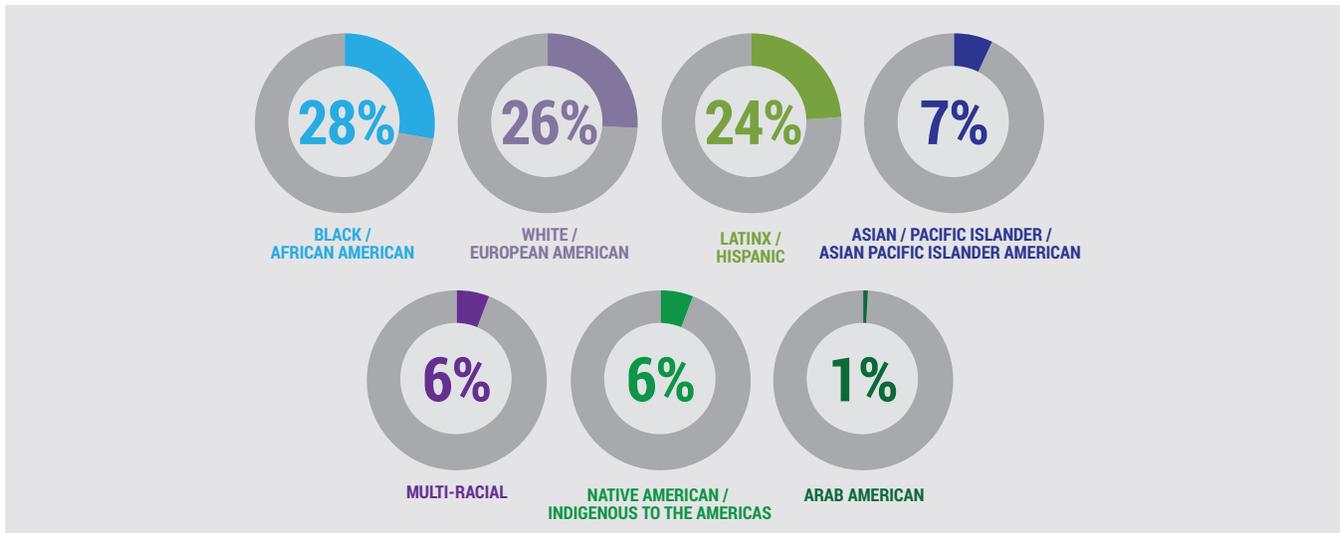
Between **2014** and **2019**, RJ grantees supported increasing numbers of constituents in taking on leadership roles—including basic (Level 3), moderate (Level 2), and most advanced (Level 1).



Those with the largest gains in leaders in 2019 cite geographic and membership expansion, increased workshops and trainings (e.g., on organizing with a racial and gender justice analysis) and attendees, and growing numbers of individual donors—as well as improved capacity to accurately count and track their leaders.

The three most common racial/ethnic identities of the 60,604 leaders¹¹ of the full RJ cohort were:

- ▶ **Black/African American: 28%**
- ▶ **White/European American: 26%**
- ▶ **Latinx/Hispanic: 24%**



Smaller percentages identified as Asian/Pacific Islander/Asian Pacific Islander American (7%), multi-racial (6%), Native American/Indigenous to the Americas (6%), or Arab American (1%). A few grantees explained that their leaders were Mestizo, Chicana—and not Latinx—and/or that their constituents identified as several different races rather than the “mixed-race” category offered in the impact survey.

Most grantees (81%) identified low-income people as a primary population among their leaders. Other primary leader characteristics identified by 30% or more of grantees were: youth under 30 (57%), LGBQ (43%), immigrant/refugee (37%), and TGNCI (31%). These are similar to previous years, although there were increases in LGBQ and TGNCI leaders in 2019.

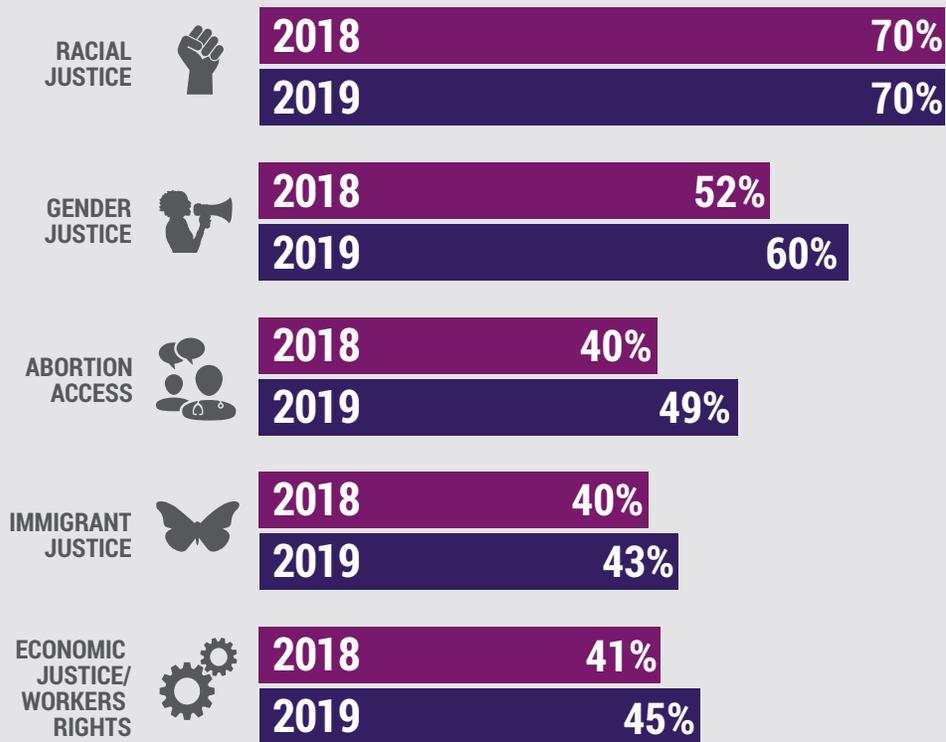
The largest numbers of grantees (between 41% and 70%) engaged constituents around racial justice, gender justice, abortion access, immigration justice, and economic justice/workers’ rights.

Grantees used close to 20 different strategies to engage their base. Over the past six years, grantees have shown increasing commitments to offering skill-building/training and service delivery, either as a first step for community members to become involved with them or as complementary or ongoing support once members become active in the movement.

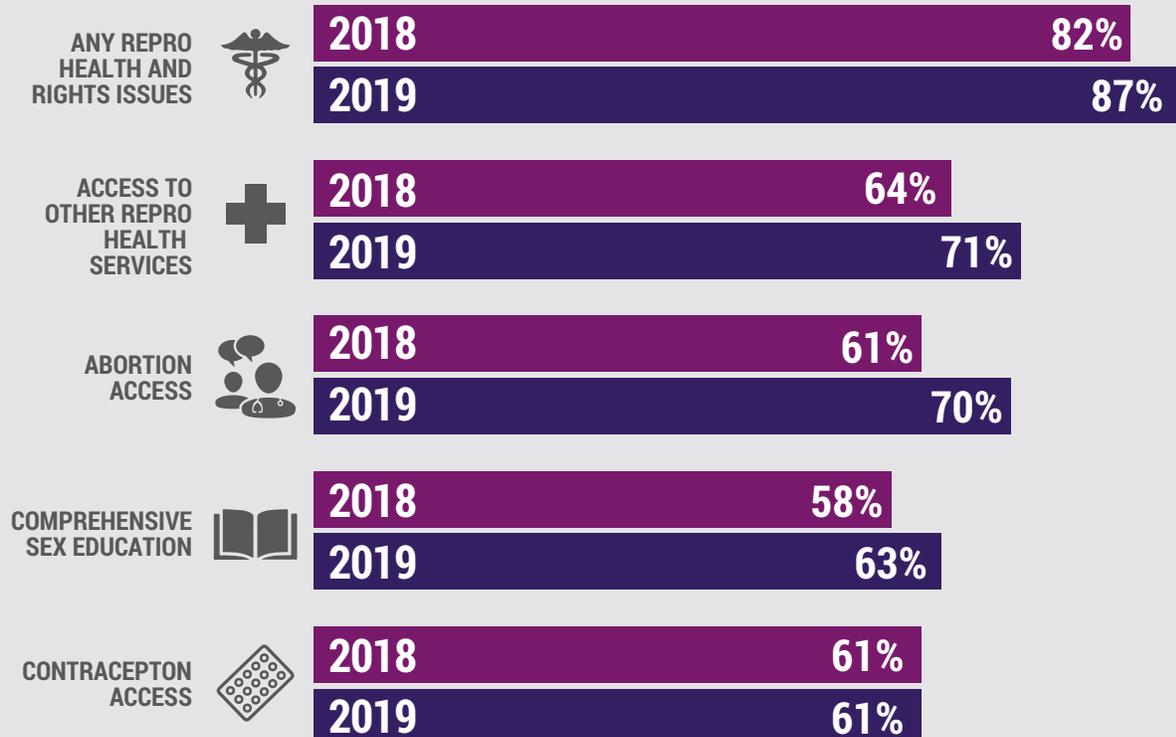
In addition to grassroots organizing and advocacy/policy work, 90% or more grantees name alliance building/networking, leadership development, social media, and skill-building/training as core to their work.

In 2019, 87% of RJ grantees organized around core reproductive rights and health, including access to abortion, other reproductive health services, comprehensive sex education, and/or contraception access.

The largest numbers of grantees organized around one or more of five issues in **2019**. There were notable increases over **2018** in organizing around abortion access and gender justice.



87% of grantees mobilized around one or more reproductive health and rights issues in **2019**, with increases in most issues since **2018**.



Groundswell Fund's Capacity-Building Programs

In 2019, Groundswell dedicated \$4.7 million in resources—which includes staff and coaching consultations, skill-building, and \$3.2 million in grants—to build the organizing and civic engagement infrastructure needed to power the RJ movement.

Groundswell's capacity-building programs supported 34 organizations (29 of which led RJ work in 2019 and are included in this report). Groundswell's capacity-building grantees' local, regional, and national activities engaged at least 50,000 people in the RJ movement. Grantees' constituencies spanned many communities, including: people of color; immigrants; youth; incarcerated or formerly incarcerated people; TGNC; intersex; Indigenous; and LGBTQ community members.

Integrated Voter Engagement (IVE)



Now in its eighth year, the IVE program—which blends community organizing and nonpartisan voter engagement to boost the scale, power, and ability of grantees to win systems change—has grown significantly. In 2019, 20 organizations participated in the program, 19 of which led RJ work and are featured in this report. Each received \$178,000 in direct funding, 120 coaching hours, legal and data support, and professional training. **These grantees helped pass 43 pro-RJ policies and block 18 anti-RJ policies in 14 states and at federal and international levels.**

Since its inception, IVE has cultivated a new generation of women of color and TGNC leaders who bring an intersectional race and gender analysis to civic engagement tables across the U.S. The IVE approach blends community organizing and nonpartisan voter engagement to amplify the power and ability of grantees to create change for their communities. Going beyond mobilizing voters during an election year, it centers on year-round, intersectional, and transformational organizing—using traditional civic engagement tools in a culturally competent way.

In 2019, IVE grantees reached 96,813 low-propensity voters—an approximately 24% increase over the 78,000 voters reached in 2017, the prior non-election year. **During a year with no major elections, each IVE organization implemented three campaigns, engaging thousands of newly contacted voters from the previous election cycle to ensure they sustained participation in municipal or local elections.** Grantees focused on leadership development as a vehicle for newly activated voters to become more involved in their work. They also implemented plans to move leaders from “very engaged” to the “most engaged” level, which included training for candidate pipeline work. In September 2019, IVE grantees participated in the first-ever joint convening of grantees receiving support from

Groundswell's two capacity-building programs. The convening combined political education, a peer learning exchange, and IVE skills training. Groundswell tailored convening curricula to meet the diverse needs of both new and advanced practitioners; general sessions were developed to support cohort participants in preparing for the 2020 election cycle and breakout sessions included: *IVE 101, A Conversation About Intersectionality, Gender Justice, and Power, Leadership Development, and Organizational Growth*.

IVE groups use a robust year-round organizing and voter engagement strategy with clear benchmarks to engage people in in-depth conversations about abortion access, comprehensive sex education, healthcare access, and reproductive health care to increase support for their organizations' respective RJ issues. With time and consistent practice, evaluation, and planning, IVE organizations gain the experience and skills to scale up their advocacy and ensure that those most impacted by systems of oppression can realize their power and reclaim democracy. Grantee IVE efforts have attracted the attention of elected officials, and grantees are developing innovative collaborations by inviting nontraditional allies to take on RJ issues.

Two examples of the powerful work of IVE grantees¹² in 2019 are:



Women With a Vision (WWAV) (NEW ORLEANS, LA) (CATALYST, IVE) (\$1 MILLION AND ABOVE BUDGET) is a service and advocacy organization led by and for women in poor and predominantly Black communities in and around New Orleans, including sex workers, people living with HIV, and their families. In 2019, WWAV matched increasingly powerful IVE skills with its longstanding relationships with community members to increase traditionally low voter participation: a remarkable 73% of people contacted through WWAV's GOTV campaign committed to vote. IVE coaching, training, and access to

the VAN voter database enabled WWAV to build voter outreach from 1,500 voter contacts in 2016 to over 3,000 contacts during the next major election cycle, two years later.

IVE support helps WWAV conduct base-building and leadership development and cultivate relationships with allies and public officials year-round. These approaches have expanded its visibility and power throughout the state and made it a trusted community organizer around critical issues such as workers' rights and Louisiana's shockingly high Black maternal mortality rate—the worst in the nation and four times higher than for white women in the state. WWAV conducted direct and grassroots advocacy with the state legislature in 2019, a body with a history of passing draconian anti-RJ bills. Although the legislature thwarted efforts to pass a Black Maternal Mortality Reduction bill and to ensure hourly employees have access to paid sick time off, **71% of the 1,402 voters WWAV contacted said they supported the organization's core issues and 402 signed postcards insisting their representatives take steps to reduce the Black maternal mortality rate.** One factor in WWAV's highly successful voter mobilization campaigns is that canvassers often knock on the doors of their own family members and friends. This is transformative for both the canvassers and the community. Two WWAV canvassers voted for the first time in the 2019 election season: Joseph, who had just turned 18, and Iris, who was incarcerated and had her right to vote restored in 2019. Growing leadership of members such as these helped WWAV inspire unprecedented numbers of constituents to pledge to vote.



Washington Community Action Network (Washington CAN)

(SEATTLE, WA) (IVE) (\$1 MILLION AND ABOVE BUDGET) led an effort to have the city of Federal Way enforce a housing rights bill that had been stalled by a property owner after the city council had passed it. In under three months, Washington CAN organized the community to move a local ballot “Good Cause Eviction” measure and gathered enough signatures to qualify it for the ballot. Washington CAN contacted over 11,000 voters and ran a program in four different languages. Along the way, Washington CAN developed a cohort of skilled member leaders and paid them for their canvassing work. **The initiative went on to pass in**

the general election. Since this win, they have been able to build a statewide coalition and garner the support of some state legislators to run a statewide Good Cause Eviction ballot initiative later in 2020.

Grassroots Organizing Institute (GOI)

GROUNDWELL GOI SUPPORT

\$1.2M in grants & other support

- ▶ \$10,000 per grantee to run field plan canvasses and campaigns
- ▶ \$30,000 per grantee for general support
- ▶ Other direct & capacity-building support:
 - Coaching
 - Database
 - Convenings
 - Ongoing virtual support

GRANTEE STRATEGIES & ACTIONS

- ▶ Drives to re-activate & recruit new activists
- ▶ Year-round intersectional community organizing
- ▶ Community-driven issue campaigns
- ▶ Leadership development

GRANTEE IMPACT

- ▶ 15,236 activists engaged
- ▶ 18 policies passed & 5 anti-RJ policies blocked
- ▶ New teams of canvassers

In its third year, GOI supported a cohort of 13 organizations, 10 of which led RJ work and are featured in this report. Rooted in the belief that an organized and robust grassroots base is fundamental to people gaining power in the decisions that affect their lives, GOI is an intensive, year-long training program that builds grantees’ grassroots organizing skills. **In 2019, GOI grantees helped pass 17 pro-RJ policies and block five anti-RJ policies in eight states and on the federal level.** Groundswell invested a total of \$1.2 million to support GOI participants through direct grants and capacity building, including 100 coaching hours. The \$30,000 general support grants to each organization resourced them to develop the staffing and infrastructure they needed to implement successful grassroots organizing programming. In addition to the staffing and infrastructure grant, a field grant of \$10,000 per organization supported each organization to run field plan canvasses and campaigns. Field plans are critical for building the outreach and engagement methods and benchmarks that are core to successful organizing programs and for ensuring that base-building is generative, not static, in order to build long-term power.

In 2019, the GOI cohort engaged 15,236 people in their organizing work.¹³ Of that total, 7,226 were leaders within the organizations, and 1,826 took action for the first time. A significant portion of new participants were activated through recruitment drives. Through this strategy, GOI grantees used their field grants to resource outreach teams of grassroots members to conduct concentrated canvassing efforts and mobilize new supporters to participate in organizing and campaign activities. The GOI cohort collectively contacted over 12,958 new people through these drives.



With markedly stronger engagement of grassroots leaders, GOI grantees were also able to win more campaign victories. **The Sylvia Rivera Law Project (SRLP)** (NEW YORK, NY) (CATALYST, GOI) (\$500K–\$999,999 BUDGET) launched its Campaign for Safe Shelters, **demanding that the NYC Department of Homeless Services (DHS) address ongoing violence and harassment of TGNC people in the shelter system.** With support from its GOI program and coach, SRLP was able to resource and train two members to lead a grassroots survey effort inside the shelter system to document conditions TGNC people face. The members led the survey analysis, and they developed a strategy and facilitation of a meeting to share the results with a key DHS decision

maker. Through these actions, SRLP was able to negotiate a **commitment by DHS to hire a consultant to conduct a more in-depth investigation into the conditions TGNC people face and to consider SRLP’s other campaign demands,** including increased healthcare access, TGNC-specific floors, and more community decision-making power.

Beyond grantmaking, a signature feature of the GOI program is Groundswell’s investment in one-on-one coaching, convenings, and ongoing virtual support. In addition, Groundswell provided database access and ongoing data management support with an additional stipend for a one-year subscription to the customer relations management (CRM) platform of grantees’ choice. A designated GOI coach helped grantees develop and implement a strong work plan. Coaches formed the backbone of the September 2019 three-day intensive organizing training and skill-building convening for capacity-building grantees (described above). Groundswell also offered a two-part webinar series about grassroots organizing as a theory of change to grantees’ leadership, organizers, base membership, and board members.

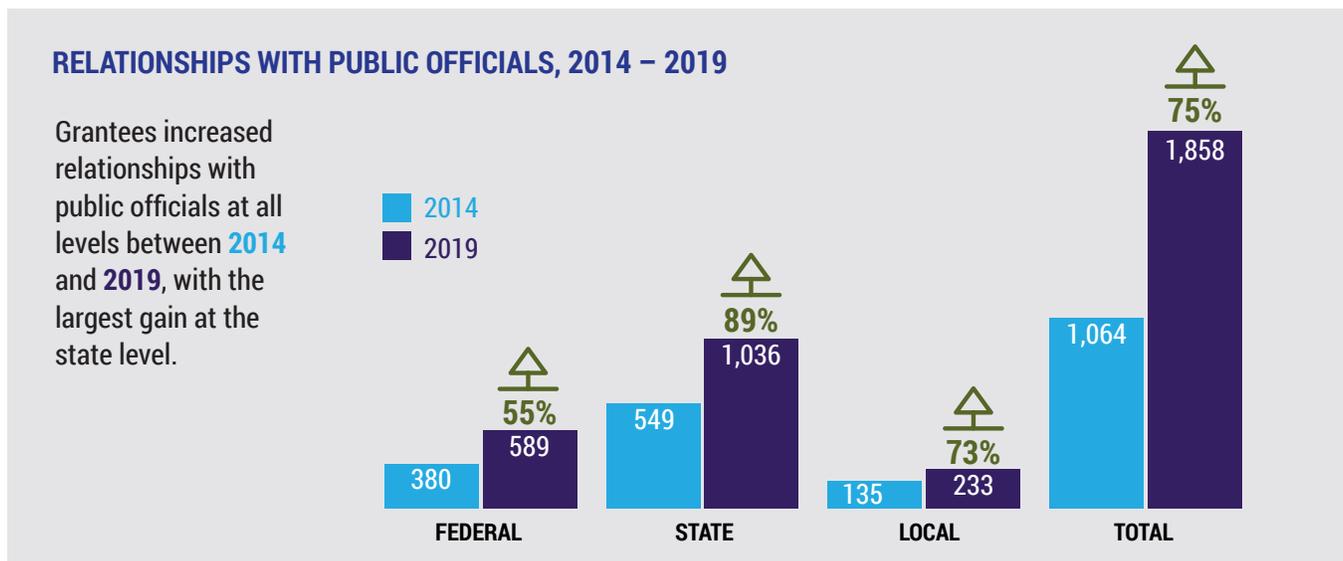
Advocacy for Structural and Policy Change

All RJ grantees organized for systemic changes to defend or expand access to RJ. **Fifty-one organizations were instrumental in the passage or implementation of 104 pro-RJ policies or the reversal or prevention of 32 anti-RJ policies.**

Policy wins are the result of multiple factors, including long-term grassroots organizing and base-building with community members and allies, far-reaching strategies to develop and mobilize support for community-led solutions, and flexibility to capitalize on new windows of opportunity. **A higher proportion of grantees—79%—supported new laws and bills in 2019 than in any recent year besides 2015.** Given the many barriers impeding new pro-RJ legislation and the frequent calls to act defensively, this is a notable trend and a sign that grantees were alert to opportunities for progress, even in a challenging era.

RJ grantees understand the importance of cultivating relationships with public officials who can introduce, sponsor, or support helpful policies; block damaging ones; help shape public discourse by using RJ talking points and issue frameworks; and—at a minimum—refrain from impeding pro-RJ proposals. In 2019, RJ grantees developed, maintained, and strengthened relationships with 3,684 public officials affiliated with all levels of U.S. and Tribal governments. Nine grantees secured the support of Tribal leaders for RJ systems change in 2019 (three more grantees than in 2018). They had built relationships with a total of 343 Tribal leaders, a slight increase over the prior year.

The accompanying chart shows increases in relationships at federal, local, and state levels for grantees receiving continuous Catalyst funding between 2014 and 2019.



The 22 long-term Catalyst grantees increased their total relationships with public officials by 75% between 2014 and 2019. Members of that cohort who are IVE participants increased total relationships by 95%.

The following pages show key steps in successful policy campaigns of three RJ grantees participating in Groundswell's IVE program. **Policy wins are not only significant on their own, but they are important components of a long-term strategy to build grassroots power for long-term cultural, societal, and systemic change.**

Black Women for Wellness (LOS ANGELES, CA) (CATALYST, IVE) (\$1 MILLION AND ABOVE BUDGET) explains the path to winning passage of a bill to reduce Black maternal mortality.



OUTREACH
We hired outreach workers to consistently connect with new and old base members, resulting in a dramatic increase in attendance at events and our monthly community forum.



AGENDA BUILDING
We continue to build off our 2017 policy agenda.



POSITIVE RELATIONSHIPS WITH DECISION MAKERS
We have close to 120 positive relationships with CA state-level decision makers. Regardless of party, they will meet with us if we request a meeting.



IDENTIFY NEW LEADERSHIP
We use a ladder system that tracks and identifies potential leaders, tracking the amount of training, events, and volunteer hours community members have with us.



BILL CRAFTING
After months of conversation, we crafted a one-of-a-kind bill to improve perinatal care for Black women.



ENGAGE BLACK LEADERSHIP We engaged over 770 leaders, 89% of whom are Black, in 2019.



COALITION BUILDING
We built a coalition of more than 100 organizations unified around attacking structural racism in perinatal care.



CIVIC ENGAGEMENT
We hired a director of civic engagement.



TRUST AND AUTHENTICITY
We center long-term relationship building with allies around authenticity and trust.



GATHER TESTIMONY
We brought over 60 individuals to Sacramento to testify about the bill.



LEVERAGE ALLY RELATIONSHIPS
Early in the year, we leveraged our existing ally relationships through Black Mamas Matter Alliance as well as others to develop a plan to address the disproportionately high Black maternal mortality and morbidity rates.

Centro Por la Justicia (SAN ANTONIO, TX) (IVE)

(\$200K–\$499,999 BUDGET) describes winning adoption of a city-level toxic clean-up plan.



OUTREACH

With the help of our paid canvassers, volunteers, and supporters, we led a climate action drive garnering more than 1,200 supporters through Voter Activation Network (VAN) outreach.



STRONG ENVIRONMENTAL JUSTICE PRINCIPLES

We have strong environmental justice principles and decades of work to clean up toxic waste sites.

ENGAGED LEADERSHIP

In 2019, we engaged 175 community leaders, 70% of whom are Latinx, 20% Indigenous, and 10% Black.



COMMUNITY TRAINING

IVE *promotora* (community educator) trainings prepared constituents to speak with supporters and non-supporters about the urgency of climate action in San Antonio.

YOUTH SPEAKERS

Our youth also played a very integral part in speaking on behalf of Centro and the work that we do.



POLICY WIN

The Climate Action and Adaptation Plan to sharply reduce the city's greenhouse emissions passed with a vote of 10 to one. City officials thanked Centro by name for our strategic efforts that focused on bottom-up organizing and centering front-line community members.

CONVERSATIONS WITH COUNCIL MEMBERS

Through many conversations with council members, we were able to include a strong climate equity definition that was not watered down for the draft of the plan. We had teaching moments around the intersections of climate and race, gender, capitalism, and colonization.



PATHWAYS WITH OFFICIALS

Our IVE work created pathways with elected officials to work together to clean up toxins that cause birth defects and cancers in our communities.



COALITION BUILDING

Each week community members sent hundreds of post cards to the city council supporting fair climate action. This consistently and concretely showed community support.



COMMUNITY STRATEGY

Voter registration, mobilization to the polls, election protection, and leadership development are essential strategies in our communities. We take our efforts beyond election day to ensure that our communities are participating in the political process and that public officials are accountable to our needs.

Freedom, Inc. (MADISON, WI) (CATALYST, IVE) (\$500K-\$999,999 BUDGET) explains how they won city approval to restore culturally-competent mental health services for Southeast Asian elders.

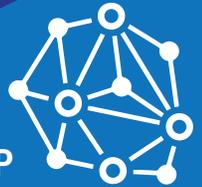


OUTREACH

Through political education and the Community Power Building canvassing team, **community leaders trained, recruited, and led other canvassers**. They are now leading U.S. Census work in the Black community.

POSITIVE RELATIONSHIPS WITH DECISION MAKERS

We have **cultivated positive relationships with seven local decision makers** and were able to neutralize opposition from another seven.



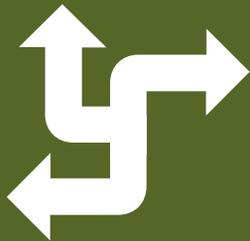
RELATIONSHIP BUILDING

We've learned that we need to **build relationships with people in a holistic and transformational way** in order to get a civically engaged, active base who will be life-long voters.



POLICY WIN

Our successful campaign to secure culturally-competent mental healthcare for Southeast Asian elders was a big win. **We were able to provide services for over 100 Hmong and Khmer elders** whose programming had been cut by a local white-led organization with very little warning.



MOBILIZATION

We mobilized **over 430 one-time activists and 21 community leaders** in environmental justice and civic engagement work in 2019.



HEALING SPACES

Our strategy included **creating healing spaces for the elders**—many of whom have survived war and genocide.



COMMUNITY TRAINING

This policy win involved **hours of political education and public speaking preparation** for a core group of over 30 elders.



COMMUNITY-LED ADVOCACY

Community-led advocacy included **countless appearances at public hearings, proposals and presentations** to the county and city board.

STRATEGIC THREAD SPOTLIGHT:



Organizing for Bold Demands

Employing innovative and visionary short- and long-term organizing strategies, advocating for “first” of their kind policies and systems change.

EverThrive Illinois (CHICAGO, IL) (CATALYST) (\$1 MILLION AND ABOVE BUDGET) works to improve the health of women, children, and families by ensuring they have access to quality, comprehensive health care and support. In 2019, the group celebrated the passage of the Reproductive Health Act, a bold abortion rights law it fought for that repeals outdated and unconstitutional barriers to reproductive healthcare and establishes the legal right to abortion for all people in Illinois. The group’s Youth Advocacy Day in April brought 57 students to Springfield to learn about the policy process and discuss the crucial need to increase funding for school-based health centers with their representatives. EverThrive IL created community expert advisory panels, so people in marginalized communities could help shape projects and policy agendas. **This strategy was central to EverThrive IL’s role in several state-level policy wins.**

EverThrive IL is a leader in pushing for an end to the persistent racial disparities in infant and maternal health outcomes throughout Illinois. After years of building relationships with legislative champions, EverThrive IL was instrumental in securing state funding to extend Medicaid postpartum coverage for a full year, making Illinois the first state to take this important step to combat infant and maternal mortality. Signed into law in May 2019, the budget plan represents an exciting win for EverThrive IL, its allies, and its base.

Alaska Community Action on Toxics (ACAT) (ANCHORAGE, AK)

(CATALYST, IVE) (\$1 MILLION AND ABOVE BUDGET) is a leader in groundbreaking policy campaigns that persuade state, national, and international bodies to prevent exposure to chemicals that disproportionately harm pregnant women, youth, Arctic Indigenous communities, workers, those with chronic illnesses, and the elderly. In 2019, ACAT won a landmark local policy for children’s health, banning four major classes of toxic flame-retardant chemicals from children’s products, furniture, and mattresses. After years of roadblocks advocating for a bold statewide policy to prohibit the use of these chemicals, which are harmful to human health and child development, ACAT leveraged support from Groundswell’s Integrated Voter Engagement (IVE) program to refocus the campaign to the municipal level in Anchorage, where the organization had cultivated strong grassroots support through other IVE campaigns. In the face of lobbying from eight major industry associations against the legislation, ACAT



mobilized the community using volunteer phone canvassing, music and arts events, media, and trainings, gaining support from the mayor, city council, and health care providers. With the labor union representing firefighters and community leaders, ACAT won unanimous passage of the ordinance, **one of the strongest flame-retardant chemical bans in the nation.**

ACAT has used the momentum from this victory to reignite its advocacy for a state-level ban. Through door-to-door and phone canvassing; events such as films, lecture series, workshops, and house parties; leadership trainings; tabling; email actions; petitions; letter-writing; and visits with policy makers, ACAT mobilized strong community support and leadership, including that of Carol Bacon, a firefighter who was forced to retire as a result of a rare debilitating blood cancer. Bacon provided powerful, personal testimony on behalf of the Toxic-Free Children and Firefighters Act in a House Committee hearing; the bill is currently moving through the state legislature.

Women's Voices for the Earth (WVE) (MISSOULA, MT) (CATALYST) (\$500K-\$999,999 BUDGET) advocates nationally for policies to eliminate toxic chemicals from commonly used products to protect women, families, and the environment. In 2019, **WVE won state legislation in New York to require companies to list all ingredients in menstrual products. When it passed in October, it became the first policy of its kind in the nation, setting a national precedent for period product ingredient transparency.** This law empowers people to select safer products and increases pressure on companies to eliminate toxic chemicals from products that are necessities for countless women, girls, and TGNC people. Working at the vanguard of the movement for menstrual equity, WVE used a multi-pronged approach to educate community members, allies, and public officials about why people need ingredient transparency. WVE hired an organizing fellow in New York City who leveraged her relationships with grassroots organizations to develop a joint Period Positivity workshop series to educate community members about the importance of ingredient disclosure. WVE also conducted research to investigate toxins in period products. It drew media exposure to the findings through op-eds and blogs.

WVE's online presence was a key digital organizing strategy, expanding public support and applying pressure on public officials. Social media campaigns encouraged people to talk openly about their periods and bodies to break down the shame associated with periods, and WVE added a "menstrual equity" landing page and texting platform to its website to share resources, actions, and events focused on menstrual equity and period health. WVE also cultivated alliances and worked in coalition with RJ grassroots allies and environmental justice allies, as well as mainstream environmental rights allies like the Sierra Club. NY Assembly member Linda B. Rosenthal shared WVE's social media #DetoxTheBox campaign, and WVE worked closely with her office on the menstrual product disclosure bill. **WVE continues to work with allies on its Detox the Box campaign to advocate for a federal ingredient disclosure bill.**

Leadership Development

Grantees acted from a core understanding that growing numbers of highly skilled grassroots leaders are critical for an effective and sustainable RJ movement. Some used structured programs to bring their constituents into leadership roles; almost all provided hands-on opportunities to hone leadership skills.



Power U Center for Social Change (Power U) (MIAMI, FL) (CATALYST, IVE, ECOSYSTEM INITIATIVE) (\$500K–\$999,999 BUDGET) deepened the skills of over 100 youth leaders, nearly all of whom are Black or Latinx. In 2019, these leaders successfully organized to defeat the first attempt at a state-wide law requiring parental consent for a minor to get an abortion. This law would later pass in 2020, but POWER U's efforts helped to galvanize a conversation about young people's rights around abortion access. POWER U also worked with partners to pass the Dignity for Incarcerated Women Act in 2019. Power U's youth members build knowledge and skills through workshops on social change, power, community organizing, and how public budgets work. The next level of training includes political education, paid door-to-door canvassing, and one-on-one meetings with Power U staff. Youth leader and high school senior Myria put her skills into action by speaking at school board hearings about the importance of a comprehensive sexuality health education curriculum, planning and facilitating trainings for her peers on sexuality and abortion, and recruiting new youth leaders to join Power U. A staff member explains that the leadership development model helps prepare youth members like Myria to be "active shapers of history."

Emerging Leaders Thrived with RJ Grantee Support

Winyan Wicayuonihan Oyanke—Where All Women Are Honored (RAPID CITY, SD) (CATALYST) (UNDER \$200K BUDGET) provides culturally based advocacy and resources for Oglala/Lakota women and children survivors of sexual and domestic violence and sex trafficking. A volunteer leader who was trained in an advocacy-listening model to honor survivors' wishes supported 127 survivors in 2019, aiding in their healing process and advocating for their needs. **She also helped to gain the support of state officials for a training on sex trafficking for first responders and educators, which she attended in December.**

When members express interest to take on leadership roles, **Líderes Campesinas** (OXNARD, CA) (CATALYST) (\$1 MILLION AND ABOVE BUDGET), California's statewide network of farmworker women and girls, provides them with trainings and stipends to work on environmental justice, international and national farmworkers' rights, and ending sexual assault and domestic violence. After years of learning about local government and how to join boards and commissions, Maria, one of the group's 250+ leaders in 2019, **joined her city's Parks and Recreation Board, acquiring an important platform to impact local policies.**

U.T.O.P.I.A. (SEATTLE, WA) (CATALYST) (\$200K-\$499,999 BUDGET) organized a leadership cohort of 100 transgender Pacific Islanders—many of them current or former sex workers and domestic violence survivors. In a support group setting, they learned how to build community power and use their stories to conduct sex work advocacy and address economic inequities facing trans and gender-diverse communities. **These leaders joined ally organizations in campaigns on racial, trans, and reproductive justice in eight states in 2019.** All U.T.O.P.I.A. staff members have served as volunteers and board members.



STRATEGIC THREAD SPOTLIGHT:



Centering Healing and Safety

Offering spaces, services, and processes that ensure community members feel safe and can heal as an integral strategy (not an afterthought or add-on) for long-term, sustainable engagement in the movement.



Black Women's Blueprint (BWB) (BROOKLYN, NY) (CATALYST)

(\$1 MILLION AND ABOVE BUDGET) integrates violence prevention, holistic healing, and asset-based community organizing to push for an end to human rights abuses against Black women and girls. BWB is an anchor in the NYC4CEDAW campaign, which advocates for NYC officials to integrate the mandates of the 1979 UN Convention on the Elimination of All Forms of Discrimination (CEDAW) into all aspects of the city's charter. **BWB's leaders helped to secure an official recommendation by the City Council to include gender equity and the CEDAW principles in all future revisions of the New York City Charter. It has also been instrumental in gaining support from the New York City Council and Commission on Gender Equity for a resolution requiring that each city agency budget contain line allocations to address the needs of women and girls of color.** Nearly all BWB's board and leaders are Black, and many are survivors of violence and/or are LGBTQ, trans, gender non-conforming, or immigrants. The BWB Trauma

Healing model engages constituents through crisis intervention, training to cope with past trauma, and learning how to draw on their experiences to organize in their community to dismantle systems that perpetuate sexual assault. Two survivors of sexual violence who received psychotherapeutic support and traditional healing from BWB participated in community meetings that helped them understand the connections between their personal stories and the socio-political context of trauma and survival in Black women's lives. In 2019, they became canvassers and community organizers in the NYC4CEDAW campaign, and they are now both interns with the organization. **Other members have led workshops about gender rights and survivor protections, started their own organizations, and run for local office.**

Asian American Organizing Project (AAOP) (ST. PAUL, MN) (CATALYST) (\$200K-\$499,999 BUDGET) fights for social change through grassroots organizing and civic engagement in the Asian American and Pacific Islander (AAPI) community. **AAOP believes that healing from personal and systemic traumas is integral to building grassroots political power.** Its organizing style is deeply rooted in cultivating meaningful relationships with community members, which it explains is particularly important when community members experience marginalization and oppression due to their identities. AAOP offers workshops,

facilitated discussions, community art projects, and online resources focused on building self-care practices. Youth Fellows in its Summer Organizing Fellowship program discuss taboo topics and issues that cause harm in the community, such as intimate partner violence. Clara, a former Summer Organizing Fellow, shares that the summer fellowship was “a transformative experience. Everyone put the health and well-being of each other first, and relationships and community were placed at the center of our work.” Now AAOP’s Youth Program Manager, she teaches Youth Action Team Leaders to address conflict and harm and restore relationships in their community.

The Knights and Orchid Society (TKO) (SELMA, AL) (CATALYST) (\$200K–\$499,999 BUDGET) is led by Black, queer, transgender, and gender non-conforming (TGNC) people, including many who are living with HIV, are youth under 30, and are low-income people in rural and isolated areas of Alabama. It works at the intersections of racial and gender justice to improve the quality of life within the LGBTQ+ community by creating safe spaces that empower, educate, and unite TGNC and queer role models of color. **TKO recognizes the need for a safety net that supports the entire community to live and thrive, which in turn deepens grassroots leaders’ capacity to work on changing unjust systems that impact their lives.** Its FAITH (Fair Access in Trans Healthcare) project connects TGNC and LGBQ people to health and wellness services, and its RJ Free Store provides essential items for women, children, babies, and trans people. It developed a strong collaborative relationship with a major provider of full-spectrum reproductive healthcare, including free mental health services, hormone replacement therapy, and free legal assistance to individuals seeking to change their name and/or gender markers. TKO’s simultaneous investment in leadership development, organizing, and political education builds constituents’ skills, confidence, and pride in their ability to effect systemic change. When Alabama legislators passed the 2019 abortion ban, the most restrictive law in the nation that made abortion a felony with few exceptions, TKO rallied its base. TC, a Black, non-binary person, a former program volunteer and current staff member, ignited their community by delivering speeches and organizing rallies. TC’s efforts led to several other groups holding rallies across Alabama and an outcry from women, trans men, and gender non-conforming people. **Ultimately, a federal judge blocked the ban, pending consideration by the U.S. Supreme Court.**

Alliances

All RJ grantees collaborated with allies in multiple linked movements. More than half (56%) said those focusing on RJ were among their top three allies, and 34% cited those focusing on racial justice.

Slightly more grantees in 2019 listed allies in economic justice/workers' rights, reproductive health and rights, environmental justice and health, and LGBTQI justice movements as being key partners as in the prior year.

RJ grantees identified the following ally sectors as their most important:

TOP ALLY SECTORS

Reproductive Justice	56%
Racial Justice	34%
Economic Justice / Workers Rights	29%
Reproductive Health and Rights	26%
Immigrant Justice	24%
Criminal Justice Reform / Prison Abolition	23%
Environmental Health / Justice	21%
LGBTQI Justice (BROADLY)	21%
Anti-Violence / Domestic Violence / Intimate Partner Violence / Gender-Based Violence	19%
Trans Justice (SPECIFICALLY)	13%
Birth Justice	9%
HIV Issues and Rights	9%
Education Justice / Reform	6%
Parenting Rights	3%
Housing Justice	3%
Healthcare Access	1%
Other	1%

Many alliances involved one-time actions or purely tactical collaboration (e.g., leveraging member networks for each other's organizing and campaigns). However, nearly half were "strong" or "very strong" alliances, involving deeper commitments to collaborate on organizing strategies and share resources. The 2019 RJ grantees worked with a total of 876 very strong ally organizations or collaborative partnerships.

The cohort of 22 long-term grantees doubled the number of very strong alliances from 245 in 2014 to 489 in 2019.

This is likely due to several factors, including:

- ▶ Six years of Groundswell funding, which supported grantees in making long-term plans and working strategically to select and, at times, educate allies in racial and gender analyses.
- ▶ The maturing of alliances across local, state, and national levels that over 90% of grantees reported working in since 2015.
- ▶ A shared sense of urgency among social justice organizations about RJ coming under intensified attack since 2016—in a focus group in 2019, grantees cited abortion access as an issue around which they were forming important cross-movement alliances.

The following strategies helped many grantees forge successful and productive alliances:

Co-sponsor events and advocacy days as **National Latina Institute for Reproductive Justice** (NY, NY) (CATALYST, IVE) (\$1 MILLION AND ABOVE BUDGET) did in conjunction with **National Asian Pacific American Women's Forum (NAPAWF)** (WASHINGTON, D.C.) (CATALYST, IVE, 2019 RAPID RESPONSE FUND)

(\$1 MILLION AND ABOVE BUDGET) and In Our Own Voice: Black Women's Reproductive Justice Agenda. Collectively, they assembled 300 women of color activists in Washington, D.C. to meet with 100 representatives to share the positive impact that the Health Equity and Access under the Law (HEAL) Act and the Equal Access to Abortion Coverage in Health Insurance (EACH Woman) Act would have on their lives. Their advocacy led to several public officials switching their stances to support the HEAL Act (introduced in the U.S. Senate in 2020).

Join forces in coalitions or committees, as **COLOR** (DENVER, CO) (CATALYST, IVE) (\$1 MILLION AND ABOVE BUDGET) did by joining with 9to5 Colorado and other economic justice leaders in the state to push for paid family and medical leave and raise awareness among public officials and the public about the connection between economic justice, reproductive health access, and infant mortality rates.

Engage in deep cross-sector discussions and strategizing, as **ACT for Women and Girls (ACT)** (VISALIA, CA) (CATALYST, IVE) (\$500K-\$999,999 BUDGET) did with three other organizations in the Central Valley: Power CA, Loud 4 Tomorrow, and The Source LGBT+ Center. As long-term allies, they aligned and coordinated their work, cross-training young people, co-hosting events, and sharing office space. In 2019, ACT and The Source LGBT+ Center pooled funds to lead a joint training on disability justice and accessibility, and they secured \$100,000 in new funding to advance policy protections for the queer and trans community—an exciting victory in Tulare County, where these communities face severe inequities in power, safety, inclusion, and opportunities.

STRATEGIC THREAD SPOTLIGHT:



Cultivating Ally Solidarity

Building allies' understanding and political commitment to support RJ strategies and goals, including racial and gender equity and following the leadership of communities most impacted by RJ disparities and injustice.

Forward Together (OAKLAND, CA) (CATALYST) (\$1 MILLION AND ABOVE BUDGET) organizes people of color, women, immigrants, LGBTQ people, and Indigenous people in CA, OR, NM, and GA to win rights, recognition, and resources for all families. Forward Together's movement building and cultural strategies bring organizations together on campaigns for trans liberation and reproductive justice. In 2019, Forward Together hosted the first regional Strong Families Network Summit in Atlanta, in partnership with economic justice, queer liberation, and RJ allies. **Sixty participants from 30 diverse organizations in five Southern states attended, representing those deeply immersed in RJ, economic justice, and family recognition work, as well as newcomers.** Forward Together shares that the summit was a "successful movement-building opportunity, allowing us to increase our shared analysis, deepen relationships, foster collaborations, and develop shared strategies." Forward together communicates early and often with its allies, respects and draws on their on-the-ground expertise, and provides resources, as needed, to support their partnership.

Trans Queer Pueblo (TQPueblo) (PHOENIX, AZ) (CATALYST, GOI) (\$200K-\$499,999 BUDGET) is collectively led by 300+ trans and queer migrants of color. TQPueblo takes methodical action to ensure that its allies share an understanding of and a solid commitment to RJ principles. It builds relationships with allies slowly—beginning with attending each other's events to learn about and support each other's work. TQPueblo then shares pedagogical and political analysis tools, including its curriculum on the intersections of gender, race, colonization, LGBTQ+ identities, and immigration. Once TQPueblo and its allies are in alignment, they trade talking points so each ally can bring the other's issues into its organizing. **TQPueblo's long-term values alignment process with the Florence Immigrant and Refugee Rights Project (The Florence Project), a white-led legal advocacy organization that had not previously worked with a trans justice and abolitionist framework, is an illustration of this iterative process.** As a result of TQPueblo's thought leadership, The Florence Project became a key partner in TQPueblo's #EndTransDetention, demanding the release of all LGBTQ+ migrants from Immigration and Customs Enforcement (ICE) detention—including Anahí, a transgender woman held in detention for five months who was released and gained U.S. asylum in 2019.





Native American Community Board (NACB)

(LAKE ANDES, SD) (CATALYST) (\$500K–\$999,999

BUDGET) aims to bring about social change and self-determination for women and children through advocacy, community education, cultural preservation, direct services, and coalition building in its home community of the Yankton Sioux Reservation, the U.S., and internationally. **NACB educates allies on RJ topics, including sterilization abuses and gender-based violence, through workshops and presentations, and by leading trainings at conferences.** It sets up information booths at cultural events in Reservation communities, community-based organizations, community centers, Tribal governments, schools, and religious institutions. One such ally, Amnesty International, partnered with NACB and others to produce “Amá,” a documentary about the U.S. government’s long-standing use of contraceptives to control reproductive autonomy in Native communities. In 2019, NACB toured the country hosting film screenings with Native grassroots organizations and colleges, among others. During the Amá campaign, NACB cultivated a relationship with a new ally, The Circle, an international non-RJ, non-Native-led organization that aims to achieve equality for women and girls. After viewing the film, engaging in conversation, and learning with NACB, The Circle invited NACB to speak at its annual meeting, screen the film for members, and participate in a week of related events, including an interview with the BBC. The Circle organized its members to join NACB’s online community and letter-writing campaigns. NACB and The Circle continue to partner and arrange speaking appearances to bring new allies into the RJ movement.

Barriers, Accelerators, and Opportunities for Support

In 2019, grantees faced a host of external, systemic obstacles to expanding reproductive justice and rights but also confronted a common consequence of success: the need to meet growing demand as their visibility and reputations grew.

As in 2018, the most cited barrier to RJ progress was the **national hostile political climate**:

- ▶ An ultra-conservative culture within U.S. governing institutions—from local to federal levels—which promotes policies grounded in white nationalist, racist, and misogynist ideologies.
- ▶ The toll from fighting these ultra-conservative policies, including widespread stress, trauma, and burnout among activists and staff.
- ▶ The need to expend valuable resources on defensive organizing as a result of the consistent attempts to dismantle prior rights and protections.
- ▶ Federal policies and practices that spread fear in immigrant communities, which hinder staff and volunteer canvassing and organizing efforts.
- ▶ Ongoing lack of enforcement and rollback of laws and regulations to protect workers and the environment.

Nearly as frequently mentioned was **the issue of organizational capacity**, including:

- ▶ A need to grow staffing or leadership due to staff transitions, increased workloads, or burnout.
- ▶ A need to shore up infrastructure, including securing adequate, affordable offices, or safe meeting spaces; digital organizing tools; and data security expertise and products.
- ▶ Challenges finding and recruiting staff with expertise to match operational and programmatic needs.
- ▶ Impediments to achieving a broader impact, such as a lack of multi-year funding that would enable long-range planning, the need to prioritize rapid responses to political or community crises, and burnout.
- ▶ Trouble balancing long-term organizing needs with short-term opportunities.

Other barriers were:

- ▶ A perception that funders led by cisgender and/or white people do not trust and invest in the priorities and processes of organizations led by people of color and TGNC people.
- ▶ Continued difficulty recruiting and cultivating leaders who will stay with RJ organizations and work in regions with the greatest RJ threats, due to an inability to offer competitive pay and benefits and support sustainable, healthy work cultures.
- ▶ Lack of resources for technical assistance to build operational capacity as grantees expand or adopt new priorities.
- ▶ Gentrification and displacement that threaten to price grantees out of the neighborhoods and communities they have historically served.

The boxes that follow summarize RJ grantees' reflections on factors that supported or accelerated their work in 2019 and opportunities for funders to support the RJ movement in the coming year.

BUILDING LEADERSHIP AND ORGANIZING	
WHAT HELPED GRANTEEES IN 2019	OPPORTUNITIES FOR FUNDERS
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Developing organizing strategies and messaging for base-building, policy advocacy, and rapid response priorities. • Investing in long-term leadership development strategies and creating pipelines for constituents to step into decision-making roles. • Being inclusive of all community members to ensure responsive programming, organizing, and external communication. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Support grantees in creating robust leadership pipelines for their organizations. Grantees need long-term funding to hire, train, and retain more staff to run programs and community organizing. • Fund RJ organizations to grow their leadership development programs to help build a sustainable pipeline of RJ movement leaders. Resource professional development opportunities for RJ leaders. • Invest in healing justice initiatives¹⁴ and organizational development capacity building so grantees can build healthy organizations and strengthen trust and relationships with their communities—leading to more responsive, effective, and sustainable work.
STRENGTHENING ALLIANCES	
WHAT HELPED GRANTEEES IN 2019	OPPORTUNITIES FOR FUNDERS
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Building deep partnerships for greater impact through sharing ideas and resources. • Reciprocal support, such as an ally bringing their base to support an RJ organizing campaign or trainings by an ally's leaders. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • When requested by grantees, help grantees convene their peers to share idea and political education, strategize together, and take collective action. • Support grantee-led efforts to meet with other RJ groups or social justice groups in their region, so they can better leverage their power collectively. • Provide grantees with resources they need to train potential allies about racial and gender justice and other RJ principles.

BRINGING ABOUT SYSTEMS AND POLICY CHANGE

WHAT HELPED GRANTEES IN 2019

- **Building relationships with local public officials** as an integral component of a policy campaign.
- Bringing community member stories to the attention of public officials.
- **Groundswell's IVE coaching**, which deepened grantees' community-organizing capacity and ability to build people power to hold public officials accountable.

OPPORTUNITIES FOR FUNDERS

- **Give multi-year funding for grassroots organizing and advocacy training programs** to help constituents learn how to organize their communities and communicate about pressing issues with public officials to hold them accountable for action.
- **Increase investment in integrated voter engagement (IVE)**, including support for grantees to develop in-person and digital organizing and voter engagement capacity.
- **Increase rapid response support for grantees to organize around urgent and emerging opportunities** that their communities tell them they need to survive and thrive.

DEEPENING ORGANIZATIONAL CAPACITY

WHAT HELPED GRANTEES IN 2019

- **Aligning staffing and organizational agendas** to ensure they had the capacity *and* flexibility to respond to internal or external challenges.
- **Groundswell's support for a data management system** through GOI and IVE programs, which allowed grantees to see what their reach is and how many leaders and voting members they have.
- **Groundswell's role as a "validator" with other funders**, which helped grantees build new funder relationships.

OPPORTUNITIES FOR FUNDERS

- **Provide general operating support, without restrictions on "overhead expenses,"** so grantees can hire finance, human resources, and operations staff and can offer employees the health insurance, mental health support, and paid sick leave that are essential for staff sustainability, retention, and well-being.
- **Make multi-year funding commitments**, so grantees can plan and carry out long-range strategies.



Conclusion and Next Steps for the Movement

Groundswell's RJ grantees used multiple strategies to combat serious political and cultural challenges in 2019, including inequities woven into the fabric of the U.S. since before its founding.

While they often rose to defensive action—preventing new anti-RJ policies and stemming the erosion of hard-won rights—many grantees also carried out proactive, bold organizing campaigns, and visionary policy advocacy. They continued work begun in prior years to cultivate allies with a deep understanding of and commitment to the RJ movement. They built their internal capacity, expanded community engagement, deepened constituents' leadership and sense of power, and forged relationships with public officials whose support is critical in transforming community demands into policy and systems change victories.

This year's evaluation offers evidence that long-term funding and structured capacity building plays a role in building the capacity of RJ organizations to lead a community-powered movement for change: the 22 grantees receiving six or more consecutive years of Groundswell Catalyst Fund for Reproductive Justice support made significant gains in the building blocks of grassroots-led change. Those receiving Groundswell IVE and GOI support made even greater inroads in their reach and impact. The expertise the grantees have honed over time and the reputations they have earned for accountability and effectiveness within their communities—coupled with Groundswell Fund's support and funder advocacy—enabled them to establish an even more solid foundation in 2019, as they forge a powerful, lasting RJ movement.

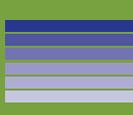
To learn more about the data behind this evaluation or to host a discussion for your board or other stakeholders, please contact Groundswell Fund.



Policies Passed or Blocked in 2019

Following is a list of 104 new policies passed that further RJ goals and 32 harmful policies blocked thanks to the work of 51 RJ grantees in 2019.^{15, 16} The names of grantees are listed to the right of each policy win in which they had a role.

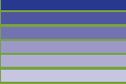
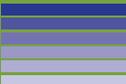
Next to each policy win¹⁷ are icons specifying which social justice issue(s) the policy supported. Many of these policies were wins for intersecting social justice issues, as seen by those with multiple icons in the left-hand column in the table below.

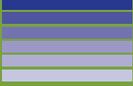
 ABORTION ACCESS	 ENVIRONMENTAL JUSTICE / HEALTH	 RACIAL JUSTICE	 REPRODUCTIVE HEALTHCARE ACCESS	 EDUCATION JUSTICE	 LGBTQ JUSTICE	 HEALTHCARE ACCESS	 CRIMINAL JUSTICE REFORM
 BIRTH JUSTICE / PREGNANCY DISCRIMINATION	 ACCESS TO CONTRACEPTIVES	 HOUSING JUSTICE	 IMMIGRANT JUSTICE	 HIV ISSUES / RIGHTS	 DOMESTIC VIOLENCE / SEXUAL ASSAULT	 ECONOMIC JUSTICE / WORKERS RIGHTS	

NEW LAWS AND NON-LEGISLATIVE POLICY

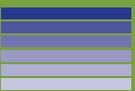
ALASKA		
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Anchorage Ordinance 2019-15 bans four major classes of toxic flame-retardant chemicals from children's products, furniture, and mattresses. Exposure to flame retardant chemicals is linked with cancer, endocrine disruption, reproductive disorders, miscarriages, premature births, neurological and developmental delays, and respiratory problems. This landmark municipal ordinance now stands among the strongest laws in the nation on flame-retardant chemicals. 	Alaska Community Action on Toxics (ACAT)
CALIFORNIA		
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> CA SB 24 requires CA public universities to provide medication to induce abortion at student health centers. 	ACCESS Women's Health Justice; ACT for Women and Girls; Black Women for Wellness; California Latinas for Reproductive Justice; Positive Women's Network-USA; URGE: Unite for Reproductive & Gender Equity
 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> CA SB 464, the California Dignity in Pregnancy and Childbirth Act, addresses racial bias in perinatal care by requiring all perinatal staff to complete a comprehensive implicit bias training, requires maternal morbidity data disaggregated by region and race to be published every two years, updates morbidity data collection practices to meet international standards, and requires hospitals to tell patients how to file discrimination complaints. 	ACT for Women and Girls; Black Women for Wellness; California Latinas for Reproductive Justice; URGE: Unite for Reproductive & Gender Equity

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> CA AB 5 establishes that most gig economy workers (those typically classified as independent contractors while working under staff-like conditions) are entitled to minimum wage, workers' compensation, and other benefits by ensuring companies meet specific requirements in order to classify their workers as independent contractors. 	California Healthy Nail Salon Collaborative
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> CA AB 647 makes product information more accessible by requiring safety data sheets for cosmetics and disinfectants to be posted online and translated into specific languages including Vietnamese, Spanish, and Chinese. This gives workers the ability to understand chemicals they work with, including those that harm reproductive health. 	California Healthy Nail Salon Collaborative
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> CA SB 159 authorizes pharmacists to provide medicine that prevents HIV transmission—preexposure and postexposure prophylaxis—in specified amounts. 	California Latinas for Reproductive Justice
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> CA SB 233 prohibits the arrest of individuals engaged in sex work when they come forward as a witness or a victim of specified violent and serious crimes. It also clarifies that the possession of condoms may not be used as probable cause to arrest someone for sex work. 	California Latinas for Reproductive Justice; Positive Women's Network-USA
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> CA AB 32 phases out all state contracts with private, for-profit prisons and immigrant detention centers in California. This policy bars the California Department of Corrections and Rehabilitation from entering into or renewing a contract with a private prison company after January 1, 2020 and will prevent California from holding incarcerated people and migrants in for-profit prison facilities and private detention centers starting by 2028. 	Legal Services for Prisoners with Children
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> CA AB 45 prohibits county jails from imposing co-payments on incarcerated people receiving medical and dental services. 	California Latinas for Reproductive Justice; Legal Services for Prisoners with Children
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> CA AB 392 limits and redefines the circumstances under which a homicide by a peace officer is deemed justifiable. Justifiable cause for homicide by a peace officer is now limited to situations when the officer reasonably believes, based on the totality of the circumstances, that deadly force is necessary to defend against an imminent threat of death or serious bodily injury to the officer or to another person, or to apprehend a fleeing person for a felony that threatened or resulted in death or serious bodily injury only if the officer reasonably believes that, unless immediately apprehended, the person will cause death or serious bodily injury to another. Peace officers cannot use deadly force when a person is running away or during a traffic stop if the situation does not meet these standards. 	Black Women for Wellness; California Latinas for Reproductive Justice
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> CA AB 942 addresses food insecurity and reduces barriers for California's most vulnerable populations by expanding access to and availability of hot and prepared food choices for people who are homeless, disabled, or elderly through a statewide expansion of the CalFresh Restaurant Meals Program. 	Legal Services for Prisoners with Children
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> CA Assembly Concurrent Resolution 1 denounces the federal Public Charge rule, which threatens to disqualify immigration petitions by people who access public benefits. 	California Healthy Nail Salon Collaborative
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> CA SB 136 ends a provision that adds an extra year to an individual's base sentence for each prison or felony jail term they already served. 	Legal Services for Prisoners with Children
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> CA SB 160 requires CA counties to integrate cultural competence into emergency plans upon the next update to their emergency plans. The law also requires CA counties to provide forums for community engagement in geographically diverse locations in order to engage with culturally diverse communities within their jurisdictions. 	California Healthy Nail Salon Collaborative

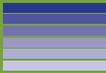
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> CA SB 188 protects individuals against hair discrimination by expanding the definition of race in California's nondiscrimination rules in public schools to include traits historically associated with race, including, but not limited to, hair texture and hairstyles. 	Black Women for Wellness
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> CA SB 419 amends the CA Education Code to eliminate suspensions for "willful defiance" in grades 4–8. This addresses the overuse of suspensions for minor and subjective offenses, which have disproportionately been used to discipline students of color, LGBTQ students, and students with disabilities. 	Khmer Girls in Action
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> CA SB 495 prohibits courts from considering the sex, gender identity, gender expression, or sexual orientation of a parent, legal guardian, or relative in making decisions regarding a child's custody. 	California Latinas for Reproductive Justice
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> CA AB 484 removes the requirement that judges impose 180 days of jail time prior to probation for possession of certain controlled substances. 	Legal Services for Prisoners with Children
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> CA AB 1076 grants automatic relief to an eligible person without requiring a petition or motion. The law allows automatic record relief in the form of set-aside or sealing for individuals with certain convictions and arrests under California law. 	Legal Services for Prisoners with Children
COLORADO		
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> CO HB 1122 creates the Colorado Maternal Mortality Review Committee, which is required to review maternal deaths, identify the causes of maternal mortality, and develop recommendations to address preventable maternal deaths, including legislation, policies, rules, and best practices that will support the health and safety of the pregnant and postpartum population in Colorado and prevent maternal deaths. The chief medical officer of the Department of Public Health and Environment is directed to appoint at least 11 members to serve on the committee. 	Colorado Organization for Latina Opportunity and Reproductive Rights (COLOR)
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> CO HB 1004 allocates federal funds to implement a competitive state option for more affordable health care coverage in Colorado. 	Positive Women's Network-USA
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> CO HB 1009 provides vouchers for housing assistance for people in substance use disorders recovery. 	Positive Women's Network-USA
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> CO HB 1032 requires school districts to offer sex education that includes a discussion of consent, uses non-stigmatizing and shaming language around the health needs of LGBTQ people, and does not claim abstinence is the only effective method of contraception. 	Colorado Organization for Latina Opportunity and Reproductive Rights (COLOR); Positive Women's Network-USA
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> CO HB 1039 requires that the state registrar issue a new birth certificate to reflect a change in gender, rather than an amended birth certificate. The bill allows a person who has previously obtained an amended birth certificate under previous versions of the law to apply to receive a new birth certificate. 	Colorado Organization for Latina Opportunity and Reproductive Rights (COLOR)
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> CO HB 1118 extends from three to 10 days the mandated period of time a landlord must provide to a tenant to correct a violation for unpaid rent or any other condition or covenant of a lease agreement, other than a substantial violation, before the landlord can initiate eviction proceedings based on that unpaid rent or other violation. 	Colorado Organization for Latina Opportunity and Reproductive Rights (COLOR)

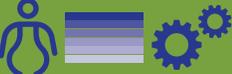
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • CO HB 1120 allows minors 12 years of age or older to seek and obtain psychotherapy services with or without the consent of their parent or guardian. A registered psychotherapist or licensed social worker providing psychotherapy services to a minor may, with the consent of the minor, advise the minor's parent or legal guardian of the psychotherapy services provided. 	<p>Colorado Organization for Latina Opportunity and Reproductive Rights (COLOR)</p>
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • CO HB 1124 prohibits a law enforcement officer from arresting or detaining an individual solely on the basis of a civil immigration detainer. The act prohibits a probation officer or probation department employee from providing an individual's personal information to federal immigration authorities. 	<p>Colorado Organization for Latina Opportunity and Reproductive Rights (COLOR)</p>
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • CO HB 1129 prohibits licensed physicians and mental health care providers from providing or advertising conversion therapy for minors. 	<p>Colorado Organization for Latina Opportunity and Reproductive Rights (COLOR)</p>
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • CO HB 1149 strengthens protections for sexual assault survivors by clarifying that, to obtain a sexual assault protection order, survivors are only required to allege and prove that they were sexually assaulted; they are not required on top of that to allege and prove that the perpetrator said or did something else that causes them to have a "reasonable fear" of future dangerous acts. 	<p>Colectiva Legal del Pueblo</p>
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • CO HB 1192 funds the instruction of history and civil government of the U.S. and Colorado in public schools, including but not limited to the history, culture, and social contributions of Indigenous people, Latinxs, African Americans, Asian Americans, and the intersectionality of significant social and cultural features within these communities. The bill also requires that school districts convene community forums to discuss the content standards in history and civil government at least every six years (forums were previously required at least every 10 years). 	<p>Colorado Organization for Latina Opportunity and Reproductive Rights (COLOR)</p>
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • CO HB 1239 creates a 2020 census outreach program to provide grants to local governments, intergovernmental agencies, councils of government, housing authorities, school districts, and nonprofit organizations to support the accurate counting of the population of CO for the 2020 census. 	<p>Colorado Organization for Latina Opportunity and Reproductive Rights (COLOR)</p>
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • CO SB 73 establishes a statewide electronic system to track and access advance medical directives. 	<p>Positive Women's Network-USA</p>
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • CO SB 85 gives the right to file a lawsuit in a district court to individuals facing wage discrimination based on sex. The bill also requires employers to announce to all employees any employment advancement opportunities and job openings, as well as the pay range for the openings. 	<p>Colorado Organization for Latina Opportunity and Reproductive Rights (COLOR)</p>
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • CO SB 188, the CO FAMILI Act, creates a study of the implementation plan for a paid family and medical leave insurance program in the state. 	<p>Colorado Organization for Latina Opportunity and Reproductive Rights (COLOR)</p>
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • CO HB 1189 reduced the amount of wages subjected to garnishment for healthcare costs owed to creditors from 25% to 20%. This is a harm reduction measure for low-income communities, especially those with expensive medical conditions and women of color. 	<p>Positive Women's Network-USA</p>
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • CB HB 1004 requires the CO Department of Health Care Policy and Financing and the Division of Insurance in the CO Department of Regulatory Agencies to develop and submit a proposal to certain committees of the General Assembly concerning the design, costs, benefits, and implementation of a state option for health care coverage. 	<p>Positive Women's Network-USA</p>

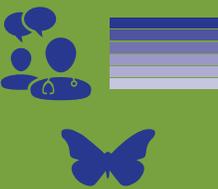
FLORIDA		
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> FL HB 49/SB 332, the Dignity for Incarcerated Women and Girls Act, requires correctional facilities to provide necessary menstrual hygiene products at no additional cost and restricts male correctional employees who work in women's facilities from conducting pat-down or body cavity searches on incarcerated women. 	Miami Workers Center; The New Florida Majority-Education Fund, Power U
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> FL HB 563/SB 990 allows eligible survivors of domestic violence to qualify for unemployment compensation benefits, if they must leave their job to protect themselves and their families. A significant proportion of women who return to abusive relationships attribute a lack of adequate money as a major contributing factor. This bill also helps employers keep other employees safe from workplace violence. 	Miami Workers Center; The New Florida Majority-Education Fund
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> FL HB 7125 reduces occupational licensing barriers for people with felony convictions, limits the number of offenses that can result in the suspension of a driver's license, raises the felony theft threshold from \$300 to \$750, and eliminates mandatory direct file (which occurs when the state allows a prosecutor to file charges against a juvenile directly in adult criminal court). 	The New Florida Majority-Education Fund
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Miami-Dade County increased the budget allocated for weatherization programs to \$850,000, enabling low-income families to permanently reduce their energy bills by making their homes more energy efficient. 	The New Florida Majority-Education Fund
GEORGIA		
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Atlanta City Council Resolution 19-R-4931 establishes a municipal-level commission made up of local reproductive health, rights, and justice experts and stakeholders who will work on research and policy over a three-year period to provide the city with recommendations on how to best improve reproductive health outcomes in Atlanta. 	National Asian Pacific American Women's Forum; URGE: Unite for Reproductive & Gender Equity
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> GA HB 345 prohibits strip searches and shackling of incarcerated people during pregnancy, labor, and postpartum recovery. 	SisterSong Women of Color Reproductive Justice Collective; SPARK Reproductive Justice Now!, Inc.; URGE: Unite for Reproductive & Gender Equity; Women Engaged
IDAHO		
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Boise, ID, passed a city resolution condemning and denouncing bias and hate. 	Western States Center
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> The mayor of Coeur d'Alene, ID, signed a proclamation recognizing Constitution Week, affirming the city's dedication to diversity and the rights afforded to all Americans. 	Western States Center
ILLINOIS		
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> IL SB 25, the Reproductive Health Act, is a landmark abortion rights bill that establishes a legal right to abortion for all people in Illinois, strikes most language from the state statute (which would restrict abortion if <i>Roe v. Wade</i> were overturned or weakened), and requires that private insurance companies cover abortion care at parity with other pregnancy care services. 	EverThrive Illinois; Illinois Caucus for Adolescent Health; National Network of Abortion Funds (NNAF); National Asian Pacific American Women's Forum (NAPAWF)

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> IL HB 1 establishes a task force led by the Illinois Department of Public Health to understand and address infant and maternal mortality in Black communities across Illinois. This will create an important opportunity to gain attention for this crisis and propose policy solutions with decision makers at the table. 	EverThrive Illinois
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> IL HB 2444, the Children's Best Interest Act, provides that at the initial bail hearing or any subsequent hearing for a person charged with a crime, the defendant shall be released on their own recognizance if the judge finds that the defendant's pre-trial detention will harm any infant or child in the defendant's custody at the time of arrest, unless the harm is outweighed by a clear and serious risk of harm to a victim or the community. In addition, this bill provides that if a defendant is the parent of a child or infant whose well-being will be affected by the parent's absence, this shall be considered in the sentencing decision. 	Cabrini Green Legal Aid (CGLA)
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> IL HB 2649 requires recognition of the rights of children to maintain their relationship with parents who are incarcerated. This bill provides for a task force to examine how children of incarcerated parents will be considered in policy and procedure decisions, in the interest of reducing the trauma and the impact of their parent's involvement with the criminal legal system. 	Cabrini Green Legal Aid (CGLA)
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> IL SB 1 raises the IL minimum wage to \$15. 	Warehouse Workers for Justice
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> IL SB 162 provides greater access to diagnostic mammography for those who are publicly insured. 	Equal Hope
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> IL SB 1321 is a Medicaid Omnibus Bill including language proposed by EverThrive IL and allies to address problems in the state's administration of Medicaid that have created significant delays in processing applications for and redeterminations of eligibility for Medicaid. 	EverThrive Illinois
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Chicago's Fair Workweek Ordinance guarantees predictable work hours for workers in the city of Chicago. 	United for Respect Education Fund; Warehouse Workers for Justice
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> In a budget-related policy win, Humanity United provided funding to the City of Chicago and Arise Chicago to prevent labor trafficking, with a focus on prevention via the Office of Labor Standards. By more effectively enforcing worker protections, and improving all jobs, the City can prevent circumstances that make workers vulnerable to trafficking. Arise is working to advance co-enforcement activities on Chicago's pro-worker ordinances to prevent precarious workers from being placed in trafficking scenarios. Because domestic workers work in private homes, they are extremely vulnerable to abuse, frequently including sexual harassment or even assault. Policies and regulations that protect domestic workers improve overall conditions, including personal, physical, and psychological safety and reproductive health. 	Arise Chicago
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Cook County Ordinance 19-3462 prohibits any person that owns, leases, rents, operates, manages, or in any manner controls a public accommodation in Cook County from withholding, curtailing, limiting, or otherwise preventing individuals from using public accommodations on the basis of unlawful discrimination. 	Brave Space Alliance
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Cook County Resolution 19-3961 affirms Cook County's support for The Equality Act, which would protect all LGBTQ people in the U.S. from discrimination based on their actual or perceived sexual orientation or gender identity in public accommodations and facilities, education, federal funding, employment, housing, credit, and the jury system. 	Brave Space Alliance

MISSISSIPPI		
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> An extension of the deadline to participate in Mississippi's Childcare Payment Program (CCPP) policy allows CCPP providers who serve low-income single mothers to remain in the CCPP program and continue serving those who need child care. 	Mississippi Low-Income Child Care Initiative
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> MLICCI pressed the MS Department of Human Services (DHS) to use increased federal funds for the Childcare and Development Fund (CCDF) for direct services to children, in order to eliminate the waiting list for childcare assistance that had ballooned to 21,500 children. As a result of this funding, DHS is now serving more children. 	Mississippi Low-Income Child Care Initiative
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> The Jackson, Mississippi, City Council voted unanimously for an ordinance that reduces existing gender pay disparity by prohibiting the city from asking applicants questions about prior salaries and requiring all employees be paid according to published pay scale. 	Raising Women's Voices (RWV)
NEVADA		
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> NV SB 179, the Trust Nevada Women Act, repeals criminal penalties for abortion and aligns informed consent laws with today's medical standards by removing the requirement that a physician certify a pregnant woman's marital status and age before performing an abortion and removing the requirement that a physician certify in writing that a woman gave her informed written consent before performing an abortion. 	Progressive Leadership Alliance of Nevada
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> NV AB 124 requires healthcare providers to provide information about contraception and antibiotics and to survivors of sexual assault. 	Progressive Leadership Alliance of Nevada
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> NV AB 169 establishes a Maternal Mortality Review Committee within the Department of Health and Human Services to review incidents of maternal mortality and develop recommendations for health care providers. 	Progressive Leadership Alliance of Nevada
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> NV SB 94 allocates \$6 million for statewide family planning grants. 	Progressive Leadership Alliance of Nevada
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> NV AB 170 prevents insurers from denying coverage to patients due to pre-existing conditions. 	Progressive Leadership Alliance of Nevada
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> NV SB 312 requires employers to provide paid leave to their employees. 	Progressive Leadership Alliance of Nevada
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> NV SB 364 prohibits discriminatory practices by medical providers and facilities, requires them to develop policies for gender diverse patients, and requires diversity training for medical offices. 	Gender Justice Nevada
NEW MEXICO		
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> NM HB 89 expands health insurance coverage for contraceptives. 	Bold Futures NM (formerly Young Women United); Forward Together
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> NM HB 226 allows New Mexico Licensed Midwives to legally obtain the pharmaceuticals they are required to carry (which they were blocked from doing before) and administer them as part of their scope of practice. 	Bold Futures NM (formerly Young Women United)

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> NM HB 56 changes New Mexico juvenile law to remove prostitution as a delinquent act from the code, meaning any minor engaging in prostitution will not be considered to be committing a delinquent act subject to punishment. 	Forward Together; Bold Futures NM (formerly Young Women United)
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> NM HB 230 clarifies that a positive drug screen at birth does not require a mandatory Children Youth and Families Department (CYFD) report. It requires that when someone discloses substance use or substances are detected in a screen, a family centered Plan of Care is developed. This allows providers to better care for the unique needs of each patient and their family and to resource and support families in concrete ways. This law does not undermine New Mexico's abuse or neglect reporting requirements. 	Bold Futures NM (formerly Young Women United)
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> NM SB 20 allows New Mexicans to change their gender identity on vital records. 	Forward Together
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> New Mexico allocated \$142,000 in the state budget to continue studying and developing a Medicaid Buy-In policy. The budget bill also included federal waiver authority, meaning that New Mexico now has the authority to seek federal funds for Medicaid Buy-In. 	Forward Together
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> NM SB 96, "Ban the Box," removes questions about arrests and convictions on initial employment applications. 	Bold Futures NM (formerly Young Women United)
NEW YORK		
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> New York City allocated \$250,000 to go to the New York Abortion Access Fund to support abortion access. The money will go to a nonprofit fund that compensates clinics for abortions performed on people who cannot pay. 	National Latina Institute for Reproductive Justice
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> NY S 240, the Reproductive Health Act (RHA), repeals New York's archaic criminal abortion statute that allows only physicians to provide abortion care. The RHA codifies <i>Roe v. Wade</i> protections into state law and ensures access to safe, legal abortion in New York State. 	National Advocates for Pregnant Women; Raising Women's Voices'
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> NY A 164 requires manufacturers of menstrual products to disclose the ingredients of products sold in the state, setting a national precedent. 	Women's Voices for the Earth (WVE)
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> NY A 3974, the Domestic Violence Survivors Justice Act, allows judges to sentence domestic violence survivors to shorter prison terms and, in some cases, community-based alternative-to-incarceration programs, and gives survivors currently in prison the opportunity to apply for resentencing. 	National Advocates for Pregnant Women
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> NY S 2279/A 1204 resolves a gap in current law to ensure that a minor who is the survivor of a sexual assault can access the full 28-day regimen of HIV prophylaxis medication. 	National Advocates for Pregnant Women
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> New York City DHS-PB-2019-015 updates the Department of Homeless Services' (DHS) LGBTQI policy, banning discrimination on the basis of gender identity or expression, ensuring that individuals have access to gender-affirming facilities, and requiring that staff provide culturally-competent services. 	The Sylvia Rivera Law Project

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • New York City Resolutions 0740-2019 and 0746-2019 require the NYC Administration for Children's Services (ACS) to report the main allegation leading to any report of child abuse or neglect as well as the main allegation leading to opening any case for investigation of child abuse or neglect. <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Resolution 0740-2019 requires that a person's possession or use of marijuana does not by itself create an imminent risk of harm to a child, warranting the child's removal from their family. • Resolution 0746-2019 calls on the New York State Legislature to pass, and the Governor to sign, legislation requiring the New York State Department of Health to create clear and fair regulations for hospitals on drug testing those who are pregnant or giving birth, including informing patients of their rights before any discussion of drug use or drug testing. 	National Advocates for Pregnant Women
OREGON		
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The city of Eugene passed a resolution declaring the right to a safe and legal abortion and authorizing the city to participate as a friend of the court in forthcoming lawsuits challenging abortion bans across the country. 	Western States Center
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • OR HB 2005 creates paid family and medical leave for all Oregonians using a broad definition of family. 	Forward Together
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • OR HB 2015 allows anyone to obtain a driver's license, regardless of immigration status. 	Forward Together
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • OR HB 3310 brings the national Voting Rights Act to Oregon's school districts, ensuring school district elections are conducted in a manner that does not impair the ability of members of protected classes to have equal opportunity to elect candidates of their choice. 	Forward Together
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The Eugene City Council passed a City Resolution condemning white nationalism and "alt-right" activities and groups. 	Western States Center
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The Portland City Council passed a City Resolution condemning white supremacy and "alt-right" groups. 	Western States Center
TEXAS		
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • TX HB 1651 prohibits the shackling of incarcerated people in county jails during pregnancy, labor, and postpartum recovery. 	The Afya Center
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • TX SB 750 improves the quality and accessibility of care for pregnant people with opioid use disorder enrolled in Medicaid during prenatal and postpartum periods and for their children. 	The Afya Center
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The San Antonio City Council passed a climate action plan that seeks to put the city on the path to carbon neutrality by 2050. San Antonio's plan proposes dozens of strategies for curbing carbon emissions to net zero by 2050, including a push to get the city-owned utility company CPS Energy to remove fossil fuel-generated electricity from their grid in exchange for cleaner sources of energy. 	Centro por la Justicia

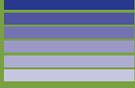
WASHINGTON		
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> WA SB 5602, the Reproductive Health Access for All (RHAA) Act, creates a state-funded program to cover comprehensive reproductive health care services for immigrants who currently cannot access state medical services due to federal restrictions; expands the list of required services from private insurers to include those that meet the specific needs of transgender and gender non-conforming communities; enhances anti-discrimination policy to address the discrimination and denials of services many immigrant, transgender, and gender non-conforming people face; and requires student health plans to cover reproductive health services. 	Colectiva Legal del Pueblo; Raising Women's Voices
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> WA HB 1065 requires health insurance plans to cover all services provided by any provider at an in-network hospital facility. 	Washington Community Action Network (Washington CAN)
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> WA SB 5497, the Keep Washington Working Act, prohibits state authorities from using their resources to transfer or detain an individual for federal immigration authorities absent a proper warrant. 	Washington Community Action Network (Washington CAN)
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> WA SB 5600 extends the requirement for landlords to give eviction notice to tenants from three days to 14 days and allows judges to use their discretion to consider alternatives to eviction, among other reforms to the eviction process in WA. 	Washington Community Action Network (Washington CAN)
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> WA SB 5649 eliminates the statute of limitations for most sex offenses against minors and extends statutes of limitations to prosecute most other felony sex offenses. 	Colectiva Legal del Pueblo
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> City of Federal Way Local Citizen Initiative No. 19-001 requires landlords to have good cause before eviction, allows immediate family members to live at the rented property of a tenant who is deported or deployed, and transfers leases to families of a person who is deported or deployed. 	Washington Community Action Network (Washington CAN)
WEST VIRGINIA		
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Charleston City Council passed an ordinance making it unlawful for someone to knowingly block an entrance or parking lot of a healthcare facility, as well as approach a person or provide them with a pamphlet without their consent. 	WV FREE
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> WV HB 2583 allows pharmacists to prescribe hormonal contraceptives without a prescription from a physician, making contraceptives more easily accessible. 	WV FREE
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> WV SB 564 expands Medicaid and CHIP coverage to 300% of the Federal Poverty Level for pregnant individuals in West Virginia. 	WV FREE
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Kanawha County Schools released a policy in favor of adopting WV 126 CSR 51, a state Board of Education policy defining updated content standards for health education and a comprehensive sex education policy. 	WV FREE
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Logan County Public Schools signed a Memorandum of Understanding with WV FREE to implement and deliver a comprehensive sex education program in accordance with West Virginia Code and West Virginia Board of Education policy. 	WV FREE

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> WV HB 2083 provides identification cards for formerly incarcerated people who do not have a West Virginia identification card or driver's license. 	WV FREE
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> WV SB 152 provides for an expedited expungement process for people who participate in substance use rehabilitation, job training, job placement, and drug testing programs. The bill also allows expungement of most felonies and shortens the time period for expungement. 	WV FREE
WISCONSIN		
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Dane County and the City of Madison allocated \$47,900 in funding for use in 2019 to provide culturally specific mental health services for Southeast Asian elders/survivors of war and genocide (\$115,000 is allocated for these services in 2020). 	Freedom, Inc.
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> The Madison, WI Board of Education increased funding to support Black students, families, and teachers/administration. 	Freedom, Inc.
CORPORATE		
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Dollar General's corporate chemical policy eliminates hazardous chemicals from their products, including many chemicals that harm reproductive health. Elimination of these chemicals from products it sells helps protect the reproductive health of its customers (who are disproportionately people of color and low-income people). 	Los Jardines Institute; Organizacion en California de Lideres Campesinas, Inc.; PCACS
INTERNATIONAL		
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Alaska Community Action on Toxics (ACAT) organized an Arctic Indigenous women's delegation to participate in the International Stockholm Convention on Persistent Pollutants Conference of the Parties (COP-9) meeting of 182 nations in Geneva (April 2019). There, ACAT was instrumental in achieving global bans on the industrial chemical PFOA and the DDT-related pesticide dicofol. COP-9 added PFOA and more than 150 PFOA-related substances to Annex A of the Treaty for Global Elimination. PFOA, the "Teflon" chemical, is widely used in industrial firefighting foams, electronics, and textiles. It is associated with high cholesterol, ulcerative colitis, thyroid disease, testicular and kidney cancer, pregnancy-induced hypertension, and immune system effects. It is in the class of problematic fluorinated chemicals (PFAS) that pollute water and breast milk. 	Alaska Community Action on Toxics (ACAT)

BLOCKED POLICIES

NATIONAL		
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> S 109 would have codified the Hyde Amendment as federal law. The Hyde Amendment is a federal budget provision that bars Medicaid recipients from using their insurance to access abortion care, except in very limited circumstances. 	Forward Together; National Latina Institute for Reproductive Justice; URGE: Unite for Reproductive & Gender Equity; National Asian Pacific American Women's Forum (NAPAWF)

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • S 160 would have established a new criminal offense for performing or attempting to perform an abortion if the probable postfertilization age of the fetus is 20 weeks or more. 	National Network of Abortion Funds (NNAF); National Advocates for Pregnant Women; NAPA WF
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • S 311 would have required any health-care practitioner who is present at an abortion to exercise the same degree of care provided to a child and admit the fetus to a hospital. The bill would have subjected any individual violating these requirements to a criminal fine, up to five years in prison, or both. 	National Latina Institute for Reproductive Justice; National Asian Pacific American Women's Forum (NAPAWF)
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • In 2015 and 2017, grantee Organización en California de Líderes Campesinas, Inc. secured improvements to two key federal rules to protect farmworkers and communities from toxic pesticides that harm reproductive health (the Worker Protection Standard rule, and the Certification of Pesticide Applicators rule). In early 2019, Organización en California de Líderes Campesinas blocked the Trump Administration's attempts to rollback these improvements. 	Organizacion en California de Lideres Campesinas, Inc.
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • PWN-USA submitted a comment opposing the removal of the Earned Income Disregard (EID) policy and urged U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development (HUD) to allow recipients of the EID benefit to continue receiving it. This proposed rule would remove the EID, creating further economic and housing disruption and instability for people living with HIV and their families who are accessing supportive housing services. 	Positive Women's Network-USA
ALABAMA		
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • AL HB 314 would have made abortion a felony offense except in cases where a pregnant person's life is endangered. 	The Knights & Orchids Society Inc.
CALIFORNIA		
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The University of California San Francisco Hospital (UCSF) cancelled their plan to launch a healthcare partnership with the Catholic healthcare system Dignity Health, which would have negatively affected women's access to reproductive care and transgender people's access to healthcare. 	Transgender Law Center
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • CA AB 992 would have required individuals who provide human oocytes for research to be compensated. This would create a market for women's egg cells, meaning low-income women could sell their egg cells without possibly fully understanding the consequences or the long-term effects of the procedure. 	Black Women for Wellness
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • CA AB 1593 would have required any taxpayer eligible for an earned income tax credit and their qualifying child to have a Social Security Number or a federal Taxpayer Identification Number in order to receive the earned income tax credit. 	California Latinas for Reproductive Justice
COLORADO		
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • CO HB 19-1103 would have made abortion a class 1 felony. 	Colorado Organization for Latina Opportunity and Reproductive Rights (COLOR)

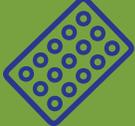
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> CO HB 1140 would have created government protections for “sincerely held” religious beliefs or moral convictions for people, religious organizations, and private associations. The bill would have allowed public and private businesses to legally refuse service to LGBTQ people based on the business owners’ religious beliefs. 	Colorado Organization for Latina Opportunity and Reproductive Rights (COLOR)
FLORIDA		
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> FL HB 235/SB 792 would have required physicians to examine any person obtaining an abortion for the presence of a detectable fetal heartbeat and to have the person seeking an abortion review the results of this examination. This bill would have prohibited the termination of any pregnancy when a fetal heartbeat is detected and would have instituted criminal penalties for any violation. 	Miami Workers Center; National Latina Institute for Reproductive Justice
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> FL HB 1335 would have required minors to obtain parental consent in order to get an abortion. 	Power U Center for Social Change
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> FL HB 527/SB 168 would have prohibited sanctuary policies in Florida and required local governments to support Immigration and Customs Enforcement (ICE) efforts. 	Miami Workers Center
GEORGIA		
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> GA HB 717 would have created an advisory board to administer licensure and regulation for the midwives. This bill would have made it harder for many women of color to be midwives. 	SisterSong Women of Color Reproductive Justice Collective
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> GA SB 15 would have created a task force to provide student records to the state’s homeland security agency to determine threats to schools, meaning disciplinary issues in schools could be escalated into arrests. This bill would heavily criminalize students and increase the school-to-prison pipeline. 	Women Engaged
ILLINOIS		
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> IL HB 342 would have required the health department to create and maintain a list of each immunizing agent derived from aborted fetal tissue. The list would also need to include any immunizing agents that are not derived from aborted fetal tissue that can be used as alternatives. When providing vaccines, a health-care provider would be required to notify the patient if the immunizing agent is derived from aborted fetal tissue, and if available, offer an alternative vaccine which does not derive from aborted fetal tissue. 	EverThrive Illinois
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> IL HB 3004 would have amended the Illinois criminal code to expand the charge of “endangering the life or health of a child” to include a pregnant person who consumes alcohol or any amount of a controlled substance. 	National Advocates for Pregnant Women
KANSAS		
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> KS HCR 5004 would have legally recognized unborn fetuses as people, impacting the rights and health of all pregnant people, including those giving birth and those who experience miscarriage or stillbirth. 	National Advocates for Pregnant Women

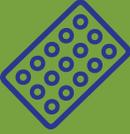
MONTANA		
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • MT HB 302 would have legally recognized unborn fetuses as people. 	National Advocates for Pregnant Women
NORTH CAROLINA		
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • NC SB 359 would have instructed physicians and nurses to provide care to aborted fetuses and would have imposed felony charges and/or fines on any physician or nurse who does not comply with the law or fails to report noncompliance. 	El Pueblo
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • NC HB 370 would have forced all North Carolina counties to comply with ICE's immigration detainers and administrative warrants. 	El Pueblo
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • NC HB 829 would have required the Department of Motor Vehicles to issue restricted driver's licenses to individuals based on their immigration status, residency status, and/or insurance status, among other criteria, and would have required any person meeting these criteria to complete a driver orientation course. 	El Pueblo
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • NC SB 250 would have created a public record of everyone dismissed from jury duty for lack of citizenship. 	El Pueblo
OHIO		
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • OH HB 413 would have legally recognized unborn fetuses as people. 	New Voices for Reproductive Justice (NVRJ); URGE: Unite for Reproductive & Gender Equity
PENNSYLVANIA		
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • PA HB 1977/SB 912 would have banned any abortion after six weeks of gestation. 	New Voices for Reproductive Justice (NVRJ)
SOUTH CAROLINA		
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • SC HB 3289 would have legally recognized unborn fetuses as people, impacting the rights and health of all pregnant people, including those giving birth and those who experience miscarriage or stillbirth. 	National Advocates for Pregnant Women (NAPW)
TENNESSEE		
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • TN SB 0659 would have made it possible to arrest someone in relation to their own pregnancy or pregnancy outcome. The final version of the bill did not include the original language that would criminalize pregnant people and specifically those who allegedly used drugs during their pregnancy. 	National Advocates for Pregnant Women (NAPW)

TEXAS		
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • TX SB 15 would have prohibited local regulation of private employers, meaning Texas cities would not have been able to enact paid leave policies. This policy would also have threatened local ordinances barring employment discrimination. 	Centro por la Justicia
WEST VIRGINIA		
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • WV HB 2801 would have prohibited advanced-care nurses to provide any type of abortion care. 	WV FREE
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • WV HB 3136 would have established mandated employment requirements for individuals who receive Medicaid assistance. 	WV FREE

Legal Advocacy and Judicial Wins in 2019

Court rulings may affirm existing policy and/or set precedent that influence future cases and policy making. Because of this, some RJ grantees conduct legal advocacy, in the form of supporting community members' ability to provide witness testimony, filing amicus curiae ("friend of the court") briefs, petitioning judges or prosecutors, etc.

NATIONAL		
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> In <i>Azar v. Garza</i>, National Asian Pacific American Women's Forum co-authored an amicus brief supporting the district court's decision granting a preliminary injunction barring the federal Office of Refugee Resettlement (ORR) from blocking abortion access for undocumented immigrant minors in government custody. The court affirmed the lower court's decision in part and denied it in part. The Trump Administration has informed the court that it is considering revising its policy that allows it to inform parents and potential sponsors when minors in custody are pregnant or choose to have an abortion. The preliminary injunction applies to all undocumented immigrant minors in ORR custody nationwide. In June 2019, the federal court of appeals affirmed both class certification and the injunction barring the government from obstructing unaccompanied minors' access to abortion. 	National Asian Pacific American Women's Forum
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> NAPAWF co-authored an amicus brief in <i>Commonwealth of Massachusetts v. U.S. Department of Health and Human Services</i> opposing the district court's dismissal of the case challenging the Trump administration's new rules creating a religious exemption and moral exemption to the Affordable Care Act's mandate for coverage of contraceptives. The district court dismissed the case for lack of standing. The brief highlighted the impact of these rules on women of color and other marginalized groups. The district court reversed the lower court's decision to dismiss the case; the case was remanded and Massachusetts' motion for summary judgment is now pending. 	National Asian Pacific American Women's Forum
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> NAPAWF and NAPW co-authored amicus briefs in <i>Commonwealth of Pennsylvania v. Trump</i>, supporting the plaintiffs' motion for a preliminary injunction blocking implementation of new rules from the Trump administration from creating a religious exemption and moral exemption to the Affordable Care Act's mandate for coverage of contraceptives. The briefs highlighted the impact of these rules on women of color and other marginalized groups. The district court granted a preliminary injunction on January 14, 2019, blocking the rules from going into effect nationwide pending litigation; the Third Circuit Court of Appeals affirmed the decision. 	National Asian Pacific American Women's Forum; National Advocates for Pregnant Women (NAPW)
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> In <i>Department of Commerce Et Al v. New York Et Al</i>, the U.S. Supreme Court halted the Trump administration's effort to put a citizenship question on the U.S. Census. The New Florida Majority-Education Fund was involved in advocacy and voter education around this effort and joined one of the suits against this unjust initiative. 	The New Florida Majority-Education Fund
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> In <i>Safer Chemicals Healthy Families, et al v. U.S. EPA</i>, the Ninth Circuit Court of Appeals issued a favorable ruling on critical issues that will force the Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) to make changes to how it evaluates chemical risks. Alaska Community Action on Toxics is a lead plaintiff in this case, represented by public interest law firm Earthjustice, to ensure that the EPA meets its mandate under the Toxic Substances Control Act as amended in 2016 to protect vulnerable populations from harmful exposures to chemicals. 	Alaska Community Action on Toxics

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> The Health and Human Services (HHS) Department passed 84 Fed. Reg. 23170, "Protecting Statutory Conscience Rights in Health Care," as a result of the following challenges: <i>Mayor and City of Baltimore v. Alex M. Azar</i>; <i>City and County of San Francisco v. Azar</i>; <i>State of Washington V. U.S. DHHS et al.</i> This final rule revises existing HHS regulations to ensure enforcement of federal conscience and antidiscrimination laws applicable to the HHS, its programs, and recipients of HHS funds, and to delegate overall enforcement and compliance responsibility to the Department's Office for Civil Rights. This rule will mean that HHS programs and recipients of HHS funds will no longer be allowed to refuse to provide certain types of health care services on the basis of religious or conscience objection to LGBT or women's health care. 	<p>Transgender Law Center</p>
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> The Latina Institute filed amicus briefs in several cases in the lower federal courts challenging the Trump administration's attempts to expand religious or moral exemptions to the ACA's contraception mandate. Notably, the Third Circuit cited the Latina Institute's brief in their decision to uphold a nationwide injunction against the administration's rule in July. 	<p>National Latina Institute for Reproductive Justice</p>
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> In <i>La Clínica de La Raza et al v. Trump</i>, the Collaborative took part in one of the lawsuits against the federal expanded Public Charge rule (DHS Docket No. USCIS-2010-0012), which targets poor immigrants that participate in noncash assistance programs like Medicaid, Food Stamps, and federal housing assistance and makes it more difficult for them to become U.S. citizens. Twelve lawsuits were issued across the country and four judges granted a nationwide injunction temporarily delaying implementation of the rule until the lawsuits are resolved. 	<p>California Healthy Nail Salon Collaborative</p>
<p>MULTI-STATE</p>		
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> In <i>State of California v. Azar</i>, grantees National Advocates for Pregnant Women and National Asian Pacific American Women's Forum coauthored amicus briefs supporting a preliminary injunction blocking implementation of new rules from the Trump administration creating a religious exemption and moral exemption to the Affordable Care Act's mandate for coverage of contraceptives. The brief highlighted impact of these rules on women of color and other marginalized groups. The district court granted a preliminary injunction on January 13, 2019, blocking the rules from going into effect pending litigation in Connecticut, Delaware, Hawaii, Illinois, Maryland, Minnesota, New York, North Carolina, Rhode Island, Vermont, Washington, Virginia, and the District of Columbia; the Ninth Circuit Court of Appeals affirmed the decision. 	<p>National Asian Pacific American Women's Forum; National Advocates for Pregnant Women (NAPW)</p>
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> SisterSong Women of Color Reproductive Justice Collective authored amicus briefs in Pennsylvania and California against the Trump administration's new rules creating a religious exemption and moral exemption to the Affordable Care Act's mandate for coverage of contraceptives. 	<p>SisterSong Women of Color Reproductive Justice Collective</p>
<p>ALABAMA</p>		
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> In <i>State of Alabama vs. Marshaé Jones</i>, a Grand Jury indicted Marshaé Jones for manslaughter after she experienced a pregnancy loss that she allegedly caused by being unable to protect herself from being shot in the stomach while five months pregnant. National Advocates for Pregnant Women (NAPW) supported regional allies who raised bail and made sure Jones was released from jail within 24 hours of her arrest, and NAPW's comments to the media and public statement on the case directed national outrage to the District Attorney, who dropped the manslaughter charge and agreed not to file any additional charges. 	<p>National Advocates for Pregnant Women</p>

COLORADO		
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • <i>Saunders-Velez v. Colorado Department of Corrections</i> provided the foundation for systemic change for transgender prisoners in Colorado. The ruling requires The Colorado Department of Corrections to provide transgender prisoners with access to appropriate healthcare. Saunders-Velez reached a settlement agreement with the state to serve out the remainder of her sentence in the men's prison where she felt the most safe and respected. 	Transgender Law Center
MISSISSIPPI		
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • In <i>Mississippi vs. Latice Fisher</i>, NAPW represented Ms. Fisher, who was charged with second-degree murder after experiencing a pregnancy loss at home. Based on medical information regarding the inaccuracy of the "float test" (used to determine if there had been a live birth) the District Attorney decided to nolle prosequi (dismiss) the case as originally presented to the Grand Jury. In doing so, he filed a motion addressing the unreliability of the float test that will be a valuable tool in dissuading other prosecutors from making similar arrests. Unfortunately, that was not the end of the case. Perhaps because of fear of political backlash within his own office, he announced plans to resubmit the case to a new grand jury but with accurate medical information and possibly more emphasis on evidence of Ms. Fisher's online research about misoprostol. 	National Advocates for Pregnant Women
OKLAHOMA		
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • In <i>State of Oklahoma vs. Kathryn Green</i>, Ms. Green faced numerous criminal charges, including second-degree murder, unauthorized disposal of a corpse, and child neglect after experiencing a stillbirth and placing the fetal remains in a dumpster. With representation from NAPW, prosecutors dropped the second-degree murder charge but amended other charges. As this case is ongoing, NAPW continues to provide legal defense and support of Green and continues to engage in legal advocacy in this case as well as public education and organizing, including making presentations to defense lawyers in Oklahoma and holding strategy meetings with state-based allies on defending cases in which someone is criminalized in relationship to pregnancy in Oklahoma. 	National Advocates for Pregnant Women
SOUTH CAROLINA		
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • In <i>Planned Parenthood South Atlantic v. Baker</i>, grantee National Asian Pacific American Women's Forum coauthored an amicus brief to the 4th Circuit court of appeals opposing the South Carolina Medicaid program's decision to disqualify Planned Parenthood South Atlantic (PPSA) as a Medicaid provider and the state's argument that Medicaid beneficiaries do not have a private right of action, meaning individuals cannot bring a lawsuit against Medicaid. The brief highlighted the impact on women of color (WOC) and importance of Medicaid private right of action to WOC. The U.S. Court of Appeals for the 4th Circuit issued a decision on October 29, 2019 affirming the lower court's decision to grant a preliminary injunction barring the state from disqualifying PPSA as a Medicaid provider. 	National Asian Pacific American Women's Forum
TENNESSEE		
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • In <i>State of Tennessee vs. Tiffany Roberts</i>, Roberts was charged with first-degree murder, aggravated child abuse and neglect, and "viable fetus as a victim" after she gave birth prematurely to twins who passed away shortly after birth. Police claimed that this pregnancy loss was the result of Roberts' alleged drug use and she was jailed on \$1 million bond. NAPW and a coalition of Tennessee-based and national advocates and experts spoke out quickly and forcefully against the arrest through an open letter to the Hamilton County District Attorney. In response, these charges—which violated the U.S. Constitution, defied state law, and had no support in medical science—were dropped. 	National Advocates for Pregnant Women

Appendix

- ▶ **Media, Communications, and Art**
- ▶ **2019 Groundswell Fund National Funders**
- ▶ **2019 Groundswell Fund Reproductive Justice Grantees**
- ▶ **Acknowledgements**
- ▶ **Endnotes and Photo Credits**



Media, Communications, and Art

All RJ grantees engaged in culture change work to shift the conversation around RJ in 2019, using traditional media, social media, communications, and art.

Earned Media

RJ grantees influenced public discussion and perceptions using earned media, which includes any mention of an organization in a publication, online article, newspaper, or TV segment after the media content passed through an editorial filter (i.e., someone outside of the organization decided to run the story). **In 2019, 41 grantees reported* earning a total of 71,773 media hits**, including articles published in national publications such as the New York Times as well as local media outlets.

Direct Reach

Each grantee directly reached an average of 32,220 people through communications generated internally, representing an 11% increase in the average number of people reached directly by grantees in 2018. Nearly all grantees shared their messages via email, reaching a total of 733,692 individuals on their email lists.

Grantees also used the following methods for direct reach (listed from most to least common):

- ▶ Social media (Facebook, Twitter, YouTube, Instagram)
- ▶ Local papers, magazines, television, and radio
- ▶ Online news sources
- ▶ National papers and magazines
- ▶ Blogs
- ▶ National television and radio

In addition, 39% of grantees (27 grantees) used arts and theater as a strategy to reach their organizational goals.

*29 grantees did not track this data in 2019.

2019 Groundswell Fund National Funders

- ▶ Anonymous
(six anonymous donors)
- ▶ Amalgamated Foundation
- ▶ The California Endowment
- ▶ Community Investments
Fund of Tides Foundation,
on recommendation of
Becky Liebman
- ▶ The David and Lucile
Packard Foundation
- ▶ Flora Family Foundation
- ▶ Ford Foundation
- ▶ Foundation for a Just
Society
- ▶ General
Service Foundation
- ▶ Global Fund for Women
- ▶ The Grove Foundation
- ▶ Heising-Simons
Foundation
- ▶ Irving Harris Foundation
- ▶ The JPB Foundation
- ▶ The Libra Foundation
- ▶ Linked Fate Fund
for Justice of the Common
Counsel Foundation
- ▶ Open Society Foundations
- ▶ The Overbrook Foundation
- ▶ The Panta Rhea Fund
- ▶ Peggy and Jack Baskin
Foundation
- ▶ Pinpoint Foundation
- ▶ The Prospect Hill
Foundation
- ▶ The Reis Foundation, Inc.
- ▶ Sprocket Foundation
- ▶ Tara Health Foundation
- ▶ Tides Foundation
- ▶ The Tikkun Olam
Foundation, Inc.
- ▶ The Monardella Fund
- ▶ WestWind Foundation
- ▶ The William and Flora
Hewlett Foundation
- ▶ Yellow Chair Foundation



2019 Groundswell Fund Reproductive Justice Grantees

Following are the 72 organizations funded by Groundswell for their RJ work. They received grants at the end of 2018 or at the beginning of 2019 for work in 2019.

Access Reproductive Care-Southeast (ARC-Southeast) \$\$\$ C * G	Fostering Progressive Advocacy Foundation \$ C	Positive Women's Network-USA (PWN-USA) \$\$\$\$ C G
ACCESS Women's Health Justice \$\$\$ C G	Freedom, Inc. \$\$\$ C ✓	Power U Center for Social Change \$\$\$ C E ✓
ACT for Women and Girls \$\$\$ C ✓	Gender Justice Nevada \$ G	Progressive Leadership Alliance of Nevada \$\$\$ C
Afiya Center (The) \$\$\$ C G	HEART Women and Girls \$\$\$ C	Raising Women's Voices (RWV) \$\$\$ C *
Alaska Community Action on Toxics (ACAT) \$\$\$\$ C ✓ *	Illinois Caucus for Adolescent Health (ICAH) \$\$\$ C	REACT (Rubbertown Emergency ACTION) \$ C
Arise Chicago \$\$\$ C	International Indian Treaty Council (IITC) \$\$\$ C *	Reproaction \$\$\$\$ C
Asian American Organizing Project \$\$ C	Khmer Girls in Action \$\$\$\$ C ✓	SisterReach \$\$\$ C
Assata's Daughters C	Knights and Orchids Society (The) \$\$\$ C	SisterSong Women of Color Reproductive Justice Collective \$\$\$\$ C
Black Women for Wellness \$\$\$\$ C ✓	Legal Services for Prisoners with Children (LSPC) \$\$\$\$ C *	SPARK Reproductive Justice NOW, Inc. \$\$\$ C
Black Women's Blueprint \$\$\$\$ C	Los Jardines Institute \$ C	Sylvia Rivera Law Project (SRLP) \$\$\$ C G *
Bold Futures \$\$\$\$ C B *	Miami Workers Center \$\$\$ C E G	Trans Queer Pueblo \$\$ C G
Brave Space Alliance \$ C	Mississippi Low-Income Child Care Initiative \$\$\$ C	Transgender Law Center \$\$\$\$ C
Cabrini Green Legal Aid (CGLA) \$\$\$\$ C G	Mothering Justice \$\$\$\$ C ✓	United for Respect \$\$\$\$ C
California Healthy Nail Salon Collaborative \$\$\$ C ✓ *	National Advocates for Pregnant Women \$\$\$\$ C	URGE: Unite for Reproductive & Gender Equity \$\$\$\$ C ✓
California Latinas for Reproductive Justice (CLRJ) \$\$\$ C	National Asian Pacific American Women's Forum (NAPAWF) \$\$\$\$ C ✓ R	UTOPIA \$\$ C
Carolina Youth Action Project \$\$ G	National Latina Institute for Reproductive Justice \$\$\$\$ C ✓	Warehouse Workers for Justice \$\$ C
Centro por la Justicia \$\$ ✓	National Network of Abortion Funds (NNAF) \$\$\$\$ C *	Washington Community Action Network \$\$\$\$ ✓
Chicago Freedom School \$\$ C	Native American Community Board \$\$\$ C	West Fund \$ C
Colectiva Legal del Pueblo \$\$\$\$ C	New Florida Majority-Education Fund (The) (NewFM-EF) \$\$\$\$ E	West Virginia FREE \$\$\$ C ✓ A
Colorado Organization for Latina Opportunity and Reproductive Rights (COLOR) \$\$\$\$ C ✓	New Voices for Reproductive Justice \$\$\$\$ C ✓ *	Western States Center (WSC) \$\$\$\$ C R
Community Housing Empowerment Connections C	Organización en California de Líderes Campesinas, Inc. \$\$\$\$ C	Winyan Wicayunihan Oyanke—Where All Women are Honored \$ C
Delaware Concerned Residents for Environmental Justice (DCR4EJ) \$ C	People Concerned About Chemical Safety (PCACS) \$ C	Women Engaged \$\$\$ C ✓
El Pueblo, Inc. \$\$\$ C ✓		Women with a Vision (WWAV) \$\$\$\$ C ✓
Equal Hope \$\$\$\$ C		Women's Voices for the Earth \$\$\$ C
EverThrive Illinois \$\$\$\$ C		
Forward Together \$\$\$\$ C *		

BUDGET KEY:

\$ = Under \$200K
 \$\$ = \$200K–\$499,999
 \$\$\$ = \$500K–\$999,999
 \$\$\$\$ = \$1 million and above

GRANTMAKING PROGRAM KEY:

C = Catalyst Fund 2019 grantee
 B = Birth Justice Fund 2018-19 grantee
 E = Ecosystem Initiative 2019 grantee
 ✓ = Integrated Voter Engagement 2019 grantee
 G = Grassroots Organizing Institute 2019 grantee

R = Rapid Response Fund 2019 grantee
 * = Raised Catalyst match in 2019
 L = Liberation Fund grantee
 A = Groundswell Action Fund grantee

Acknowledgements

Korwin Consulting appreciates the partnership and assistance of Groundswell Fund's leadership and staff throughout the evaluation design, implementation, and reporting process. Senior Program Officer Naa Hammond's gracious and extensive support was vital. Sincerest gratitude also goes to the RJ grantees, whose time and insights in reports and follow-up communications made this evaluation possible.

The following grantee representatives participated in a focus group to share their thoughts about the value of the previous year's evaluation, current priorities and needs of the RJ movement, and how to shape a resonant and useful 2019 evaluation report:

- ▶ Sophia Olazaba, Development Director, Arise Chicago (Catalyst, Rapid Response Fund)
- ▶ Shelly Ruzicka, Communications Director, Arise Chicago (Catalyst, Rapid Response Fund)
- ▶ Nourbese Flint, Policy Director, Black Women for Wellness (Catalyst, IVE, Rapid Response Fund)
- ▶ Kristen Stehling, Associate Director of Development, National Latina Institute for Reproductive Justice (Catalyst, IVE, Rapid Response Fund)
- ▶ Dagoberto Bailón, General Assistant, Trans Queer Pueblo (Catalyst, GOI)
- ▶ Sam Romero, Board President, West Fund (Catalyst, Rapid Response Fund)

Methods

The evaluation was conducted using a mixed-methods evaluation approach, including:

- ▶ Analysis of data submitted by 70 grantees through Groundswell's online 2019 RJ Grantee Impact Survey.
- ▶ Comparative analyses of data submitted by Catalyst Fund for Reproductive Justice grantees in 2014, 2015, 2016, and 2017 and all Groundswell RJ grantees in 2018 and 2019.
- ▶ A focus group with six RJ grantees/movement leaders on July 10, 2019.
- ▶ Analysis of relevant reports and other materials from Groundswell Fund.
- ▶ Meetings, phone calls, and emails with grantees and Groundswell Fund staff for clarifications, in-depth information, and evaluation planning.
- ▶ In-depth individual interviews conducted with Groundswell's Executive Director Vanessa Daniel and Director of Programs Alex DelValle in March 2019.

Limitations

From 2014 through 2016, only Catalyst Fund for Reproductive Justice grantees were required to complete the online RJ Impact Survey. Because data for 2017, 2018, and 2019 includes all Groundswell grantees engaged in RJ, whether or not they received a Catalyst Fund for Reproductive Justice grant, comparative analyses across all six years are limited.

Eight grantees in 2019 completed "short" versions of the online 2019 RJ Grantee Impact Survey, which contained fewer questions than the full Impact Survey. Therefore, a number of data points contained in this report are taken from only the 62 grantees who completed the full survey.

Occasionally, grantees interpret a survey question differently than intended, or find that a question does not reflect their experience. Korwin Consulting and Groundswell conduct extensive data verification processes, including directly contacting grantees with follow-up questions about inconsistent or unclear data. Each year, insights gleaned through this process inform revisions for the next year's survey.

Endnotes

1. The RJ movement addresses the full spectrum of reproductive issues that impact people's lives. These include the right to access affordable and high-quality abortion, contraception, midwifery and doula care, and comprehensive sex education; the right to be free from gender-based violence and criminal justice and immigration systems that disrupt the right to parent by tearing families apart; and the right to live and work in an environment free of reproductive toxins. It encompasses the right to parent and the right not to parent, have children and raise them with dignity in safe, healthy, and supportive environments; access to affordable and high-quality health care, contraception, comprehensive sex education, midwifery and doula care; as well as also ensuring body and sexual autonomy for every human being.
2. Grantmaking partners are other public foundations that receive matching grants from Groundswell's Catalyst Fund to boost fundraising and re-granting to women of color-led RJ organizations.
3. Groundswell's RJ grant funds are not used to support grassroots or direct lobbying. Grantees raise funds for grassroots lobbying from sources other than Groundswell Fund.
4. The survey responses represent the largest data set in the U.S. of the strategies, accomplishments, learnings, and impact of the RJ movement. A total of 70 of Groundswell's 72 RJ grantees completed the 2019 survey.
5. A Groundswell strategy to stimulate investment in RJ groups led by its communities of focus is to award matching grants to a group of grantmaking partners (e.g., local women's funds and other public foundations), who then regrant to RJ organizations.
6. Intersectionality is a theoretical framework for understanding how aspects of a person's social and political identities (e.g., gender, sex, race, class, sexuality, religion, ability, physical appearance, etc.) combine to create unique forms of discrimination and privilege.
7. Only 0.6% of foundation giving went to women of color in 2016 (source: <https://racialequity.org>). In 2017, only 28 cents of every \$100 U.S. philanthropic dollars specifically supported LGBTQ issues (sources: The Foundation Center: "Key Facts: U.S. Foundations, 2014 Edition" and Funders for LGBTQ Issues: "2017 Tracking Report: LGBTQ Grantmaking by U.S. Foundations"). See also the New York Times op-eds, "Philanthropies Bench Women of Color, the M.V.P.s of Social Change" and "In Philanthropy, Race Is Still a Factor in Who Gets What, Study Shows" as well as the Bridgespan Group's "Racial Equity and Philanthropy: Disparities in Funding for Leaders of Color Leave Impact on the Table".
8. One of Groundswell's strategies to stimulate investment in groups led by women of color, low-income women, and transgender people is to award matching grants to a group of grantmaking partners (such as local women's funds and other public foundations) who then regrant to RJ organizations. Grantees receiving matching grants raise their match to support their RJ work.
9. Through 2019, this initiative deepened support for grantees of the Catalyst Fund for Reproductive Justice and their key allies in linked movements within specific local and state ecosystems.
10. Groundswell defines leaders as: Level 1: Most engaged (e.g., run for or serve in a policy-making role or serve as an issue spokesperson); Level 2: Very engaged (e.g., engage in policy fights, represent the grantee with allies, facilitate meetings, or attend trainings to deepen skills); and Level 3: Engaged (e.g., recruit members, canvass, attend actions/events, donate).
11. In 2019, grantees were asked to report on the racial/ethnic and other characteristics of only their leaders (rather than the entire constituency they organized). Because of this shift in focus on demographic data, comparisons with prior years are not possible.
12. Other IVE grantees, such as Alaska Community Action on Toxics (ACAT), are featured elsewhere in this report.
13. In 2018, the GOI cohort collectively engaged 18,230 activists. The 2019 total number (15,236) is less, but not surprisingly so, since there were 13 organizations in the 2019 cohort compared with 15 in 2018. Also, although the cumulative cohort engagement number for 2019 is lower, a greater percentage of the total participants in 2019 took on leadership roles than did so in 2018 (47% in 2019 vs 31% in 2018), indicating a deeper level of engagement and commitment to the work.
14. Healing Justice, a term coined by Kindred Southern Healing Justice Collective in 2006, is a framework to holistically respond to and intervene in generational trauma and violence at individual and collective levels. Click here for more information.
15. Groundswell's grants are not used to support grassroots or direct lobbying. Grantees raise funds for grassroots lobbying from sources other than Groundswell Fund.
16. The policy process is far too complex and long-term for any one organization or advocate to claim full credit for policy passage or defeat. However, when organizations mobilize their communities, send their staff and constituent leaders to educate and testify to public officials, and forge and leverage relationships with allies and public officials, their involvement is a critical part of the policy process—and its absence would be felt.
17. Groundswell's RJ grant funds are not used to support grassroots or direct lobbying. Grantees raise funds for grassroots lobbying from sources other than Groundswell Fund.

Photo Credits

FRONT COVER TOP: URGE Georgia

FRONT COVER BOTTOM: United for Respect

PAGE 3: Washington Community Action Network

PAGE 10: COLOR

PAGE 15: Women With A Vision

PAGE 16: Washington Community Action Network

PAGE 17: The Sylvia Rivera Law Project

PAGE 22: Alaska Community Action on Toxics

PAGE 24: Power U Center for Social Change

PAGE 25: Equal Hope

PAGE 26: Black Women's Blueprint

PAGE 30: Trans Queer Pueblo

PAGE 31: Native American Community Board

PAGE 34: Black Women for Wellness

PAGE 35: Access Reproductive Care Southeast

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GROUNDSWELL FUND

Groundswell supports a stronger, more effective U.S. movement for reproductive justice by mobilizing new funding and capacity building resources to grassroots organizing and policy change efforts led by low-income women, women of color, and transgender people.

www.groundswellfund.org