



***Responsive Philanthropy in Black Communities:
Foundations Working to Improve Life Outcomes for Black Men and Boys***

The Association of Black Foundation Executives (ABFE) is one of many leaders in the field who have participated in a broad movement to direct more philanthropic dollars to Black men and boys. Specifically, ABFE asserts its role of *convener* and *information clearinghouse* for philanthropy on improving outcomes for Black males.

21st Century Foundation Black Men and Boys Initiative and Its 2025 Campaign (New York City)

The Black Men and Boys (BMB) Initiative is designed to identify, highlight and support effective strategies that focus on supporting Black men and boys and to surface new sources of support from individual donors and institutional philanthropy to supplement this effort. Initiative goals are to provide strategic grants aimed at addressing the root causes of problems facing Black men and boys; raise the visibility of critical issues facing Black men and boys nationally in a way that leads to substantive action; and leverage additional financial support dedicated to strategies that view Black men and boys as assets. The Initiative was launched in four pilot cities: Chicago; Los Angeles; New York City and Oakland. Grants support programs in the areas of education, employment and economic sustainability, criminal justice, fatherhood support and health. The vision of 21st Century Foundation's 2025 Campaign is to create a society with new social and economic realities that inspire ambition and hope among African descendant males and accommodate the pursuit and realization of their dreams. The Campaign believes this endeavor advances humanity and increases the collective capacity to heal injustice.

The California Endowment (Los Angeles, California)

The California Endowment has selected fourteen local cities (Arvin/Lamont, East Salinas, Del Norte, Boyle Heights, Central/West Fresno, East Oakland, Santa Ana, Central Long Beach, East Merced, Coachella, Richmond, Sacramento, City Heights in San Diego, South Figueroa Corridor/Vermont-Manchester) as the primary sites for its 10-year initiative, *Building Healthy Communities*, which intends to improve the health of children and youth in low-income communities and will link community-level success to a broader statewide policy and advocacy agenda to advance prevention. The Initiative aims to address directly the root causes and systems that impact the health of California's most vulnerable populations. Within this cluster of sites, the Endowment has identified three specific areas including Fresno, The Bay Area and Los Angeles to focus philanthropic investments on addressing conditions that adversely affect healthy life outcomes for Black men and boys.

The Heinz Endowments' African American Men and Boys Initiative (Pittsburgh, PA)

This initiative seeks to increase educational, economic social and leadership opportunities for African American men and boys in the Pittsburgh region to improve their life outcomes. The Endowment began this initiative by conducting a media audit to analyze how local Pittsburgh newspapers and television newscasts frame stories about African American men and boys. This starting strategy is to determine what frames/stories exist about African American males; how these stories affect them; and what can be done to develop new frames/stories that can change the way African American men and boys are viewed by others and themselves. The audit results are scheduled to be released this fall.



Winthrop Rockefeller Foundation (WRF) - Black Male Retention in College (Little Rock, AK)

The Marginalized Male Workforce & Education Consortium is an initiative to enhance retention in colleges and university. WRF has employed a strategy to leverage its resources to catalyze retention and graduation efforts underway within local higher education institutions (two Black colleges – Arkansas Baptist and Philander and one public college) and align them with local community-serving institutions which endeavor to support advancement of its constituents into higher education.

Mitchell Kapor Foundation (San Francisco, CA)

The Mitchell Kapor Foundation's Black Boys College Bound Initiative was launched in January 2008 to expand the number of young Black men in the Bay Area who enroll in and complete a college education. Black male youth have higher rates of grade failure, dropping out, suspension and special education placement than do any other demographic group. The number of Black boys who graduate from high school and enroll in college is also smaller than the national average; the foundation believes in the importance of a college education as a vehicle for economic and social mobility.

Open Society Institute's Campaign for Black Male Achievement (New York City)

The Campaign for Black Male Achievement is a multi-issue, cross-fund strategy to address Black men and boys' exclusion from economic, social, educational and political life in the United States. The Campaign responds to a growing body of research that reveals the intensification of Black males' negative life outcomes. It builds on OSI's U.S. Programs' mission to support individuals and organizations that nurture the development of a more democratic, open society. The Campaign has adopted a place-based grant making approach to its grantmaking, and commits its investment to the following geographic regions: *The Midwest*, with a focus on Chicago, Illinois and Milwaukee, Wisconsin; *The Gulf Region*, with a focus on New Orleans, Louisiana and Jackson, Mississippi; and the *Mid-Atlantic*, with a focus on Baltimore, Maryland and Philadelphia, Pennsylvania.

Rising Oak Foundation (Seattle, WA)

The mission of the Rising Oak Foundation is to commit its resources to directly affect the intellectual, psychological and spiritual development of boys of African descent, transforming them into men. By embodying the values of knowledge, wisdom and faith we will help alleviate the cultural gap that currently exists, creating progressive men whose only yardstick is their own ability.

Schott Foundation for Public Education - The Black Male Donor Collaborative (New York City)

The Black Male Donor Collaborative is a collaborative funding initiative that seeks to reduce the academic achievement gap and raise the academic performance, graduation rates and college readiness of Black males in New York City. The Collaborative is comprised of a broad base of foundation and corporate donors, as well as individual donors, who jointly develop grant guidelines, bylaws and make joint funding decisions. The BMDC's grantmaking will focus on Central Harlem and Central Brooklyn, where there are large concentrations of school-age Black males with low levels of academic achievement.

