A Statistical Review of Grantmaking that Impacts the Lives of Black Men & Boys

A Report Prepared for Association of Black Foundation Executives

Researched and Edited by: Open Roads Institute
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Children have never been very good at listening to their elders, but they have never failed to imitate them.

James Baldwin

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Michael S. Easterling is the principal researcher and author of this report. (www.open-roads.net)

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In April of 2007, Ford Foundation and Open Society Institute, in collaboration with Casey Family Programs and Association of Black Foundation Executives (ABFE), jointly convened a National Funders Dialogue on Black Males. Staff representing sixteen funders participated in the discussions, which had the following two-fold objective:

1. To learn whether and how funders throughout the country are responding to the disproportionately negative life outcomes experienced by large numbers of black males; and,

2. To facilitate communication and cooperation across foundations throughout the country, in order to leverage the necessary political, social, and financial investments toward this deepening “plight” for black men and boys.

One specific “homework assignment” from the meeting was to develop a list of the programs and institutions that the participating foundations have supported that enhance the life opportunities of black males. Willis Bright Jr., Director of Youth Programs of the Lily Endowment, and Tina Gridiron-Smith, Senior Program Officer at the Lumina Foundation, volunteered to design the data collection tool. It was agreed that ABFE would coordinate the survey’s implementation and subsequent analysis of the data.

The initial goal of the survey was to develop a profile of foundation investments in programs that target black men and boys. The net of research was later widened to include information about the current and historical investments in programs that explicitly and implicitly intend to improve the life outcomes of black males. Participants in the April 2007 dialogue and those in a subsequent series of regional dialogues convened by Frontline Solutions agreed that this information could help to elevate grantmaking for black males from an area of interest into a field of practice.

CULTIVATING CHANGE is presented as a resource for continuing the dialogue begun one year ago this month. It represents an effort to develop a common frame of reference for examining the disparate philanthropic investments that impact the lives of black males. This work also offers observations and analysis that are (hopefully) informative and insightful for funders who are considering engaging in grantmaking with a direct focus on this population.

The following elements comprise the core contents of this publication:

1. An overview of the data collection process,
2. Analysis of the data compiled from the survey, and,

...
The SURVEY PROCESS

The Survey of Grants was sent, via email, to 30 individuals representing 24 foundations in August 2007. The initial response was very low. The survey was re-sent to the same group in November of 2007 with similar results. ABFE staff recognized that the data collection process would require a more “hands-on” approach. Open Roads Institute, an independent consulting and technical assistance provider, was engaged to collect the survey data by conducting a series of interviews with foundation staff persons.

Phone interviews were conducted during the first quarter of 2008. Each conversation began with a reference to the April 2007 dialogues and explained that a national profile was being created that illustrates the type and level of grantmaking that targets and/or impacts black men and boys. Many respondents were not initially sure about what grants should be included. Given the nature of many of the funders’ and grantees’ work in areas like education, health care, and criminal justice, however, many of their programs serve disproportionately high numbers of black males. These programs are often defined by their issue and not by a race/gender lens, and are, therefore, not generally regarded as “black male” programs. Once a clear distinction was drawn between grants that explicitly target black males from those that implicitly impact the same group, every respondent was able to contribute grant information.

Data was collected for one hundred grants made by a total twenty-four funders. The process of collecting the data provided an opportunity to establish a quantitative inventory of the grantmaking that is already impacting the lives of black men and boys. It also served to elicit and capture the sentiment of the individuals engaged in the philanthropic process of supporting this work.

There were approximately three dozen questions in the complete survey. The core data set, though, was comprised of the following fields:

- Funder
- Grantee
- Grant Title
- Grant Amount
- Type of Grant
- Primary Use of Funds
- Project Description
- Age Range of Beneficiaries
- Issue Area
- Geographic Scope
- Grant Period

Once information was obtained from each of the 24 funders that originally received the survey, the data was compiled into a spreadsheet for further examination. The findings and analysis of this process are presented herein.

...
One of the initial challenges of the process was the reality of having to make any kind of meaningful comparisons among so many different grants. Just as the work of improving people’s lives is, to say the least, multifaceted and interdisciplinary, each program and each grant is in some way unique. This step of the process represents, therefore, both an inherent oversimplification, and a necessary element for conducting analysis.

The grants were initially grouped into one of the following four classifications:

- Advocacy/Organizing
- Education
- Health
- Media/Production

Education grants included those made to support school based programs at any level, or that provided professional development or technical assistance for instructors. Workshops and conferences were also grouped in this category. The Advocacy/Organizing classification represents the broadest group of grantees, including intermediaries, institutions, grassroots programs and other not-for-profits. Each grant was then assigned one of the following secondary classifications in order to increase insight into the data:

- Capacity Building
- Civic Engagement
- Criminal Justice
- Economics
- Fatherhood
- Research
- Youth Development

It is acknowledged that many layers of overlap exist between the classifications that could be illustrated, even on a grant-by-grant basis, but these have been left for the reader to explore.

---

**Figure 1:** Distribution of All Grants by Primary Classification
Description of the Funders

Funders were described as either National, Regional, or Community. 46% of the foundations surveyed (11) were listed as National. This same group, however, accounts for 60% of the grants reported. The seven Regional foundations, defined as those engaged in grantmaking across one or more states or metropolitan areas within a state, account for 29% of the funders, yet only 25% of the grants. The six Community foundations represent 25% of the funders surveyed; yet this group reported only 16% of the grants.

Lumina Foundation led reporting with a total of 16% of all grants. Atlantic Philanthropies reported 12% of all grants. Casey grantmaking organizations combined to round out the top three with 8% of all grants reported.

Grantmaking by Region

Each grant location was determined by the home state of the program activity, as opposed to that of the funder. Regions were broadly defined; everything west of the Mississippi River was West, except for Louisiana and Arkansas which were grouped in the South. Maryland and D.C., too, were included in the South. Pittsburgh was the furthest western border of the Northeast, and metro Cleveland, the furthest eastern of the Midwest.

The top two regions for grantmaking activity were the South 26% and the Midwest 25%. A handful of grant locations were recorded as National. Several Atlantic Philanthropies grants support programs based in Bermuda.

Figures 2 and 3 illustrate the proportions of grants made by the type of funder relative to the proportion of the funders surveyed by type.
Analysis

Duration of Grant Support

The earliest grants reported were made more than ten years ago. Most, however, were made within the last four years. Nearly half of the grantees were supported between two and four years. 25% were funded for less than a year. The majority of these grants were for one time events, conferences, or productions.

The seven oldest grants were made in the Midwest by the Lily Endowment, a national foundation, and by the Woods Fund of Chicago, a community foundation. Five of these were classified as Youth Development grants. The others, while classified under Advocacy/Organizing, both worked to improve educational outcomes. 8 of the 15 oldest grants reported were made by national foundations. The remaining 7 were made by 2 community and 2 regional foundations. Also:

• Nearly half (16) of the 38 grantees that have been supported for 3 years or more were also in the Midwest.
• All but three of the grants with the secondary classification of Capacity Building were made within the last two years.
• Most of the Media/Production grants were one time only or were made for less than a year.

Figure 5: Distribution of Grants by Duration of Grant Support
Primary Use of Funds

Operating Support was described as the primary use of funds for more than 50% of the grants. The second major use of funds was for Specific Program or Services at 40%. Roughly 3% of funds were used primarily for Technical Assistance and slightly under 3% were used for Grassroots Organizing, Research, and Capital respectively.

2% of the grants have Grassroots Organizing stated as a primary use of funds. Roughly one third (34) of the grants, however, were classified as Advocacy/Organizing. Many Operating Support grants, for example, were made to grantees where organizing a constituency around an issue is key to their core mission.

Types of Grants

Two-thirds of all grants were reported as the first grant or a new grant to an organization. Many of these were multi-year grants. Multiple grants to the same organization were among those included in the Continuous/Renewal group.

Figures 6 and 7 illustrate the distribution of grants by type and by use of funds.

---

Figure 6: Distribution of Grants by Grant Type

Grants by Type of Grant (N=100)

- New Grants: 67%
- Continuous: 31%
- Other: 2%

Figure 7: Distribution of Grants by Primary Use of Funds

Grants by Primary Use of Funds (N=100)

- Operating Support: 52%
- Specific Program/Service: 38%
- Grassroots Organizing: 2%
- Research: 3%
- Capital: 3%
- Technical Assistance: 3%
Analysis

**Comparison of New and Continuous Grants**

67% of all grants were classified as *New / First Grants*. *Operating Support* was described as the primary use of funds for 46% of these.

Figure 8 illustrates the distribution of New/First grants by their primary use of funds.

31% of all grants were classified as *Continuous / Renewal Grants*. The primary use of funds for 68% of these was described as *Operating Support*.

Figure 9 illustrates the distribution of Continuous grants by their primary use of funds.

Figures 10 and 11 compare the distribution of new grants to that for continuous / renewal grants, by the four primary classifications.
Further insight is gained through an examination of the distribution of grants in the primary classification by their secondary classification. This shows, for example, that one-third (13) of the New Grants made in the area of Education were for Youth Development programs, and that Youth Development represents 21% of all New Grants. This same secondary category accounts for 39% of all Continuous grants, however, one third of these were made in the primary class of Advocacy/Organizing. This perspective on the data is presented to reveal the “cross-cutting” dynamics of grants that impact the lives of black men and boys.

Tables 1 and 2 detail the distribution of new and continuous grants, comparing their Primary Classification against their Secondary.

**Table 1: Distribution of New/First Grants by Secondary Classification**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>CLASSIFICATION</th>
<th>Advocacy / Organizing</th>
<th>Education</th>
<th>Media / Production</th>
<th>Health</th>
<th>Total (N=67)</th>
<th>Percentage by Class 2</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Capacity Building</td>
<td>3</td>
<td>8</td>
<td>3</td>
<td>14</td>
<td>21%</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Civic Engagement</td>
<td>1</td>
<td></td>
<td>6</td>
<td>7</td>
<td>10%</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Criminal Justice</td>
<td>3</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>3</td>
<td>4%</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Economics</td>
<td>6</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>6</td>
<td>9%</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Fatherhood</td>
<td>3</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>3</td>
<td>4%</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Research</td>
<td>7</td>
<td></td>
<td>1</td>
<td>8</td>
<td>12%</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Youth Development</td>
<td>13</td>
<td></td>
<td>1</td>
<td>14</td>
<td>21%</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Other</td>
<td>8</td>
<td>4</td>
<td></td>
<td>12</td>
<td>18%</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Total</td>
<td>16</td>
<td>36</td>
<td>10</td>
<td>5</td>
<td>67</td>
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</tr>
<tr>
<td>% by Class 1</td>
<td>24%</td>
<td>54%</td>
<td>15%</td>
<td>7%</td>
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<td></td>
</tr>
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</table>

**Table 2: Distribution of Continuous / Renewal Grants by Secondary Classification**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>CLASSIFICATION</th>
<th>Advocacy / Organizing</th>
<th>Education</th>
<th>Media / Production</th>
<th>Health</th>
<th>Total (N=31)</th>
<th>Percentage by Class 2</th>
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<tr>
<td>Capacity Building</td>
<td>2</td>
<td>1</td>
<td></td>
<td>3</td>
<td>10%</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Civic Engagement</td>
<td>4</td>
<td>2</td>
<td></td>
<td>6</td>
<td>19%</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Criminal Justice</td>
<td>4</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>4</td>
<td>13%</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Economics</td>
<td>2</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>2</td>
<td>6%</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Fatherhood</td>
<td>1</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>1</td>
<td>3%</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Research</td>
<td>1</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>1</td>
<td>3%</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Youth Development</td>
<td>4</td>
<td>7</td>
<td>1</td>
<td>12</td>
<td>39%</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Other</td>
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<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>2</td>
<td>6%</td>
<td></td>
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<tr>
<td>Total</td>
<td>17</td>
<td>10</td>
<td>1</td>
<td>3</td>
<td>31</td>
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</tr>
<tr>
<td>% by Class 1</td>
<td>55%</td>
<td>32%</td>
<td>3%</td>
<td>10%</td>
<td>100%</td>
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</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
Analysis

Focus on Black Men and Boys

Respondents were asked if each grant included in the survey supported a program that specifically targeted black men and boys. Their options were Yes, Not Exclusively, No, or Don’t Know. The distribution of grants by their focus on black males is illustrated in Figure 12.

Figure 12: Grants by Focus on Black Males

Grants Not Exclusively Focused on Black Men and Boys

37% of all grants were identified as Not Exclusively targeting black men and boys. These grants funded programs that may have targeted black males as one of several culture-specific groups, or those that focused on black families, or on African-American communities as a whole. Figure 13 illustrates the distribution of this group of grants, which closely resembles the same distribution for all grants (see Figure 1).

Table 3 details the distribution of these grants by each of the seven secondary classifications. This distribution reveals that Advocacy/Organizing grants are also more evenly distributed among secondary classifications than those in any other area.

Grants Targeting Black Males

25% of all grants surveyed were identified as Targets Black Men & Boys. Seventeen or 68% of these were reported as new grants. Figure 14 reveals one of the more interesting findings of the research. There are no grants in the primary classification of Health that specifically target black males. The grants that do target black men and boys are overwhelmingly focused in the area of Education. 44% of the grants that target black males were secondarily classified in Youth Development. Table 4 shows that the Youth Development grants that target black males were made in each primary classification except Health.

There were also no grants that explicitly target black men that were secondarily classified in Criminal Justice or Economics. Many programs in these areas serve populations that are often predominately black male. They also work in areas where systemic positive underrepresentation and negative overrepresentation for black male life outcomes prevail. Herein lies the challenge and opportunity for philanthropic organizations to begin CULTIVATING CHANGE.
Table 3: Grants that Not Exclusively Target Black Males

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>CLASSIFICATION</th>
<th>Advocacy / Organizing</th>
<th>Education</th>
<th>Media / Production</th>
<th>Health</th>
<th>Total (N=37)</th>
<th>Percentage by Class 2</th>
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<td>Capacity Building</td>
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<td>2</td>
<td>2</td>
<td>6</td>
<td>16%</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Civic Engagement</td>
<td>3</td>
<td>2</td>
<td>2</td>
<td>7</td>
<td>19%</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Criminal Justice</td>
<td>3</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>3</td>
<td>8%</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Economics</td>
<td>2</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>2</td>
<td>5%</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Fatherhood</td>
<td>2</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>2</td>
<td>5%</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
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<td>1</td>
<td>1</td>
<td>1</td>
<td>3%</td>
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</tr>
<tr>
<td>Other</td>
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<td>1</td>
<td>2</td>
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</tr>
<tr>
<td>Total</td>
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</tr>
<tr>
<td>% by Class 1</td>
<td>38%</td>
<td>41%</td>
<td>8%</td>
<td>14%</td>
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</table>

Table 4: Grants that Target Black Males

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>CLASSIFICATION</th>
<th>Advocacy / Organizing</th>
<th>Education</th>
<th>Media / Production</th>
<th>Health</th>
<th>Total (N=25)</th>
<th>Percentage by Class 2</th>
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</thead>
<tbody>
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<td></td>
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<tr>
<td>Civic Engagement</td>
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<tr>
<td>Criminal Justice</td>
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<td>2</td>
<td>1</td>
<td>4</td>
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<td>Fatherhood</td>
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<td>1</td>
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<td>4%</td>
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<td>2</td>
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</tr>
<tr>
<td>% by Class 1</td>
<td>24%</td>
<td>68%</td>
<td>8%</td>
<td>0%</td>
<td>100%</td>
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</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
The ability to define and communicate an issue is a fundamental role that foundations can play in addressing any issue of civic or systemic concern. The ability to direct financial and other resources into an issue creates unique access and responsibilities in the world of social change for the individuals and organizations engaged in that work. Recent research prepared for Ford Foundation urges an elevation of the frequency and intensity of dialogue among philanthropic entities to inform strategies that address disparities in key economic and social indicators facing Black Men and Boys. The product of this effort is intended to add substance to that dialogue.

A few key considerations were at work during the preparation of this report:

- What are the implications of this information for philanthropy that relate to its relationship with itself?

- What are the implications for how philanthropy works with practitioners / grantees?

- What does foundation staff need to know in order to be effective stewards of programs that impact the lives of black males through the philanthropic process?

### Implications for Philanthropy’s Relationship with Itself

The research and conversations reflected in this document suggest that a fundamental agreement exists, among professionals in philanthropy, that the negative life outcomes of black males in America are systemic if not endemic. The same could be (and often is) said for the life outcomes of the poor in general. This suggests, as much as anything else, that there is an implicit relationship between race and class in America, and that the discussion tends to be more easily engaged in when the focus is on class.

Relatively speaking, there is already a great deal of money being invested in programs and organizations that impact the lives of black men and boys. It is important to recognize, though, that most of this support is not intentionally focused on of the need to do something different in relation to black males. While more resources could and, perhaps, should be directed towards improving the lives of black males, a change of consciousness about the issue is more of what’s needed. This change would manifest in many ways, first, in the language that is used to discuss these issues. We have an opportunity to be more deliberate about using asset-based language. Discussions about black men and boys could be more productive if the focus was more on their contributions than their deficiencies.
Implications for Philanthropy’s Relationship with Grantees

The ultimate measure of a philanthropic organization’s commitment to an issue is most typically measured in dollars. In this regard, there could clearly be more financial support in the area of black men’s health. Even though much of the nation’s looming health care crisis is based on the treatment of chronic diseases, like diabetes, that disproportionately impact African Americans, none of the grants that explicitly focused on black males was made in the area of health.

While education was, in general, the most funded area of impact, the least amount of support within this category was for early childhood education. This suggests opportunities to:

a) Invest more in pre-K and potentially day care support or alternative programs.

b) Encourage linkages among programs that offer a continuum of support throughout the educational experience.

There is an opportunity to change our views on “capacity”. Is, for example, the organizational capacity necessary to run an effective museum or workforce development center the same as the capacity needed to implement an effective mentoring or inner-city health awareness program? This is a critical issue that can be highly subjective. Even though there are some relatively “universal” characteristics of successful programs, grantmakers must be challenged to remain open to recognizing “non-traditional” or “alternative” capacities within a potential grantee even if there are some “rough edges” to be smoothed out. In short, “capacity” alone, does not make a successful program.

Conclusion

Most foundations do not currently have any stated initiative or funding area on behalf of black males. All of the foundations participating in the survey, however, are making grants that impact the lives of black men and boys. A key opportunity exists, therefore, to be more aware of and deliberate about the implicit decision-making processes that occur in regard to supporting programs that impact black males.

...Cultivation suggests development “from the ground up”. It is an alternative to the modalities of prevention and intervention that often tend to be crisis oriented. Foresight, patience and adherence to fundamentals are all embodied in the idea of cultivation. Going forward, ABFE is positioned to serve as the primary focus for CULTIVATING CHANGE in the lives of its constituents and their communities.
ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS

CULTIVATING CHANGE is a report prepared for the Association of Black Foundation Executives (ABFE).

ABFE would like to thank Michael Easterling and the staff of Open Roads Institute for helping to broaden our capacity to provide leadership in the practice of philanthropy.

ABFE extends sincere appreciation to our entire staff and our Board of Directors.

Special thanks to Marcus Walton, ABFE Director of Programs, for seeing this project through.

Very special thanks to each of the individuals who took the time to contribute to this effort. It is your work that makes this work possible.

Lastly, and most importantly, we would like to thank all of the member institutions that make ABFE a relevant and dynamic organization and resource to the broader field of philanthropy.

...
Atlantic Philanthropies
Management Assistance Group - Bermuda - "Between the Cracks" Community Forums - $100,000
To provide consulting support and strategic planning assistance to one U.S. and one Bermuda grantee to conduct joint efforts.

Root Cause Institute - Bermuda - Nonprofit Business Planning - $305,000
To improve the performance of Bermudian NGOs by providing consultants for capacity-building.

Casey Family Programs
Men of Integrity Retreat - $305,000
Through a deeper understanding of their racial, ethnic and cultural identities, youth of color in the system will come together as leaders, and create ways to positively connect and make a difference in their lives and in their communities.

Chicago Community Trust
Center for Economic Progress - Illinois - Community Development Grant - $125,000
To support the delivery of tax and financial services for low-income Chicago residents.

DC Children and Youth Investment Trust Corporation
Boys Learning Circle - District of Columbia - $450,000
To provide capacity building technical assistance to 8 organizations in Washington, D.C. that specifically support black boys.

Ford Foundation
University of Michigan - Michigan - $235,000
To support the scholars network on African-American masculinities. To support education, work, fatherhood and family formation.

Foundation for the Mid South
St. Francis County CDC - Arkansas - $150,000
To support a 15-unit affordable housing development, with a total project cost of $2,448,000.

Valley CDC - Mississippi - $213,500
To support the construction of a 14-unit rental complex for low-wealth residents in Itta Bena, Mississippi will complete the project cost of $854,000.

Lilly Endowment
Indiana Private Industry Council - Indiana - $13,557,360 (Multiple Grants)
IPIC is an intermediary making grants that supports an ongoing effort to increase employment and education opportunities for out of school / disadvantaged youth.

Fathers and Families Resource / Research Center - $1,533,125
To provide operating support for a fatherhood program for non-custodial fathers. To build capacity of men to be engaged fathers.

Louisiana Disaster Recovery Foundation
Association of Community Organizations for Reform Now - Louisiana $124,650
For general support and organization of low and moderate income Katrina survivors to fight for respect and fair treatment for their families and communities in the relief effort.
GRANTS
Advocacy / Organizing

**People's Institute For Survival And Beyond** - Louisiana - $10,000
To continue support for “Undoing Racism” training and workshops that help individuals, communities, and institutions address the causes of racism and create a more just and equitable society.

**Lumina Foundation**

**Research Foundation of CUNY of Medgar Evers College** - New York - $100,000
To provide direct access services to 112 formerly incarcerated youth including 50 African-American males in Brooklyn, NY.

**Trustees of Indiana University** -IUPUI - Indiana - $748,500
To launch a student support program that will strengthen the educational outcomes of African-American male students at Indiana University Purdue University Indianapolis (IUPUI).

**Marguerite Casey Foundation**

**Community Coalition for Substance Prevention and Treatment** - California - $600,000
A three-year project to address education, foster care, and gentrification/land use in south L.A.

**Ella Baker Center for Human Rights** - California - $225,000
A three year grant for community organizing around employment in Hunter's Point, a traditionally African American neighborhood in San Francisco.

**Labor Community Strategy Center** - California - $600,000
A three year grant for community organizing around employment in Hunter’s Point, a traditionally African American neighborhood in San Francisco.

**People Organized to Win Employment Rights** - California - $195,000
A three year grant for community organizing around employment in Hunter's Point, a traditionally African American neighborhood in San Francisco.

**Target Area Development Corporation** - Illinois - $450,000
To organize stakeholders around criminal justice, education and land-use reform issues.

**Mary Reynolds Babcock Foundation**

**Action Communication and Education Reform** - Alabama - $16,667
To encourage individuals to become involved in the decision-making process of their communities and schools to bring about positive social change.

**Alabama Poverty Project** - Alabama - $100,000
To promote a better understanding of the nature of poverty, its complex causes, prevalence and persistence in Alabama.

**Appalachian Community Fund** - Georgia - $150,000
To strengthen communities in rural north Georgia by making small business loans and providing financial education, which generates income and assets for its customers.

**Center for Community Action** - North Carolina - $10,000
To facilitate and sustain community engagement particularly within Native American & African American populations in a participatory process which improves the social, political, economic, environmental and cultural conditions within Robeson County.
Center for Community Based Partnership - Alabama - $150,000
The Black Belt Community Foundation is forging a collective stream of giving from the community and other sources, so the people of the Black Belt can enhance their continuing efforts to lift themselves, by taking what they have to make what they need.

Open Society Institute
New York State Defenders Association - New York - $100,000
To support targeted field research on indigent defense systems in ten New York counties and a state-wide poll of public opinion towards indigent defense.

Virginia Indigent Defense Coalition - Virginia - $200,000
This grant works to ensure the provision of quality public defense services for all adults and juveniles accused of crimes in Virginia.

The California Endowment
Special Needs Network, Inc. - California - Parent Advocacy Training - $50,005
To build organizational capacity that improves access to health services for developmentally disabled African Americans and other under-served children, parents and families in Los Angeles.

The Cameron Foundation
Better Housing Coalition - Virginia - $250,000
To support the Petersburg Redevelopment Initiative.

The San Francisco Foundation
Youth United for Community Action - California - $15,000
To increase adult and youth civic participation and leadership, including support for emerging leaders in the non-profit sector.

The Skillman Foundation
Oakland Livingston Human Service Agency - Michigan - $300,000
To align multiple social service agencies’ support systems for children of incarcerated and probationer parents, particularly fathers.

State of Michigan Department of Human Services - Michigan - $945,000
To improve access to supportive services for non-custodial fathers and increase their involvement in the lives of their children through coordinated services within the Department of Human Services.

Woods Fund of Chicago
Developing Justice Coalition - Illinois - $8,000
This discretionary grant provided transportation for a group of community representatives to a summit in the state capital in order to discuss, with legislators, alternatives for low level offenses in lieu of criminal charges.

Juvenile Justice Initiative - Illinois - $247,500
To support advocacy and to reduce punitive penalties for juvenile offenders.

Metropolitan Area Group for Igniting Civilization - Illinois - $115,000
MAGIC works to organize high school age youth in the Woodlawn community of Chicago’s south side. Staff recruits from schools and bring youth to their offices for regional convening.
CULTIVATING CHANGE April 2008

GRANTS

Education

Atlantic Philanthropies

Aspen Roundtable - National - Racial Equity Seminars - $3,900,000
To support racial equity training for more than 100 youth and senior leaders. Sessions have been held in New Mexico, Chicago, Boston, and Oakland.

Bermuda Football Association - Youth Development & Soccer Re-granting Program - $300,000
To connect disadvantaged Bermudian youth to youth development services by using the island’s soccer infrastructure.

Big Brothers Big Sisters of Bermuda - Mentoring Program - $350,000
To increase BBBS Bermuda’s capacity to serve youth by providing general operating support.

Intersector Consulting - Bermuda - Planning for the Youth Development & Soccer Coalition - $60,000
To create a plan for a community-based pilot of a youth development project by combining the infrastructure of the Bermuda Football Association with youth-serving agencies’ expertise and programming.

The Brotherhood Bermuda - Bermuda - After-School Mentorship and Rites of Passage Program - $400,000
To increase the organization’s capacity to intervene in the lives of disadvantaged youth by funding a full-time staff position.

The Donor Forum - Bermuda - Best Practice Study Tour Scholarships - $125,000
To improve knowledge of evidence-based practices and promote professional development of leaders in the NGO sector in Bermuda through a program of small grants for study tours and fellowships.

The Family Centre - Bermuda - Caring for Families - $490,000
To strengthen The Family Centre by providing core support for the Caring for Families program and fundraising capacity building.

YouthNet - Bermuda - Intergenerational Mentoring Program - $300,000
To improve primary school youth’s reading skills by utilizing older adults as school-based mentors.

Casey Family Programs

Seeds of Compassion - Washington
To support a 5-Day visit to Seattle by His Holiness the Dalai Lama of Tibet. To raise awareness of issues, including in the disproportionality of children of color in the foster care system.

DC Children and Youth Investment Trust Corporation

Advancing Youth Development - District of Columbia
To support a pilot program in 3 middle schools and 4 high schools to focus on specific needs of AA males regarding classroom management.

Entertainment Industry Foundation

Watts Boys & Girls Club - California - Music and Dance Academy - $305,000
This state-of-the-art music educational center and recording facility serves foster care youth and other at-risk teens and was made possible through grants from the Black Eyed Peas and the Entertainment Industry Foundation.
Ford Foundation
**The Brotherhood / Sistersol** - New York - $500,000
To improve life outcomes for youth in New York.

Foundation for the Mid South
**Hughes School District** - $102,416
To support the ongoing implementation of Learning 24/7, a systemic approach to school improvement. Supports a classroom library program at the high school. Training was provided to each teacher.

Lilly Endowment
**100 Black Men of Indianapolis** - Indiana - $533,000 (multiple grants)
Two large comprise more than half of the total amount invested in the organization. Several smaller grants were made to support summer programs in each of the years since 1992.

**Boy Scouts of America** - Indiana - Crossroads of America Council - $1,800,000
13 individual grants were made since 1991 to help reach and recruit inner-city youth into scouting.

Lumina Foundation
**Board of Regents of the University** - Georgia - University System of Georgia - $100,000
To provide pre-college access services for as many as 380 students including 220 African-American males in various university programs.

**Dillard University** - Louisiana
Provides pre-college access services to 100 middle and high school students, including 50 African-American males.

**Goodwill Education Initiatives, Inc.** - Indiana - $100,000
To provide direct access services to 300 high school students including 90 African-American males in Indianapolis.

**Harlem Center for Education, Inc.** - New York - $75,000
To provide 25 African-American and Latino high school males with pre-college access services.

**Harlem Reviving Baseball in Inner Cities** - New York - $100,000
To provide pre-college access services to 550 students including 85 African-American males in East Harlem, NY.

**MATCH School Foundation, Inc.** - Massachusetts - Media and Technology Charter High (MATCH) - $100,000
To provide pre-college access services to 130 high school students including 50 African-American males in Boston, MA.

**Regents of the University of California** - California - $250,000
To examine national and state level data regarding African-American males post-secondary access and success.

**Regents of the University of Michigan** - Michigan - $140,000
To fund research that addresses major theoretical and practical knowledge gaps regarding low rates of participation and achievement in higher education among African-American males.
**Trustees of Indiana University** - Indiana - $249,600
To launch a student support program that will strengthen the educational outcomes of African-American male students at Indiana University Purdue University Indianapolis.

**Trustees of the University of Pennsylvania** - Pennsylvania - $649,200
To analyze, disseminate and engage six different institutions in implementing strategies and findings as identified by the National Black Male College Achievement Study.

**University of Portland** - Oregon - $75,000
To enhance a tutoring and mentoring program for 100 African-American male teens.

**University of Toledo Foundation** - Ohio - $200,000
To increase the post-secondary access and success of African-American male college students.

**Urban Prep Academies** - Illinois - $100,000
To provide pre-college access services to 320 high school aged African-American males in Chicago.

**Marguerite Casey Foundation**
**Southern Echo** - Mississippi - $900,000
A 3-year grant that targets African-Americans in the area of education.

**Open Society Institute**
**Black AIDS Institute** - California - $50,000
Funding supports the launch of a national HIV/AIDS policy reform campaign within the African-American community.

**Rising Oak Foundation**
**Ohio Commission on African American Males** - Ohio
The Commission conducts community education and public awareness programs.

**Student African American Brotherhood (SAAB)** - Washington - $100,000
Supports a dynamic organization established specifically to assist participants to excel. SAAB offers regional conferences throughout the United States to incorporate the message of empowerment and success to thousands of young men each year.

**Silicon Valley Community Foundation**
**Community Development Institute** - California - $10,500
To provide support for the Community Responsible Work Program (CREW) component of the Black Male Rebirth Project, which offers pre-employment training, job placement and job retention services, almost exclusively young African American males who have dropped out of school.

**The Cameron Foundation**
**Petersburg Public Schools** - Virginia - $60,000
To support an after school tutoring program at JEB Stuart Elementary, Walnut Hill Elementary and Petersburg High School.
The San Francisco Foundation  
**Oakland Ready to Learn** - California - $14,450  
To ensure the availability of quality early childhood education programs that promote school readiness.

The Skillman Foundation  
**Vanguard Community Development Corporation** - Michigan - Boys 2 Men - $900,000  
Boys 2 Men is a dropout prevention and academic recovery and intervention program for African-American males living in Detroit’s North End neighborhood.

Twenty-First Century Foundation  
**The Black Men's Xchange-New York**  
To support open dialogue in the black community about the issues and reality of same gender loving, bisexual and transgendered relationships.

Winthrop Rockefeller Foundation  
**Achieving the Dream** - Arkansas  
This grant provides technical assistance to 4 community colleges in Arkansas. It supports the development of a framework for building strong local programs.

**Arkansas River School Cooperative Program** - Arkansas - $122,000  
To support about a dozen education service cooperatives that work with the districts in their counties to improve math outcomes. Based in Pine Bluff; about 2/3 of the districts have majority black populations.

**Lee County Community Development Corporation** - Arkansas - Freedom Schools - $369,000  
This is a 6-week program, employing an afrocentric model developed by the Children’s Defense Fund, to encourage reading. The LCCDC is working to develop a model program that involves mentors from a small agricultural community with high poverty.

**The Edward Zigler Center in Child Development and Social Policy** - Arkansas - School of 21st Century  
This is a statewide initiative, part of a national initiative, to create a model pre-k to 5 program in 35 school districts - in 170 schools.

**University of AK Criminal Justice Institute** - Dropout Prevention Toolkit - $675,000  
This is a research grant that looks at high school outcomes and includes support to provide a web-based component to access the data.

Woods Fund of Chicago  
**Kenwood Oakland Community Organization** - Illinois - $215,000  
This multi-year grant provides general organizational support for youth organizing to improve graduation and college placement rates.

**Target Area Development Corporation** - Illinois - $260,000  
Part of coalition to improve high school graduation and college placement.
Atlantic Philanthropies

**Open Airways** - Bermuda - Asthma Education Program - $360,000
To increase the organization’s capacity to reach, identify and support youth with asthma in Bermuda.

Entertainment Industry Foundation

**Diabetes Aware** - California - Public service announcements
Novo Nordisk and the Entertainment Industry Foundation launched Diabetes Aware to educate Americans about how early diagnosis partnered with an individualized treatment plan can help to prevent long-term complications associated with diabetes.

**National Colorectal Cancer Research Alliance** - California - Screen for Life
National celebrities were featured in a series of public service announcements to increase awareness about colon cancer. A PSA featuring Morgan Freeman was geared towards African-American men. This initiative is a multi-year effort to educate Americans about the importance of regular colorectal cancer screening for men and women age 50 and over.

Ford Foundation

**Columbia University Mailman School of Public Health** - NY - Young Men’s Health Clinic - $650,000
To provide support for improving health outcomes for young men.

Foundation for the Mid South

**The Morgan City Cultural Enrichment/Recreation Project** - Louisiana - $45,000
To create an academic environment for youth to promote learning and academic excellence and improve the health and lifestyle of community residents through health and physical wellness ed.

The California Endowment

**Los Angeles Urban League** - California - Strategic Plan to Redevelop Urban Communities - $100,000
To support an intensive strategic planning process that expands the capacity of an organization to improve health of African Americans in South Los Angeles. To support community planning around creating positive health outcomes.

**YMCA of San Diego** - California - Jackie Robinson YMCA Youth Sports Program - $25,000
To provide a sports and fitness program for 400 youth in San Diego.

The Cameron Foundation

**Central Virginia Health Planning Agency** - Virginia - $70,000
To conduct a behavioral health needs assessment, develop a behavior health plan, and update the health and human services needs assessment funded by The Cameron Foundation in 2004.
Atlantic Philanthropies

**Bermuda Broadcasting Company** - “Between the Cracks” Documentaries - $200,000
To educate the Bermudian general public about issues local youth and older adults face by creating documentary films and public forums for community action.

Chicago Community Trust

**Black Ensemble Theatre Corporation** - Illinois - $40,000
To provide support for the production of “Sounds So Good Makes You Wanna Holler”.

**Chicago Community Foundation** - Illinois - Arts & Culture Competitive Grant - $200,000
To establish a designated endowment challenge fund for the DuSable Museum of African American History capital campaign.

Ford Foundation

**21st Century Foundation** - New York - Black Men and Boys Initiative - $1,000,000
To support the BMI and to produce the “Bring your A game” documentary. To provide support for improving life outcomes for AA males across a range of indicators.

God Bless the Child Productions - New York
To support the production & dissemination of “Beyond Beats and Rhymes”, to address issues of violence, homophobia, sexism.

Rising Oak Foundation

**Central District Forum for Arts & Ideas** - Washington - Outside the Hype: Exploring the Representation of Black Males in Society - $4,000
To support a series of films, live performances and discussions. The CDFAI presents and produces African-American cultural programs for the greater Seattle area.

The Rockefeller Foundation

**Evidence, Inc.** - One Shot
To support a multifaceted dance project based on the life and work of photographer Charles Teenie Harris (1908-1999), who for 40 years documented daily life in Pittsburgh’s African-American community.

**Hank Willis Thomas** - Question Bridge
A documentary designed to explore critically divisive issues within the African American male community.

**Mosaic Youth Theater** - The Fisk Jubilee Singers
To support the development of a play with music about the formation of the Fisk Jubilee Singers, an African-American performance group founded after the Civil War.

**Pick Up Performance Company** - Kentucky - In this Place, Lexington Kentucky
A site-inspired theater project that begins with a walking tour, followed by a black-box video installation featuring a live actor as Samuel Oldham (the first free African-American to build a home).

**San Francisco International Arts Festival** - California - A Long Way Home: Concertizing the Golden Triangle
A collaborative composition performed at port sites in the United States, the United Kingdom and Ghana that are tied to the history of slavery and the subsequent black migrations from the US south and the Caribbean and other areas.
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WEBSITES

Participating funders in the survey of grants

Annie E. Casey Foundation  
www.aecf.org

Atlantic Philanthropies  
www.atlanticphilanthropies.org

California Endowment  
www.calendow.org

Casey Family Programs  
www.casey.org

DC Children and Youth Investment Trust Corporation  
www.cyitc.org

Entertainment Industry Foundation  
www.eifoundation.org

Ford Foundation  
www.fordfound.org

Foundation for the Mid South  
www.fndmidsouth.org

Lilly Endowment  
www.lei.org

Louisiana Disaster Recovery Foundation  
www.louisianahelp.org

Lumina Foundation  
www.luminafoundation.org

Marguerite Casey Foundation  
www.caseygrants.org

Mary Reynolds Babcock Foundation  
www.mrbf.org

Open Society Institute  
www.sorosny.org

Rising Oak Foundation  
www.risingoak.org

San Francisco Foundation  
www.ssf.org

Silicon Valley Community Foundation  
www.siliconvalleycf.org

Skillman Foundation  
www.skillman.org

The Cameron Foundation  
www.thecameronfoundation.org

The Chicago Community Trust  
www.cct.org

The Rockefeller Foundation  
www.rockfound.org

Twenty-First Century Foundation  
www.21cf.org

Winthrop Rockefeller Foundation  
www.wrfoundation.org

Woods Fund of Chicago  
www.woodsfund.org
The Association of Black Foundation Executives (ABFE) is the oldest of the over forty Council on Foundations affinity groups. ABFE was formed in 1971 and has grown to become a leader in the field of philanthropy and is known for being a champion for the interests of black communities. The mission of ABFE is to promote effective and responsive philanthropy in black communities. The vision ABFE has for its members is that they are a catalyst for advancing philanthropic practices that build on a tradition of self-help, empowerment, and excellence to solve the challenges faced in black communities.

Thus the institution endeavors to accomplish three primary objectives:
- To grow black leadership and participation within organized philanthropy;
- To enhance the effectiveness of philanthropic leaders and institutions that fund and invest in black communities; and
- To increase the allocation of philanthropic resources that address priority issues in black communities.