



A Renewable Resource for Black-Led Movements

The **Black-Led Movement Fund** invests in powerful local organizations that anchor the Movement for Black Lives (M4BL) as well as the movement infrastructure that amplifies their work. Born out of the 2014 Ferguson uprising after police killed Michael Brown, the movement has activated tens of millions of people in what is now **the largest social justice movement in U.S. history**. In every state and Puerto Rico, its young, visionary, intersectional leaders are advancing Black freedom and liberation as cornerstones for the future we all need.

THIS is What Impact Looks Like

The Movement's vision and demands — once thought impossible — are now driving broad changes in policy and culture. This is only possible because the Movement has successfully changed the terms of the debate, redefined what constitutes public safety, and challenged the role and cost of policing.

**CIVIC
ENGAGEMENT**

Organizers of the spring and summer protests registered huge numbers of young and first-time voters, then went on to **educate and mobilize** them in the fall elections.

**RACIST
SYMBOLS**

Monuments, flags, and other entrenched symbols of **white supremacy** have been removed from public spaces in the South and the North.

**REDIRECTING
RESOURCES**

Large and small cities are **divesting** tens of millions of public dollars from police budgets and **investing** them in youth and human services.

**SCHOOL-
TO-PRISON
PIPELINE**

Local school districts are cancelling their contracts with police, thus disrupting the **school-to-prison pipeline**.

Watch a video about how the M4BL ecosystem is structured at: bit.ly/BLMFvid

Early and Sustained Support for a Movement Deemed Risky

Few funders were willing to make a serious, long-term investment in the Black-led movement that coalesced in late 2014, despite its obvious potential. Its leaders were deemed risky by most of organized philanthropy because they are young and unapologetically working for transformation, not reform.

The Black-led Movement Fund was not deterred. It raised money from a handful of courageous funders and began meeting biweekly with M4BL's resource table. Since 2016, the Black-led Movement Fund has invested \$10.6 million through 170 grants, 56% of that in general operating support. These flexible dollars, along with coaching and strategic support, have helped M4BL to stay true to its bold and clear vision as it has scaled up.

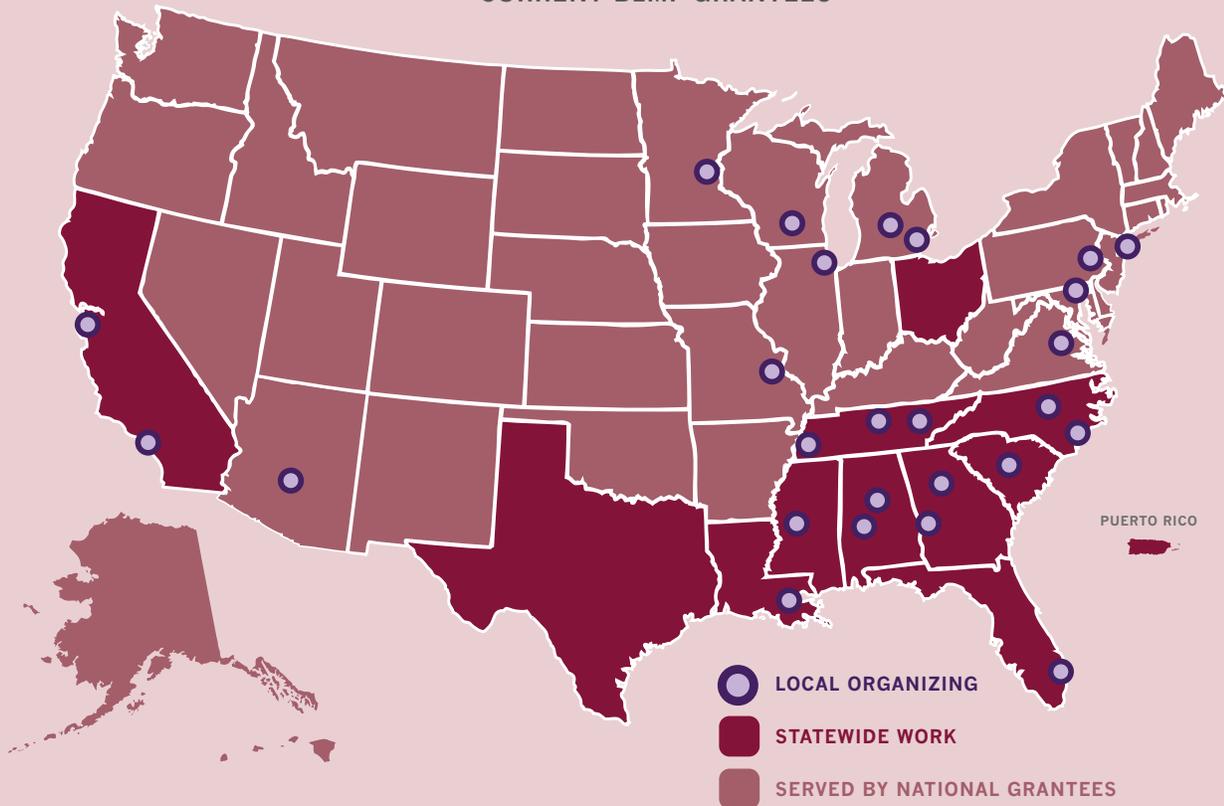
— 2016 - 2021 —

\$10.6
MILLION

170
GRANTS

Young Black Leaders Connect Issues & Communities

— CURRENT BLMF GRANTEES —



Current grantees of the Black-led Movement Fund:

- Center the leadership of Black women/girls/femmes, as well as queer and trans people
- Build local power in the South and Midwest
- Support groups that are less likely to be funded by organized philanthropy
- Connect to other issues and movements, such as:
 - LAND & FOOD ACCESS/SECURITY
 - IM/MIGRATION
 - HEALING JUSTICE
 - CLIMATE CHANGE

For more information about joining the Black-Led Movement Fund, please email: BLMF@borealisphilanthropy.org.

Local Organizations Strengthen the National Ecosystem & Vice Versa



“ Being connected to the larger M4BL ecosystem allows us to envision and demonstrate how our local work is tied to larger issues and larger organizing fights. We know we are not standing alone against unjust systems and structures that disproportionately negatively impact Black and Brown individuals.

— ACTION ST. LOUIS ”

“ Through the Black Migrant Working Group, we co-shaped M4BL’s demands for Black communities in the midst of the COVID pandemic. We have already brought in and created more space for Black queer and trans migrants and first-generation people, thereby helping to involve historically underrepresented Black communities within M4BL.

— BLACK LGBTQIA + MIGRANT JUSTICE PROJECT ”



“ Participation in the ecosystem allows us to learn and have a brain trust of thought partners who can help us strengthen our local strategy and coordinate aligned national efforts.

— DREAM DEFENDERS ”

Benefits for Donors to the Black-Led Movement Fund

By being a donor to the BLMF, funders gain:

- Deep knowledge and insight about Black-led movement strategy and tactics through dockets and presentations
- Relationships with expert staff who are connected to local Black-led movement organizations in every region
- Knowledge exchange with allied funders
- Giving that is aligned with the movement’s needs
- Capacity building add-ons for individual groups and the M4BL ecosystem

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