Why Locally-Driven Organizing By Communities Most Impacted By Policing Matters

The Communities Transforming Policing Fund (CTPF) is a donor collaborative at Borealis Philanthropy that invests in local grassroots organizing groups that:

- **Build power** among directly impacted people to demand an end to deadly and discriminatory policing;
- **End the criminalization** of people of color, people in poverty, LGBTQ people, and those with disabilities;
- **Increase police accountability and transparency**;
- **Shift power and resources from police and the carceral state** to communities to create a transformative vision of justice without police, jails, and prisons.

CTPF grantees are driving groundbreaking change in local communities across the country. For example:

- In 2019, the African American Roundtable, leading the LiberateMKE Campaign in Milwaukee, Wisconsin became one of the first campaigns in the country to successfully divest money from the police department to housing and employment for community members.
- Organizers in Austin, including grantees Austin Justice Coalition and Communities of Color United, won a $150 million reduction in the city’s police budget and $50 million investment in a “Reimagine Safety Fund” to support alternatives to police.
- Grantee Unite Oregon advocated for the passage of Measure 110, making Oregon the first state in the country to decriminalize drug use.
- The Justice Committee successfully advocated to repeal a New York law that kept police misconduct secret. Families whose loved ones were brutalized and murdered by police led that victory and continue to push back against the police union’s legal attempts to keep police misconduct secret.

Local Organizing Creates Long-Lasting Impact

Lasting and transformative change only happens when local community members who have lived experience with the issues they work on take a leading role in creating that change. The research and policies developed by national organizations and think tanks working on how to address violent policing tactics are useful tools, but change on the ground takes place when local groups determine how these tools apply to their context and translate them into campaign demands and wins. They must then ensure that the policies are properly implemented. Community leaders closest to the problem are closest to the solution.

FROM 2017 TO 2020

$6.45 million

57 groups

Winning meaningful changes locally

# How CTPF Creates Impact

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## Support We Provide

**CTPF supports its grantees by providing:**
- Multi-year general operating support grants
- Organizational development grants
- Access to rapid response resources when available
- Access to an online organizer networking platform, Basecamp, where they receive weekly newsletters on resources, webinars, fellowships, and other funding opportunities.

**CTPF supports its donors learning by providing:**
- Weekly newsletters regarding the grantees of the Fund
- Landscape Assessments
- Detailed donor memos tracking the work and impact of the grantees of the Fund
- One-on-one technical assistance from policing, budget, digital security and organizational development experts
- Access to peer learning opportunities through learning communities co-hosted by the Fund and the Community Resource Hub
- Donor learning sessions on timely and relevant topics related to policing
- Quarterly newsletters

## CTPF prioritizes supporting groups that are:
- small and emerging grassroots organizing groups working locally to shift power and resources from police and the carceral state to communities to create public safety;
- led by and accountable to individuals, families, and communities most impacted by policing;
- centering racial, disability, economic, and gender justice in their work.

To learn more about the Communities Transforming Policing Fund, please contact [ctpf@borealisphilanthropy.org](mailto:ctpf@borealisphilanthropy.org).