

Chicago Beyond, Grand Victoria Foundation, and MacArthur Foundation Unite in a Movement to End Philanthropy's Complicity in Anti-Blackness

The Abundance movement challenges philanthropic organizations to significantly increase the annual payout to Black-led and centered organizations.

Chicago, IL (April 18, 2022) – Historically, Black-led organizations receive [less funding and support](#) from foundations than White-led organizations. However, today, three organizations, Chicago Beyond, Grand Victoria Foundation, and the John D. and Catherine T. MacArthur Foundation announce the launch of *Abundance*, a movement dedicated to shifting how philanthropic dollars are allocated to Black-led and Black-centered organizations. Philanthropic organizations that join the *Abundance* movement will commit to significantly raising their annual payout to Black-led work by the start of 2025, with growth year after year.

“For the past two years, I have advocated for philanthropy to ensure that racial equity and racial justice are more than catchphrases by collectively developing strategies for sustained action,” says Grand Victoria Foundation President Sharon Bush. “It starts with amplifying the voices of leaders of color in philanthropy and challenging us all to explicitly practice racial equity, share power and privilege in support of Black-led and Black-centered organizations. It’s a tall order; *Abundance* gives us the framework to organize and act together with clear intention.”

Abundance aims to create a path for philanthropy to move beyond pledges and statements of solidarity to tangible, public commitments to change through action and creating and spreading abundance for all. Philanthropic organizations that join the *Abundance* movement will commit to participating in the *Abundance Action Community*. In this space, funders can come together to learn and then implement how and why they can be more equitable in their giving. In this shared space, participants will have a dedicated facilitator, develop a shared understanding and meaning of Black-led work, strategize collectively, share goals set by each institution, track year-over-year growth in the percentage of annual payout to Black-led work, encourage adaptive changes in practice, and be responsive to Black leaders.

“Philanthropy has perpetuated racial oppression, which systematically and disproportionately impacted organizations led by people of color,” said MacArthur President John Palfrey. “We must disrupt these traditional practices by giving more money to Black-led, –centered, and -serving organizations, trusting them to make decisions about how to use their grant funding. Operating from a place of *Abundance* allows us to ensure long-term and equitable support for Black-led organizations as we advance racial justice.”

Abundance acknowledges that giving disparities exist and invites philanthropies to explore the question: *What would happen if philanthropies celebrated and invested in Black lives, Black resilience, Black joy, and Black power?*

“Research has shown that foundation [funding](#) to Black communities is disproportionately low. I believe all leaders in philanthropy have an incredible opportunity to lean in and collectively become the agents of transformation,” says Founder and CEO of Chicago Beyond, Liz Dozier. “The only way to ensure thriving communities is by ensuring investment in them is reliable, transparent, impactful, and substantial. I believe *Abundance* provides philanthropy with a roadmap to do just that. It’s an exciting shift, and we are ready for it.”

The call to operate from *Abundance* aims to ensure long-term, equitable distribution of philanthropic dollars to Black-led and Black-centered organizations. This is a strategy for greater freedom for all communities. Committing to operating from *Abundance* goes beyond just stating solidarity – its action. If an organization is interested in being a part of *Abundance*, or would like to learn more information or collaborate, please visit <https://abundancemovement.org>.

Also, to ensure sustained support for the movement, *Abundance* has a committed annual budget of \$400,000 for three years, and will soon introduce a new director who will lead the initiative.

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About Chicago Beyond

Chicago Beyond is an impact investor that invests in ideas, individuals, and organizations working to ensure all young people have the opportunity to live a free and full life. Because there is no single barrier to equity, Chicago Beyond invests in everything from education to youth safety, health and wellness, and beyond. Learn more at chicagobeyond.org.

About Grand Victoria Foundation

Grand Victoria Foundation is a private foundation whose mission is to empower communities to ensure Illinois is a great place to live and work. We envision a strong, livable, and equitable Illinois where every resident has an opportunity to thrive. Learn more at grandvictoriafdn.org.

About MacArthur Foundation

The John D. and Catherine T. MacArthur Foundation supports creative people, effective institutions, and influential networks, building a more just, verdant, and peaceful world. MacArthur is placing a few big bets that truly significant progress is possible on some of the world's most pressing social challenges, including advancing global climate solutions, decreasing nuclear risk, promoting local justice reform in the U.S., and reducing corruption in Africa's most populous country, Nigeria. In addition to the MacArthur Fellows Program and the global 100&Change competition, the Foundation continues its historic commitments to the role of journalism in a responsive democracy as well as the vitality of our hometown, Chicago. Learn more at macfound.org.