# <u>UU Funding Program</u> **Fund for A Just Society** *Grants Made Spring 2022*

**Adoptees for Justice** 

\$5,000

Citizenship For All Adoptees Chicago, IL

Despite having been adopted by U.S. citizen parents, thousands of intercountry adoptees do not have citizenship and face many challenges. The project educates, organizes, and advocates for these adoptees and works to secure *The Adoptee Citizenship Act* providing citizenship for all adoptees, including those with criminal legal system interactions, and deported adoptees.

Arise Chicago \$10,000

Portable Benefits for Domestic Workers in Chicago Chicago, IL

Most domestic workers – care workers, nannies, home cleaners - work in isolated conditions, often working for multiple families. This makes it particularly difficult to earn or receive any benefits like paid sick time, vacation, or health insurance. **Arise** is moving an historic campaign to explore a city-run "portable benefits" legislation model to radically change the current system and benefit thousands of domestic workers.

**DARE** (Direct Action for Rights & Equality) Probation Reform Rhode Island Providence, RI \$10,000 / \$5,000

The *Behind the Walls* committee is testifying for, building public awareness of, and sharing individual stories of those impacted by probation violations and subsequent incarceration. The work is in support of state legislation to broaden access to bail or personal recognizance for probation violations, regardless of the nature of the charge.

**Decarcerate Sacramento** 

\$10,000

Decarcerate Sacramento

Sacramento, CA

To educate and mobilize Sacramento County residents, including folx inside jails, to stop a mental health jail annex from being built as a solution to an overcrowded and unfit jail system, and demand that basic needs and alternatives to incarceration be funded and prioritzed.

### **Destination Innovation**

\$15,000

Progeny: Invest Don't Arrest Campaign

Wichita, KS

Progeny is a youth/adult partnership focused on reimagining the juvenile justice system and reinvestment into community-based initiatives and alternatives to incarceration. Their goal is to transform the Kansas juvenile justice system by closing all state youth prisons, ending all fees and fines associated with youth justice system involvement and shifting power and resources to the communities most impacted by youth incarceration.

## **East Side Freedom Library**

\$15,000

East Side Tenant Organizing Project Saint Paul, MN

The housing justice program is designed to organize for solutions to systemic housing problems and build tenant power across the East Side. By bringing together renters across race and class to defend themselves from exploitation and eviction, ESFL will train tenants in their rights, built tenant associations and address houselessness and the racial homeownership gap.

### **Food AND Medicine Jobs With Justice Education Fund**

\$12,500

Organizing Unemployed Workers in Maine through Peer Workforce Navigator Brewer, ME

Food AND Medicine is a multi-issue, membership based, grassroots organization formed by laid-off workers and allies following an avalanche of job losses in Eastern Maine. In partnership with Maine AFL-CIO and others they are organizing unemployed workers to build a core constituency to address systemic issues affecting workers, notably improvements in the Unemployment Insurance systems, SNAP, affordable housing, WIC, and TANF.

#### **Fund for Empowerment**

\$10,000 / \$3,750

Decriminalization of Homelessness and Property Ownership in Phoenix by People with Lived Experience Phoenix, AZ

To further develop the capacity for unsheletered people to promote their interest and rights. Their goals are to decriminalize homelessness in Phoenix and beyond, stopping destruction the of property, gain 24/7 restrooms for encampments, as well as fully decriminalizing sleeping and camping.

### **Laundry Workers Center**

\$7,500

Supporting Women Laundry Workers in NYC & NJ by Organizing, Leadership Development & Coalition Work New York, NY

To support the grassroots organizing, leadership development, and coalition work to improve the workplace conditions of women laundry workers and low wage workers in NYC and NJ. In

NYC there are over 3,000 laundromats, representing thousands of mostly immigrant women, many of whom are undocumented and the providers for families. LWC's membership is 94% immigrant, 84% Latinx and 13% Black.

### **Ohio Families Unite for Political Action and Change**

\$7,500

*Universal Suffrage Campaign* Columbus, OH

The Campaign will build awareness and support for universal suffrage throughout Ohio and nationwide to guarantee the unconditional right to vote to Americans who are 16 years and older, without regard to incarceration status. 17 million Americans are disenfranchised from voting, from participating in our government at the most basic level.

**ONE Wake** \$12,500

Campaign to Fight Gentrification and Displacement Durham, NC

ONE Wake is a non-partisan, multi-racial, multi-issue organization of 46 dues paying religious congregations, neighborhood associations, and non-profits that represent an aggregate 50,000 residents in Wake County, NC's largest county and one of the fastest growing areas in the country. They are organizing to fight the displacement of low income, primarily African American homeowners who are forced out of their communities due to skyrocketing property tax burdens and the lack of public investment.

#### ScholarshipsA-Z

\$15,000

Undocumented Youth Empowerment Initiative (UYEI) Tucson, AZ

For organizing and coalition building to create pathways for Undocumented youth to grow as grassroots leaders and build an ecosystem of support in southern AZ. Their goals are to establish educational environments, especially in schools, where Undocumented families can thrive and no longer fear deportation and to develop youth leadership to ensure that those most impacted by oppressive policies are at the forefront of movements for change.

#### **Texas Criminal Justice Coalition**

\$12,500

Statewide Leadership Council: System-Impacted Leaders Transforming Justice in Texas Austin, TX

For organizing to end mass incarceration, shift funding to community needs, and fight racial inequities in the criminal legal system. The focus is on creating viable Clean Slate and parole legislation and relevant, data-driven messaging. The SLC is comprised of formerly incarcerated and system-impacted people.

## The Welcome Project PA

\$5,000

Healthcare Best Practices Program for Transgender, Intersex, and Nonbinary People Hatboro, PA

For organizing to address the major disparities in healthcare for LGBT+ people. The lack of integration in health care for LGBT+ individuals due to structural and funding divisions and heteronormative assumptions, results in many LGBT+ people not able to receive comprehensive health care. The group will bring together an LGBT+ Cohort and a Doctors Cohort, develop a "best practices" list and materials, and train medical professionals and students.

#### **Tomorrow We Vote**

\$1,000

Tomorrow We Vote 2022 Phoenix, AZ

The racist history of Arizona blocking or diminishing Latino, Black and Native people's ability to participate in the political process is long. This project educates and engages high school students on the power to vote, issues impacting their communities, and registering them to participate.

Topeka JUMP

\$8,000 / \$5,000

Crisis- Addressing Needs Now and Keeping People Out of Jail Topeka, KS

There are currently no options for treatment in Topeka for individuals in mental health crisis who need to be involuntarily treated, besides a 10-12 day wait for approval at a state hospital. The goal is to provide a place for Involuntary Patients to receive immediate treatment in a Topeka facility instead of going to the ER or being put in jail.

**TOTAL:** 16 Grants

\$156,500 / \$13,750 \$170,250

Challenge Grants are in italics