



# Sills Family Foundation

## 2016 Annual Report

## **History and Mission**

The Sills Family Foundation is governed by a board of three family member directors and administered by The Philanthropic Initiative.

The Sills Family Foundation primary grants program intends to help children from low-income families live up to their highest promise by concentrating on the following three areas:

- 1) Comprehensive support for families in crisis, with a special focus on families impacted by incarceration.
- 2) Support to communities in need through improved access to early education and reduction of neighborhood violence.
- 3) Environmental justice, with a focus on contaminants that harm the developing embryo, fetus and infant.

In addition to these focus areas, the Foundation has two additional grant making committees; The Arts and Culture Committee funds organizations that engage with underserved communities through the arts, The Second Generation Fund supports programs for high risk youth, as well as programs addressing climate change.

## **2016 Sills Family Foundation Grantmaking Overview**

In 2016, the Sills Family Foundation granted a total of \$1,929,704, an increase from the 2015 total of \$1,695,250. Of this, the Board awarded \$1,073,974 through its core grantmaking process, \$253,750 through a special capacity building program, \$227,481 through its Arts & Culture grantmaking initiative, \$193,499 as trustee-directed discretionary grants, and \$181,000 through a mission driven selection process managed by a group of next generation foundation members. The Foundation awarded grants to a total of 37 organizations through its core grantmaking program, 11 Arts & Culture grants, 9 capacity building and 15 next generation grants in New York, Massachusetts, Vermont, New Hampshire, Louisiana, California, Oregon and Washington State.

The Foundation primarily makes general operating grants, allowing grantees to use the funds as needed, as opposed to being limited to a particular budget line. Grantees report that this degree of flexibility is uncommon and has been particularly useful during the economic downturn. This year the Foundation has also been able to make additional multi-year capacity building grants to long-standing grantees.

The Sills Family Foundation continues to focus on programs for families impacted by the criminal justice system. This effort has extended to addressing the inequities in the bail system, preventing juvenile detentions, supporting legal efforts to level the playing field. These grants also provide support to programs that work to strengthen the parent/child bond during incarceration through supporting transportation for visits, creating child sensitive visiting areas in correctional facilities, providing parenting education classes to incarcerated parents, as well as supporting families through the re-entry period. The Foundation has begun to play a role in deepening policy makers and service provider's capacity in this field. The Sills Family Foundation is proud to be a member of the NY Initiative for Children with Incarcerated Parents, as well as the New York Youth Justice Initiative. In the coming year the Directors will continue to engage other interested funders to share knowledge, and to encourage engagement with this vulnerable population.

The Sills Family Foundation continues to support environmental justice organizations in recognition

that the burden of environmental damage is disproportionately carried by disadvantaged communities.

The Foundation supports organizations doing critical work in providing services to families in crisis, ensuring that the youngest children of families in poverty are receiving high quality early education, and that families are given the support needed to reach their highest potential.

The Arts and Culture Committee believes that arts can be used as a means to strengthen the capacities of individuals and communities. The committee supports organizations that provide enrichment to under-resourced schools, community based programs, and that bring senior citizens together to participate in creative and community building experiences.

The Second Generation Committee of the Foundation continues to clarify and deepen its focus. This group made grants in two primary areas; addressing climate change, and interventions and supports for high-risk youth. The Second Generation committee has joined the Brooklyn Community Foundation in supporting a pilot program to bring Restorative Practices into four high suspension rate schools in Brooklyn.

The Sills Family Foundation is committed to supporting the most vulnerable in our society. In response to increased concern for the immigrant community, in 2016 the foundation gave an additional round of small grants to existing grantees working with immigrant populations in need of support.

## **Sills 2016 Strategic Grants**

Grant descriptions are organized by primary focus areas.

### **Families Impacted by Incarceration**

#### **Brooklyn Defender Services**

*Brooklyn, NY*

Brooklyn Defender Services received \$25,000 to support its Incarcerated Parents Project (IPP). Brooklyn Defender Services provides supported legal representation to about 40,000 indigent Brooklyn residents annually. For many of BDS's clients, poverty, trauma, mental illness and substance abuse are the driving forces behind their involvement in the criminal or child welfare systems. To effectively and compassionately address the challenges their clients face, the organization has created specialized units that provide individualized services to clients with overlapping criminal and family court issue. The IPP is a replicable service model that reaches across BDS's various practice areas to ensure that incarcerated parents don't face family dissolution as a result of their incarceration. Grant funding will be used to support a part-time Social Worker as the Project Coordinator. *(First year of funding)*

#### **The Center for Children and Families, Columbia University School of Nursing**

*New York, NY and Burlington, VT*

The Center for Children and Families was awarded \$25,000 to extend the implementation of, training for, and definitive testing of its Shared Healthy Alliances for Reflective Parenting (SHARP) program. Shared Parenting uses professionally facilitated group process to strengthen the co-parenting relationship of incarcerated mothers and the guardians of their children in the community. SHARP implementations to date have been in women's correctional facilities in NY and VT State prison systems with requests received for use by four additional States and the Federal Bureau of Prisons. To expand this program, The Center for Children and Families research team has designed a training program using a written manual, professionally developed video, and ongoing communication and consultation. A 'gold standard' randomized control trial approach is now proposed to test effectiveness of program outcomes. *(Fourth year of funding)*

### **Circle**

*Barre, VT*

Circle was granted \$25,000 to continue to provide support for Circle's housing and programming options for incarcerated women reentering Washington County, as well as developing family reunification models. For over twenty years, Circle has provided a range of services including: an emergency shelter for women and their children fleeing domestic violence, a 24-hour toll free hotline, legal and court assistance in filing Temporary Orders and preparing for their Final Orders, community support groups for women who have been or currently are involved in an abusive relationship, prevention programming available to students throughout Washington County, and educational presentations available to community members on the dynamics of domestic violence. *(Thirteenth year of funding)*

### **College and Community Fellowship**

*New York, NY*

The College and Community Fellowship received \$25,000 to support general operating costs. College & Community Fellowship's mission is to eliminate individual, social, and structural barriers to higher education for women involved with the criminal justice system. In CCF's first year, they served about ten women in total in the Academic Support Program. Today, under the leadership of former CCF student Vivian Nixon, CCF is home to a theater arts program, a peer mentoring program, and is fiscal sponsor to a national advocacy coalition in addition to the original Academic Support Program, serving about 1,000 people annually through outreach and formal programming. Grant funding will support three out of the four major existing programs while also increasing capacity for organizational development, including professional development for staff members and support for strategic planning. *(First year of funding)*

### **Community Justice Network of Vermont**

*Montpelier, VT*

Community Justice Network of Vermont was granted \$13,974 to expand its "Parenting with Respect" classes. The Community Justice Network of Vermont (CJNVT) is a non-profit that represents 20 Community Justice Centers (CJsCs). Established in 2012, CJNVT envisions a just community for all Vermonters. Their mission is to foster a mutually supportive relationship among its members to lead, educate, and collaborate so that restorative justice practices are consistently utilized and universally available. Funding will support the expansion of the "Parenting with Respect" classes for men who are fathers or who will be fathers and who are supervised by Vermont Department of Corrections (DOC) or whose children are in the custody of Department for Children and Families (DCF). The class has been designed to promote better outcomes for children by helping their fathers be motivated to make amends for past hurts and learn the knowledge, skills,

and beliefs necessary to become a responsive parent in the present and future. *(First year of funding)*

### **Community Works West**

*Berkeley, CA*

Community Works West (CWW) received \$50,000 to support two family strengthening programs within the One Family Program and Prison Project. One Family is a family strengthening initiative that provides parenting education and meaningful and consistent opportunities for incarcerated parents to stay connected with their families. CWW launched this program in the San Francisco County Jail several years ago and has since grown to two California prisons and three post-release facilities in San Francisco and Oakland. CWW's long-term goal is to reduce the number of individuals entering and re-entering the juvenile and criminal justice systems and to lessen their impacts on affected communities, particularly low-income communities of color. Community Works' services are a hybrid of restorative justice and human service programs that include anti-violence, job readiness, batterers' intervention, and family strengthening services for children of incarcerated parents and their families. *(Ninth year of funding)*

### **Echoes of Incarceration**

*Brooklyn, NY*

Echoes of Incarceration was granted \$25,000 to support general operating costs. The project explores the issues of mass incarceration and its effects on families, and creates documentary films told from the life experiences of the filmmakers themselves. The project is a collaboration between filmmaker Jeremy Robins and a group of non-profit organizations and advocates around the country. The process starts with intensive filmmaking and advocacy training for youth age 16-22, where they study documentary research, camera operation, cinematography, sound, lighting, interviewing skills, and editing. The crew then researches and pitches ideas, both to panels of criminal justice experts, and also to professional filmmakers. Past funding supported the Teen Workshop Project which provides hands-on filmmaking workshops for other youth in high schools, foster care agencies, and afterschool programs around New York City. These workshops involve the crewmembers presenting films and speaking about their experiences as children with incarcerated parents, then conducting hands-on workshops with the youth. *(Second year of funding)*

### **Hour Children, Inc.**

*Long Island City and Bedford Hills, NY*

Hour Children was awarded a \$50,000 grant for community and prison-based programming. \$25,000 of the grant will support Hour Children's post-release community-based programs, including: transitional (4 buildings) and permanent (3 buildings) supportive housing for "Hour" families; Hour Working Women's Program (job skills training and employment placement support); mental health support; a fully-licensed day care center; an after-school program; thrift shop; mentoring program and other programs. The remaining \$25,000 will be allocated to support Hour Children's Centers of Bedford Hills and Taconic Correctional Facilities, including transportation and visitation programs, parenting education, advocacy, a teen program, and residential Nursery unit with an infant care center at Bedford Hills. *(Fourteenth year funding Hour Children; eighth year funding CCBH)*

### **Housing + Solutions, Inc.**

*Brooklyn, NY*

Housing + Solutions received \$25,000 of funding for general operating, to provide women and families with affordable, safe and stable housing; support reunifying and strengthening families whose lives have been disrupted and negatively impacted by trauma, violence and incarceration;

and increase women and young adults' economic self-sufficiency. Housing + Solutions goal is to provide community based housing and comprehensive services to women, including women with children, to support them in overcoming poverty, homelessness, addiction, trauma, and the effects of incarceration, in order to build lives of stability, and to define and realize goals for themselves and for their families. At the heart of the mission is the belief that with safe, affordable housing a woman and her family over time will assimilate into their new community and begin using local services, create their own safety net and seek out neighborhood resources when extra help or guidance is needed. *(Fifth year of funding)*

### **JustLeadership USA**

*New York, NY*

JustLeadership USA (JLUSA) was awarded \$25,000 of general operating support to support membership outreach efforts through the hiring of a new Membership Coordinator. JLUSA believes that America's most challenging barrier to systemic criminal justice reform is the absence of clear and consistent leadership by those who have been directly affected. The organization's goal is consistent with their mission - to cut the U.S. correctional population in half by 2030 - while building and supporting leaders and advocates, with a focus on formerly incarcerated men and women. *(Third year of Funding)*

### **Lund**

*Burlington, Vermont*

Lund was awarded \$35,000 to support the Kids-A-Part Parenting Program (KAPP). The Kids-A-Part Parenting Program, the only program of its kind in Vermont, seeks to reduce the trauma children experience as a result of a mother's incarceration. The program provides support to maintain contact between mothers and their children that reflects the needs of the child, engages with children and caregivers during the mother's incarceration and links them to appropriate services; and prepares mothers to return to the community, exploring and planning for their role as mother. KAPP served 170 mothers last year. *(Tenth year funding KAPP)*

### **Northern Lights (a program of The Howard Center)**

*Burlington, VT*

The Northern Lights Program (NL) at the Howard Center was awarded a \$25,000 grant for general operating support to sustain its efforts to provide housing and support to women transitioning from prison back to the community. Northern Lights serves 11 women at a time, and residents stay between 7 and 12 months. Service providers, staff and volunteers work collaboratively to provide a comprehensive and empowering system of support and accountability. Residents meet regularly with their team of service providers and play an active role in the development of their case plan. Northern Lights' mission is to provide the opportunity for returning female offenders to build the foundation necessary for long-term safety and independence for themselves and their families *(Eighth year of funding)*

### **The Osborne Association**

*Bronx, NY*

The Osborne Association received \$25,000 for continued support of its Youth Action Council (YAC). The Osborne Association provides family, educational, vocational, treatment and health services to meet the changing needs of those affected by crime and the criminal justice system in the U.S. For 80 years, Osborne has worked in partnership to create opportunities for people affected by the criminal justice system to further develop their strengths and lead lives of responsibility and

contribution. Osborne's YAC program has grown into a clinically-sound weekly afterschool program that supports positive outcomes for youth, including increasing their civic engagement while promoting youth-informed policy change with the potential to affect children of incarcerated parents across the state. The YAC is a 23-session curriculum that provides youth (ages 14-19) who have experienced their parent's incarceration with education on the nature and magnitude of the U.S. criminal justice system, the structure and function of government, the legislative process, effective advocacy techniques, and training on how to use their personal stories to advocate for policy changes that are important to them. Members select an advocacy focus related to parental incarceration which they research, discuss, and present to policymakers, practitioners, other youth and the larger social justice community. *(Eleventh year of funding)*

The Foundation also granted an additional grant of \$25,000 to the new Osborne Center for Justice Policy and Practice (OCJPP). Launched in January 2016, OCJPP is built on a model developed through almost ten years of coordinating the NY Initiative for children of Incarcerated Parents. This model has three key components: 1). Building collaborative partnerships across systems and sectors; 2). Creating leadership opportunities for those directly affected; and 3). Conducting strategic analysis and generating new knowledge to inform policy and practice change. Right now, and for the immediate future, OCJPP will concentrate on two especially vulnerable groups, the "bookends" of mass incarceration: children of incarcerated parents and elders/older people in prison. These efforts will draw deeply on the insight afforded by Osborne's direct services for children, families, and those aging in prison and returning home as elders. *(First year funding initiative)*

### **Pernet Family Health Service, Inc.**

Worcester, MA

Pernet Family Health Service was awarded a \$20,000 grant to support the Incarcerated Fathers and Family Support Program. Pernet Family Health Service in Worcester, Massachusetts is a Department of Public Health certified home health agency, providing hands-on, in-home care for the most complex of maternal and child cases in the Worcester area, and early intervention services for children with, or at-risk for, developmental delays. The Incarcerated Fathers Program promotes responsible fathering through counseling support groups at the Worcester County Jail and House of Correction and three other locations in Worcester, MA. The program also seeks to serve the families of incarcerated fathers and those who may have returned to the home within the last six months and who want to be a part of their child's life. *(Fifth year of funding)*

### **Prison Birth Project (Peace Development Fund)**

MA

The Prison Birth Project (PBP) received \$25,000 for general operating support. PBP was founded to address the basic human right of reproductive options and care within the criminal justice system. PBP addresses this issue holistically by providing doula care in jail and by training incarcerated mothers and trans parents to be leaders changing society. PBP offers childbirth classes, doula care, and family-centered advocacy at the Women's Correctional Center (WCC) in Chicopee, MA. Its weekly childbirth classes build community behind the wall and educate members about childbirth, legal rights, jail policies, self-advocacy, and self-care. *(Second year of funding)*

### **St. Mary's Women and Children's Center**

Dorchester, MA

St. Mary's was granted \$25,000 to support families and children in two residential programs who have been impacted by incarceration as well as by trauma, abuse, violence, poverty and homelessness. Funding will support St. Mary's Home, a residential program for up to 18 pregnant



and parenting teens and their children at any one time; and Bridge Home, a residential program for children from birth to age 12, who have been removed from the home due to trauma, abuse or neglect. Funding will enable families and children to receive clinical, trauma-informed care, assessment, programs, and services to help them achieve their emotional well-being and educational and employment opportunities while also addressing the impact of incarceration on their lives. *(Twelfth year of funding)*

### **Voice of the Ex-Offender (VOTE)**

*New Orleans, LA*

VOTE was awarded \$25,000 in general operating support to continue its work increasing civic engagement of Formerly Incarcerated Persons and their families and supporting the economic sustainability and empowerment of these families. Its mission, vision, and theory of social change are focused on lifting up, resourcing, and strengthening the voice and power of communities most affected by mass incarceration. VOTE accomplishes its work through grassroots organizing, building coalitions, and prioritizing movement building. VOTE was founded and is run by Formerly Incarcerated Persons in partnership with allies dedicated to ending the disenfranchisement and discrimination against Formerly Incarcerated Persons. *(Fourth year of funding)*

### **Volunteers of Legal Services**

*New York, NY*

Volunteers of Legal Service (VOLS) received \$25,000 for the Incarcerated Mothers Law Project (IMLP), to provide incarcerated mothers with access to volunteer attorneys and law students. These attorneys and law students visit incarcerated mothers on a monthly basis and provide them with a wide range of critical legal services. As an organization, VOLS leverages the good will, resources and talents of New York City's leading law firms to provide pro bono legal assistance to the city's neediest residents. In 2014, 918 attorneys from 50 of the most well respected law firms in New York City volunteered 17,908 hours through the VOLS projects, providing pro bono assistance to nearly 3,000 low-income New Yorkers. *(Third year of funding)*

### **Women's Prison Association**

*New York*

The Women's Prison Association received \$25,000 in general operating support for criminal justice-involved women and their families. Funding will support an integrated continuum of services, as well as the flexibility to implement new, innovative services to help women re-join their communities, reunite with their families and establish fulfilling, law-abiding lives after a period of incarceration. WPA operates from three community sites in NYC and jail and prison-based offices at Rikers Island, Taconic, and Bedford Hills Correctional Facilities. The Brooklyn Community Office offers intensive case management to families at risk for child removal due to substance abuse by the primary care giver as well as its program, Justice Home - a community-based alternative to incarceration. In Manhattan's East Village, WPA operates two shelters: Sarah Powell Huntington House for formerly incarcerated women and their children and Hopper Home, a transitional shelter for women with or at risk for criminal justice involvement. As a complement to client services, the Institute on Women & Criminal Justice pursues a rigorous public policy and advocacy agenda to bring new perspectives to public debates on women and criminal justice and to foster changes in the way public systems deal with women and crime. *(Thirteenth year of funding)*



## Community Violence Reduction

### Save Our Streets (The Fund for the City of New York)

New York, NY

SOS Crown Heights was awarded \$30,000 to support the reduction of gun violence in Crown Heights, Brooklyn. The program is a replication of the Cure Violence anti-gun program model that has been shown to successfully reduce shootings and killings and features five primary components: outreach, public education, community mobilization, faith-based engagement, and use of data. Each outreach worker carries a caseload of up to 15 participants. After identifying and engaging participants, outreach workers help them develop a risk reduction plan that may include anger management, drug treatment, educational support, health services, criminal justice services, or job-training. Outreach workers maintain regular contact with participants, offering them guidance about how to navigate conflicts and engage them in positive activities. *(Fourth year of funding)*

### Strategies for Youth

Cambridge, MA

Strategies for Youth (SFY) received \$25,000 for general operating support. SFY is a national, nonprofit policy and training organization dedicated to improving police/youth interactions and reducing disproportionate minority contact. SFY's vision is twofold: First, they envision America's law enforcement agencies adopting developmental and trauma-informed approaches and skills in their interactions with youth. Law enforcement officers would use alternatives to arrest and incarceration and increase use of community-based services to make arrest the last resort for responses to youth. Second, American youth, supported by their communities, would know how to interact safely and effectively with law enforcement. Past Sills funding has supported Strategies for Youth (SFY)'s "In the Presence of Children (IPC) Campaign", a set of materials and associated training for police officers to use to mitigate the trauma of children observing the arrest of a parent. This year, funds will support evaluation of the program. *(Fourth year of funding)*

### Vera Institute of Justice

New York City, NY

Vera Institute of Justice received \$25,000 to support Common Justice (CJ), a participatory justice project in Brooklyn that brings together the victim, the perpetrator, family and community members impacted by a crime for a face-to-face dialogue to determine an appropriate response to the harm caused. The project, launched in 2009, aims to transform the system's response to serious crime by offering an opportunity for dialogue and healing, as an alternative to a lengthy prison term. The process is designed to make things as right as possible for those harmed by crime, and to hold those responsible accountable to a set of agreements that replace an otherwise lengthy prison term. CJ engages and screens participants, provides urgent and long-term services to harmed parties, prepares parties for their conference, convenes the conferences and supervises responsible parties' completion of the emerging agreements. *(Sixth year of funding)*

## Communities in Need

### Abraham House

*Bronx, NY*

Abraham House received \$25,000 to support its After School Program. The After School Program provides a safe haven and comprehensive services to help Mott Haven youth move ahead to the next academic grade, graduate from high school and go on to college, and stay free of juvenile delinquency and criminal activity. Programming and services include homework help, tutoring, academic workshops, computer access, and college preparation activities, and education enrichment with a specific math and reading focus. To further support students' success, the program also serves parents and families as a whole. The mission of Abraham House is to prevent criminal relapse among the incarcerated and to stop the intergenerational cycle of crime by offering individuals, youth, and families affected by incarceration and other societal ills a place of hope and community. *(Second year of funding)*

### Brooklyn Community Bail Fund

*Brooklyn, NY*

Brooklyn Community Bail Fund received \$25,000 to support its general operating costs. The Brooklyn Community Bail Fund's mission is to ensure equal access to the criminal justice system through direct service, advocacy and public education. The organization's work prevents unnecessary and unjust jailing by paying bail for indigent New Yorkers accused of misdemeanors. By paying small amounts of bail, coerced guilty pleas are averted and families are kept together, productive and stable. The organization's approach seizes on the opportunity provided by the Charitable Bail Act of 2012, which allows organizations to pay bail of \$2,000 or less for misdemeanor defendants who cannot otherwise afford it. In just under one year, they have paid bail for over 460 individuals in need. *(Second year of funding)*

### Community Connections for Youth

*Bronx, NY*

Community Connections for Youth (CCFY) received \$25,000 for general operating to strengthen group supports for parents, parent peer coaching, youth mentoring programs and program evaluation. CCFY is a Bronx-based non-profit whose mission is to empower grassroots faith and neighborhood organization to develop effective community-driven alternative-to- incarceration (ATI) programs for youth. Responding to the crisis created by the overreliance on youth incarceration, CCFY seeks to develop the power and capacity of affected communities to develop alternatives for addressing the problems of youth crime and delinquency through a threefold approach that includes: (1) Leadership Development; (2) Training and Technical Assistance; (3) Demonstration Projects. Past funding has supported the South Bronx Community Connections initiative (SBCC), which mobilizes grassroots faith and neighborhood organizations in the Mott Haven neighborhood of the Bronx to divert youth from further juvenile justice system involvement. *(Fifth year of funding)*

### Dartmouth College: Summer Enrichment at Dartmouth

*Hanover, NH*

The Summer Enrichment at Dartmouth (SEAD) program was granted \$25,000 to support a cohort of eight ninth-grade students from the Bronx, New York City, during their first summer program on the Dartmouth campus, as well as supporting the placement of two Dartmouth student interns at their high school during the school year. The SEAD program empowers promising high school students from

under-resourced backgrounds to thrive in high school and college, and provides Dartmouth students transformative opportunities for service and leadership. For its high school students, SEAD encourages academic preparedness and personal growth through specially designed courses, year-round mentoring, and extensive interactions with successful college students. For its Dartmouth staff and volunteers, SEAD offers an unparalleled opportunity to learn with others that have different, and often challenging, life experiences. *(Third year of funding)*

### **Exalt**

*New York, NY*

Exalt was granted \$25,000 to support general operating costs. exalt is a nonprofit that provides intensive training, paid internship experiences, and ongoing professional, educational, and justice system support to 15-19 year old court-involved youth in New York City. The organization's mission is to elevate the expectations of personal success for youth involved in the criminal justice system. The organization's powerful combination of structured classes for tangible skill development, individualized support to navigate the education and justice systems, placement in paid internships and an alumni network of resources equips youth with the tools and experience to avoid further criminal justice system involvement. Founded in 2006, exalt is one of the few organizations dedicated specifically to serving youth with varying levels of justice system involvement. *(First year funding)*

### **Julie's Family Learning Program**

*South Boston, MA*

Julie's Family Learning Program was awarded \$25,000 to support general operations of the Adult and Children's Services. Julie's is a community based family wellness, support and education program that is committed to the development of strong, stable, healthy family functioning. Julie's provides services that enable poor, at-risk mothers and their children to transform their lives and become healthy, successful and economically self-sufficient members of their communities. Julie's provides over 20 different Adult and Children's Services, in keeping with its comprehensive and holistic approach, to approximately 200 disadvantaged, low-income, young mothers and their children from diverse ethnic and racial communities around Greater Boston. *(Twelfth year of funding)*

### **Little Sisters of the Assumption Family Health Services**

*East Harlem, New York*

Little Sisters of the Assumption Family Health Services (LSA) received \$25,000 to support its Parenting and Child Development Program (PCD), which helps East Harlem families whose young children, ages zero to three, are at-risk for developmental delays. LSA's mission is to provide pre and post-natal services and early childhood education to "the poorest of the poor". Funding will support the PCD Program, which provides home- and center-based educational, and socialization services for infants and toddlers and their parents/primary caregivers. The purpose of PCD is to prepare children for pre-school, by teaching the skills that enable them to successfully transition into pre-k/Head Start, with a level of readiness that facilitates future scholastic advancement. *(Third year of funding)*

### **STEPS to End Family Violence *(Edwin Gould Services for Children and Families)***

*New York, NY*

STEPS to End Family Violence was awarded \$25,000 for the Children's Therapy Program, which provides therapeutic interventions for children between the ages of 0 and 12 to help address the symptoms of trauma experienced after being exposed to intimate partner violence and/or other

forms of relational trauma. Individual therapy is the primary intervention for children older than six, but STEPS also incorporates family and parent support sessions to provide comprehensive treatment. In addition to family work, STEPS facilitates a Children's Group (ages 6-11) which helps participants realize that they are not alone in their experience of family violence, as well as the evidence-informed Parenting Journey group for parents to reflect on their own experiences in order to identify both constructive and destructive patterns that they may be repeating as parents. *(Twelfth year of funding)*

### **University Settlement**

*New York, NY*

University Settlement received \$25,000 to support its Family Enrichment Program (FEP). The University Settlement was the first settlement house in the United States. With a mission to improve the life circumstances of low-income people and the communities in which they live, University Settlement engages over 30,000 New York City residents through their network of services, which span 30 sites throughout Manhattan and Brooklyn. Key program areas include early childhood care and education, youth development, eviction prevention, literacy, mental health, and older adult programs. University Settlement's FEP program helps high-risk families living in public housing developments get off to a healthy start by addressing their needs for early childhood and parenting support. It does so by leveraging its community center spaces in Fort Greene, Brooklyn, which are located within New York City Housing Authority developments. The FEP's multi-pronged support model combines home visiting, parent child groups, and systems navigation assistance. *(Second year of funding)*

### **Youth Represent**

*New York, NY*

Youth Represent received \$25,000 for general operating funds, to support comprehensive legal representation to young, low-income New Yorkers. Youth Represent provides free legal services to young people affected by the criminal justice system. Through a community lawyering model, Youth Represent's attorneys represent young people in civil and criminal arenas to minimize these barriers to position youth for lasting success. Youth Represent also provides education and technical assistance to community-based organizations to inform them of the legal issues their participants may face, and advocate for changes in state and local laws to protect young New Yorkers while promoting public safety. This year, the organization will be focusing on the execution of their soon-to-completed strategic plan and expanding their community-lawyering model in the public school system. *(Third year of funding)*

## Environmental Justice

### Alternatives for Community and Environment

Roxbury, MA

Alternatives for Community and Environment received a \$25,000 grant for continued support of the Roxbury Environmental Empowerment Project (REEP). For over twenty years, ACE has led the fight for environmental justice in Greater Boston. ACE focuses on building the power of communities of color and low-income communities in MA to eradicate environmental racism and classism, create healthy, sustainable communities, and achieve environmental justice. The REEP program aims to nurture youth development and leadership through an environmental justice curriculum, organizing and membership program, and youth-led campaigns in Roxbury, Dorchester, and across Boston. REEP provides personal, academic and career support for young people, including support for court-involved youth, through informal mental, academic, and emotional support. *(Thirteenth year of funding)*

### Coming Clean

Brattleboro, VT

Coming Clean received a \$25,000 grant to support general operating costs. Coming Clean was founded in 2001 by environmental health and justice organizers to better unite movement parts, for a more holistic and effective approach to protecting our health and safety from toxic trespass. The organization's mission is to reform the industrial chemical and fossil fuels industries so they are no longer a source of harm, and to secure systemic changes that allow a safe chemical and clean energy economy to flourish. Toward that end, Coming Clean manages the exchange of ideas and information relevant to industry reform strategies; amplifies campaigns coordinated by participant groups; and coordinates a set of Coming Clean-led campaigns and projects that align market-based demands, inclusive organizing and grassroots strategies, provocative research and advocacy for insightful policies. *(Fifth year of funding)*

### Mercury Policy Project

Montpelier, VT

The Mercury Policy Project (MPP) was awarded a \$25,000 grant to support its Zero Mercury Exposure Reduction Campaign. MPP was founded in 1998 and promotes policies to reduce and where feasible eliminate mercury uses, releases, trade and exposure. The organization works to raise awareness and promote policies to reduce and where possible eliminate mercury uses, reduce the export and trafficking of mercury, and reduce mercury exposure at local, national, and international levels. Funding will support the Zero Mercury Exposure Reduction Campaign, which works to reduce human exposure to mercury at the local, national, and international levels. This includes reducing exposure to mercury via tuna consumption, responsible for nearly half (45%) of Americans' exposure. MPP has also begun a new campaign to reduce mercury exposure from tainted skin lightening products and is collaborating with NGOs to promote dental amalgam phase out. *(Thirteenth year of funding)*

### West Harlem Environmental Action, Inc.

New York, NY

West Harlem Environmental Action (WE ACT) was granted a \$25,000 grant for general operating support. WE ACT is a non-profit, community-based membership organization whose mission is to build healthy communities by ensuring that people of color and/or low-income participate meaningfully in the creation of sound and fair environmental health and protection policies and practices. WE ACT's model prioritizes community organizing, education and training, advocacy and

research, and public policy development. Funding will be used to support organizational capacity building. Past funding has supported the Child Safe Products Act Advocacy Campaign, a research and advocacy program focused on pressuring the Department of Environmental Conservation (DEC) to publish a list of chemicals of high concern. *(Ninth year of funding)*

## Sills 2016 Capacity Building Grants

### Circle

Barre, VT

Circle received a three-year capacity building grant of \$105,000 in 2014. This year, Circle was awarded \$25,000 of the three-year grant for the development and implementation of a new strategic plan. During the second year of Circle's Capacity Building grant, Circle finalized and adopted a new strategic plan, staff were able to hold a full-day retreat to review the strategic plan and create an implementation plan, and the Co-Directors developed an evaluation tool and process for the organization. Funding will allow the organization to continue to take the time to examine its current status, look into the future, and implement changes to ensure that the organization is upholding its mission of ending domestic violence in a more reflective manner, while simultaneously increasing its ability to positively impact the lives and communities Circle serves. *(Third year of 3-year grant)*

### Community Connections for Youth

Bronx, NY

Community Connects for Youth was awarded a three-year capacity building grant of \$75,000. This year, Community Connections for Youth was awarded \$25,000 of the grant to hire a consulting firm to facilitate a strategic planning process that will guide CCFY's operations and programs for the next three to five years. Funding will also support a portion of staff time for leading the project, and quarterly meetings and annual retreats. CCFY plans to use this plan to develop a new business model that reflects the organization's growth as a training and technical assistance expert and direct service provider. *(First year of a 3-year grant)*

### Hour Children, Inc.

Long Island City, NY

Hour Children received a three-year capacity building grant of \$150,000 in 2014. This year, Hour Children was awarded \$50,000 of the three-year grant to support and solidify efforts to renovate and repair the facilities used by the supportive housing programs. Funding will be used specifically for renovations, including significant renovation of the 11-bedroom house in Richmond Hill (Queens) that Hour Children recently obtained from the Sisters of St. Joseph. The building needs considerable renovations and repairs before it can be reoccupied. Once completed, this building will provide housing for several families and a number of women without children. *(Third year of 3-year grant)*

### JustLeadership USA

New York, NY

JustLeadership USA received a three-year grant of \$75,000. This year, JustLeadership was awarded \$25,000 of the grant to enhance communications for broad promotion of the organization's local/national advocacy campaigns. With a refined, formal communications strategy, JustLeadership hopes to deploy bolder, more strategic messaging and tactics to promote the organization's work, thus maximizing its ability to influence policy makers and achieve reform. *(First year of a 3-year grant)*

### Little Sisters of the Assumption Family Health Services

East Harlem, New York



Little Sisters of the Assumption Family Health Services was awarded a three-year grant of \$41,750. This year, Little Sisters was awarded \$18,750 of the grant to develop agency-wide results oriented thinking: goals, outcomes, and metrics for measuring impact. Little Sisters hopes to use these measurements to inform the agency's key performance indicators and to determine the best use of data systems needed to capture the requisite information. The purpose of this project is to improve program quality, better serve clients, and more clearly convey the organization's mission to funders and community stakeholders. *(First year of a 3-year grant)*

### **Pernet Family Health Service**

Worcester, MA

Pernet was awarded a three-year grant of \$45,000. This year, Pernet received \$25,000 of the grant to help the organization transition to Electronic Health Records. This project will include commercial imaging (scanning) and indexing of all client records and procurement of mobile-friendly tablets so that scanning will be less needed. This project will increase staff productivity; increase capacity; and support agency-wide data integration. *(First year of a 3-year grant)*

### **STEPS to End Family Violence (Edwin Gould Services for Children and Families)**

New York, NY

Edwin Gould Services for Children and Families/STEPS to End Family Violence (STEPS) received a three-year grant of \$90,000 in 2014. This year, STEPS was awarded \$30,000 to hire an expert consultant to guide the organization through a dynamic logic model creation process. Ultimately, the consultant and the STEPS staff co-created seven logic models that were used to enhance grant applications and serve as compelling visual representations of the organization's work. The consultant discovered a number of evaluation instruments that are relevant to STEPS' work, such as the General Self-Efficacy Scale and the Quality of Life Scale. This coming year, STEPS will work to determine the feasibility of their implementation. STEPS is also in the midst of implementing a highly-customizable, electronic-record keeping system (Evolv.). *(Third year of 3 year grant)*

### **Common Justice (Vera Institute of Justice)**

New York City, NY

Common Justice was awarded a three-year grant of \$75,000. This year, Common Justice received \$25,000 to support its transition to an independent non-profit. Since 2008, Common Justice has been incubated as a Vera project; however the organization has a goal of spinning off by mid-late 2017. Funding will support the development and implementation of an effective business model, actively engaged and committed Board of Directors, and communications capacity. *(First year of a 3-year grant)*

### **Women's Prison Association**

New York, NY

Women's Prison Association (WPA) received a three-year capacity building grant of \$90,000 in 2014. This year, WPA was awarded \$30,000 to strengthen and expand the volunteer-led client services and WPA's Women Care Program. WPA is working to expand client services and streamline the way they manage volunteerism. Past funding allowed WPA to hire a Volunteer Coordinator who is responsible for community outreach; and screening, training, scheduling and tracking of volunteers. WPA anticipates seeing continued positive outcomes for clients as well as volunteers. *(Third year of 3 year grant)*

## Sills 2016 Immigration Grants

Seven organizations received grants of \$15,000 in reaction to the 2016 election and the implications for nonprofits serving immigrant populations. 12 organizations were invited to submit paragraphs describing their work with immigrant populations and to explain how a grant of \$10,000 - \$15,000 could help support their efforts. The following organizations submitted paragraphs: Abraham House; Brooklyn Defender Services; Julie's Family Learning Program; Little Sisters of Assumption; University Settlement Society of New York; VOLS; and St. Mary's Center for Women and Children. The directors decided to award all seven organizations grants of \$15,000 each, for a total of \$105,000.

## Sills 2016 Arts and Culture Grants

### ArtsWestchester

*White Plains, NY*

ArtsWestchester was awarded a \$29,500 grant to support two programs in Mount Vernon and Yonkers: \$19,500 to support six multi-session performing, visual and/or literary art residencies at low income, county subsidized senior residences; \$10,000 to support four multi-session art workshops at Westhab's PEAK and Elm Street after school programs. The artist residencies are designed to foster socialization and positive peer interaction by bringing people together for a shared, art-making experience. Workshops engage participants in challenging and creative activities such as making a mural or participating in a creative movement project. They are custom- designed to meet specific needs of each population. For youth, creative experience provides opportunities for at-risk youth to use art as a means for self-expression, improve self-esteem and the ability to work cooperatively with peers. For senior citizens, art workshops encourage socialization and reinforce cognitive and social skills. *(Fifth year of funding)*

### Brooklyn Academy of Music

*Brooklyn, NY*

Brooklyn Academy of Music received a \$10,000 grant for general operating, which includes education programs at the Brooklyn Museum to provide free, low-cost and high-quality learning opportunities to address the needs of students, teachers, children, teens, and adults alike, through School Programs, Youth and Family Programs, and Adult Programs. These programs are central to the Museum's mission of instilling in visitors a lifelong appreciation of the arts, and for being a destination where all feel welcome. *(Fifth year of funding)*

### Brooklyn Ballet

*Brooklyn, NY*

Brooklyn Ballet was awarded a grant of \$20,000 to continue the Brooklyn Ballet in the Houses program in 2017. The program brings ballet into public schools and provides between 60 and 180 2<sup>nd</sup>, 3<sup>rd</sup>, and 6<sup>th</sup> graders at each school the opportunity to participate in five weeks of free, in-school ballet classes taught by Brooklyn Ballet teaching artists. Students learn to choreograph their own pieces and begin to explore the immense creative, emotional, and physical benefits of dance. Problem solving, comparison and contrast, verbal clarification of movement, and analysis are all addressed in fun yet challenging ways. Brooklyn Ballet is a professional, not-for-profit dance company dedicated to artistic excellence and education, reflecting Brooklyn's diverse communities. *(Third year of funding)*

## **Brooklyn Museum**

*Brooklyn, NY*

Brooklyn Museum of Art received a grant for \$30,000, \$10,000 of which will go toward general operating, and \$20,000 of which will provide support for the art education school partnership program with PS1, an elementary school located in Brooklyn's Sunset Park neighborhood. Support will enable the Museum to continue to offer their multi-visit art-making program, which utilizes the Museum's permanent collection and special exhibitions to strengthen learning of classroom curricula for teachers and students. Now in its 10<sup>th</sup> year, the partnership with PS1 is unique in its deeply collaborative nature, extending a mission of community service beyond the walls of the Museum. The Brooklyn Museum's mission is to act as a bridge between the rich artistic heritage of world cultures, as embodied in its collections, and the unique experience of each visitor. *(Fourth year of funding)*

## **Brooklyn Public Library**

*Brooklyn, NY*

The Brooklyn Public Library was awarded an \$18,481 grant for its Creative Aging programs serving older adults throughout Brooklyn. Since its launch, Creative Aging has become a core program among BPL's services for older adults providing much needed structured opportunities to learn, create and socialize for nearly 500 older adults. The program is based on a vision for mobilizing the trusted, neutral, information-rich public space of the library to deliver arts education for and with older adults by building effective collaborations between teaching artists and librarians. Teaching artists and librarians find that they share a vision for positive aging and bring complementary strengths to designing and implementing meaningful programs for older adults. *(Third year of funding)*

## **Brooklyn Youth Chorus Academy**

*Brooklyn, NY*

Brooklyn Youth Chorus Academy (BYC) received a \$15,000 grant for the Pathways to Excellence Initiative, an effort to expand access to all levels of the program to underserved populations. The Pathways to Excellence Initiative will allow BYCA to: sustain the Neighborhood Expansion Program (NEP), which enables young people to begin their experience with BYC closer to home with two NEP locations; expand public school partnerships to enable students at high-poverty schools to benefit from free sequential choral music programs; enhance community engagement through the two newly-created positions of Community Engagement Manager and School Administrator; and provide tuition subsidy and financial aid to ensure that BYC's program is accessible to very-low, low, and moderate-income students without regard to their ability to pay. *(Third year of funding)*

## **Community Word Project**

*New York, NY*

Community Word Project was awarded \$18,000 for its Collaborative Arts Residency Program. The program provides a sustained experience in the arts that helps students develop life-long tools and skills including literacy, creative thinking, teamwork, and public speaking, to unlock creative potential and prepare them to take their places as leaders. CWP works closely with partnering teachers to integrate into the classroom curriculum and provides weekly workshops that integrate individual and collaborative creative writing, visual arts, photography, music/rhythm, and performance to ensure that every student can experience success. In 2017, CWP aims to work with 2,600 students in 125 residencies and to add new residencies in two high-need high schools to enhance the "arts learning bridge" and prevent summer learning loss. *(Fifth year of funding)*

### **Girls Write Now, Inc.**

New York, NY

Girls Write Now was granted \$10,000 in general operating support. Girls Write Now offers girls a unique combination of arts education and comprehensive supports, including up to four years of one-to-one mentoring from a professional woman writer; performance, publication and leadership development opportunities; writing and digital skills workshops; college preparation; and the opportunity to create a professional writing and/or digital portfolio. This year, Girls Write Now plans to reach over 250 girls by offering their hallmark educational workshops through three main programs: Writing & Mentoring Program (85 mentees); Digital Media & Mentoring Program (45 mentees); and College Bound Program (130 mentees + 125 non-mentees). Girls Write Now is also implementing Year One of their strategic plan to incrementally build their capacity to reach more girls and effectively support them in navigating pathways of success. *(First year of funding)*

### **Groundswell**

Brooklyn, NY

Groundswell was granted \$15,000 for support to its core public art-making programs. Groundswell projects raise awareness of critical social justice issues, inspire stewardship of public spaces, drive collaboration and civic participation, and strengthen relationships between youth and their communities. The core programs include: the Summer Leadership Institute (SLI), a seven-week intensive program that engages 100-120 youth each year in July and August in the creation of five public artworks and one media project in underserved areas; the Teen Empowerment Mural Apprenticeship, which engages up to 40 youth in artmaking and leadership skill building; the capstone Portfolio Development program, in which up to 40 youth work with professional artists to prepare a portfolio of their work for college and scholarship applications; and a number of afterschool programs for court-involved youth. *(Fourth year of funding)*

### **Prospect Park Alliance, Inc.**

Brooklyn, NY

Prospect Park Alliance was granted \$5,000 for general operating, including the vital maintenance and preservation of Prospect Park, and the continuation of the educational, cultural, and volunteer activities that engage the community of Park visitors. The Alliance provides many recreational facilities and programs to visitors of the Park, including award winning playgrounds, acres of playing fields, a tennis center, and the LeFrak Center at Lakeside with boating, bike rentals, ice skating in the winter months, and roller skating in the summer, along with a water feature for children. The Alliance runs 800 public educational programs each year through the Prospect Park Audubon Center, located at the Park's historic Boathouse, and Lefferts Historic House, an 18<sup>th</sup>-century farmhouse where children and families learn about the lives of early settlers. *(Second year of funding)*

### **Shakespeare Society**

Brooklyn, NY

Shakespeare Society received a \$21,500 grant in support of The Hunts Point Children's Shakespeare Ensemble. Now in its tenth year, the ensemble is the product of an extraordinary collaborative effort between The Shakespeare Society and the Hunts Point Alliance for children. Through the program, approximately 50 fourth, fifth and sixth graders from the Hunts Point neighborhood spend the school year exploring, researching and performing a Shakespearean play Ensemble members work with the original text, learning to read, comprehend, speak, memorize, and perform a Shakespeare play. Students who participate in the program are better prepared for future academic and creative pursuits and allow the young actors to share their accomplishments through community performance. This year the play will be *Romeo & Juliet*, a play that tells an important

story about the experiences and voices of young people in a chaotic and overheated world. It speaks both to the damage that can be done should we neglect those voices, and also of the hope and potential that is the promise of youth - a message of particularly potency and urgency in Hunts Point. (*Fourth year of funding*)

## **Sills 2016 Next Generation Grants**

### **350 Bay Area Climate Education Fund**

*Oakland, CA*

350 Bay Area Climate Education Fund received a \$7,500 grant for general operating support, which will also serve as a matching grant incentive. The 350 Bay Area Climate Education Fund aims to provide a high level of awareness, knowledge, and ongoing science-based education about climate change and ways to address it in the Bay Area and beyond. It provides action-oriented education in conferences, speakers' bureaus, public events, media outreach, and community organizing to achieve healthy and sustainable communities for all. 350BACEF works to achieve clean renewable energy, energy efficiency, and carbon neutral transportation and land use. *(Second year of funding)*

### **Alliance for Climate Education**

*Boulder, CO*

The Alliance for Climate Education received \$12,500 to fund general operating costs, with a focus on New York City and the San Francisco Bay Area. The grant also supported the Race and Justice Initiative, which incorporates climate justice framing and content into its programs. ACE's mission is to educate young people on the science of climate change and empower them to take action. It fulfills its mission through two core programs: the ACE Assembly and the Action Fellowship. The ACE Assembly is an in-school presentation that helps students see climate change as the most urgent issue of our time. In addition, ACE conducts an Action Fellowship, which is a year-long training program that gives young people the knowledge, skills, and confidence to be powerful climate leaders. Their goal is to train 15 Fellows in NYC and 16 Fellows in the Bay Area in 2016. *(Second year of funding)*

### **Boys & Girls Clubs of King County**

*Seattle, WA*

The Boys and Girls Club of King County received \$15,000 to support the Safe Passages Project, and specifically for staffing, uniforms, equipment, supplies, and marketing materials. BGCKC is the leading agency coordinating and managing the Safe Passage Project in the Rainier Beach Campus area in Southeast Seattle. The Safe Passage Project is a model that communities across the country have used with great success to ensure that youth are able to get to and from school safely. The innovation of the Rainier Beach Campus Safe Passage Project is to integrate a powerful network of school personnel, parent volunteers, community volunteers and youth volunteers with the professional efforts of the SE Network and Rainier Beach Campus Safe Passage (RBCSP) Team. The RBCSP Team will staff street corners, maintain a visible presence and monitor designated "safety zones" during after school hours from 2-6pm to ensure youth safely transition from school to home by way of walking, metro/light rail or from school to an after school activity and/or program. *(Second year of funding)*

### **Brooklyn Community Foundation – Restorative Justice Project**

*Brooklyn, NY*

The Brooklyn Community Foundation received \$15,000 to support the Brooklyn School-Based Restorative Justice Project in four public schools. Funds will be used to help support four full-time Restorative Justice Coordinators in each school and evaluate the impact. Brooklyn Community Foundation has initiated a partnership with the NYC Department of Education (NYCDOE) and the Mayor's Leadership Team on School Climate and Discipline to launch this effort targeted to schools with high suspension and/or arrest rates in search of effective alternatives to punitive disciplinary approaches. Four community-based organizations with a demonstrated track record in effective

restorative justice practices have been selected to partner with each school to design and coordinate a whole school restorative justice approach. In cooperation with the project partners, Brooklyn Community Foundation has developed a model that can be scaled across the entire New York City school system. *(Second year of funding)*

### **Ecology Center**

*Oakland, CA*

The Ecology Center received \$5,000 to support the Youth Environmental Academy (YEA), a program that addresses a lack of environmental education and empowerment among disenfranchised communities. Through programming based on the nationally acclaimed Roots of Success, youth will emerge with content knowledge across the following areas: 1). Health, Food Systems, Food Justice, and Sustainable Agriculture, 2). Alternative Energy, 3). Climate Change, 4). Water Conservation, and 5). Waste Management and Recycling. The ultimate outcome will be a new generation of environmentally-conscious community leaders. The grant will specifically allow YEA to focus on the fundamental theme of “bioaccumulation.” *(First year of funding)*

### **Girls Education and Mentoring Services, Inc.**

*Brooklyn, NY*

GEMS received \$15,000 to support general operating costs, and allow GEMS to enrich its Support Services, including Holistic Case Management, Youth Development, Outreach, and Educational Initiative (EI). GEMS will enrich the agency’s Holistic Case Management by providing mental health assessments, individual and group counseling, ensuring members’ basic needs are met, and through the agency’s trauma-informed programming. General operating funds will also go towards supporting the basic needs of GEMS members, including clothing, crisis services, food, Metrocards, shelter, and stipends, costs associated with obtaining identification, healthcare, and program supplies, and staff time for providing direct services to members. This grant will also support otherwise underfunded aspects of GEMS programs and overall administration, allowing the agency and its programs to continue to flourish. *(Second year of funding)*

### **Make the Road New York**

*Brooklyn, NY*

Make the Road New York received \$15,000 to support the Youth Power Project (YPP) to expand the implementation of restorative justice strategies at the Bushwick Campus Community School. This includes implementing more intensive training and coaching, staff development, youth leadership, and peer mediation programming. YPP’s restorative justice approach is part of a larger community school strategy that recognizes that students cannot achieve their full academic potential until their basic needs are met. YPP is helping the City Council to launch the first-ever restorative justice initiative in NYC for 25 schools. YPP will use their platform as a community school implementer to advocate for the large-scale replication of the community school model and to elevate youth-led restorative justice approaches. *(First year of funding)*.



**MISSEY, Inc.**  
Oakland, CA

MISSEY received \$6,000 to support general operating costs, specifically to strengthen MISSEY's administrative functions and staff capabilities and co-create new realities for survivors of commercial sexual exploitations. MISSEY offers trauma-informed, non-judgmental direct services to CSEC, CSE-TAY (Commercially Sexually Exploited Transition Age Youth), and at-risk youth, providing intensive case management, mentoring, a drop-in center, and youth advocacy. *(First year of funding)*

**Red Hook Initiative**  
Brooklyn, NY

Red Hook Initiative (RHI) received \$15,000 to support the High School Youth Leaders Program, the organization's core youth development program for young people (ages 14-18) who live in public housing in Red Hook, Brooklyn. This comprehensive 4-year program provides intensive job readiness and leadership training, well-supported part-time year-round employment, and a range of services that promote resiliency and support young people toward self-sufficient adulthood. This year, RHI will work with 100 high school students to work toward their high school diploma, develop a post-secondary plan, gain paid work experience, strengthen their social supports, and exercise their leadership in Red Hook. The grant will be used to support youth and staff salaries. *(First year funding)*

**Renewable Northwest**  
Portland, OR

Renewable Northwest received \$15,000 to fund general operations. In 2016, the Oregon legislature included a Community Solar program in SB 1547, and directed it to be available to all customer classes. It also included a special provision, requiring a minimum of 10% of the participants to be low income. Renewable Northwest works with the considerable number of diverse, low-income community organizations that have intervened in this proceeding to determine the best way to deploy this program to provide access to low-income customers and deliver the stable-priced, clean energy benefits of a solar resource. The grant will help the staff coordinate with a broad spectrum of organizations, provide technical analysis and support for a simple, affordable program design, and ready the program for deployment. *(First year funding)*

**RJOY**  
Oakland, CA

RJOY received \$15,000 to fund general operations, specifically for three areas: (1) school-based RJ; (2) RJ juvenile justice and youth empowerment; and (3) community-based RJ, including a national RJ-based truth and reconciliation initiative to transform violence against African-Americans. Due in large part to RJOY's successful systems change advocacy, training, technical assistance, and demonstration programs since 2006, Oakland Unified School District (OUSD) today has a \$2.5 million RJ budget, and staff at 40 school sites in the district, plus managers at the district level. RJOY interrupts cycles of violence, incarceration and wasted lives by promoting a cultural shift from punitive responses to youthful wrongdoing to restorative approaches that heal. It provides training and technical assistance, launches demonstration programs, and engages in advocacy and public education to promote policy shifts in Oakland and beyond. *(Fourth year of funding)*

**Safe Passages**  
Oakland, CA

Safe Passages was granted \$15,000 to support the Oakland Afterschool Program and Family Resource Centers. The grant will support these programs by providing resources to purchase afterschool supplies, pay for transportation, and phone usage for family outreach. These expenses are not covered through existing grants or contracts and are necessary to improve the capacity of programs to serve students and families. Safe Passages supports at-risk youth and their families through the delivery of academic and social service supports. *(Fourth year of funding)*

### **Union of Concerned Scientists**

*Cambridge, MA*

UCS received \$5,000 to fund general operating for Analysis and Advocacy to Empower Clean Energy in the West. California leads the nation in the transition to clean, safe and renewable forms of electricity. The grant will provide support to UCS to deploy proven analytics, advocacy, strategic outreach and communications, and partnerships to shape these concepts into ground-level decisions that will inform future electricity investments and rules governing how resources are used on the grid. *(Second year of funding)*

### **Wallowa Resources**

*Enterprise, OR*

Wallowa Resources received \$10,000 to support the opening of several “Student Success” programming; innovative social and academic programs to students with multiple risk factors. Due to the fact that the middle school years serve as such a crucial time for students to form the attitudes, values, and habits of mind that will largely direct their behavior as adults, the Wallowa community believes it is vital they provide wrap-around supports to reduce the often-devastating impacts of socioeconomic disparity. The grant would also allow for targeted outreach and engagement to specific at-risk youth. *(Second year of funding)*

### **Youth ALIVE**

*Oakland, CA*

Youth ALIVE received \$15,000 to fund general operations and provide backbone support for Youth ALIVE’s programs that provide violence prevention, intervention, and healing to break the cycle of violence and trauma. Specifically, the grant will help provide practical help and emotional support to families and friends of at least 70 homicide victims; recruit, train, support, and provide stipends for 50 East Oakland high school students as violence prevention youth leaders and peer educators; provide intervention and life-altering support to 150 youth who are returning from incarceration, have been recently shot, stabbed, or beaten and/or otherwise at high risk for violence. *(First year of funding)*

## **Sills 2016 Grants Summary**

### **Strategic Grants**

<b>Name of Organization</b>	<b>2016 Grant Amount</b>	<b>Program/Purpose</b>
<b>Abraham House, Inc.</b>	\$25,000	After School Program
<b>Alternatives for Community and Environment, Inc. (ACE)</b>	\$25,000	REEP
<b>Brooklyn Community Bail Fund, Inc.</b>	\$25,000	General Operating
<b>Brooklyn Defender Services</b>	\$25,000	Incarcerated Parents Project (IPP)
<b>Trustees Of Columbia University In The City Of New York</b>	\$25,000	SHARPie
<b>Circle, Inc.</b>	\$25,000	General Operating
<b>College and Community Fellowship Inc</b>	\$25,000	General Operating
<b>Coming Clean, Inc.</b>	\$25,000	General Operating
<b>Community Connections for Youth Inc</b>	\$25,000	General Operating
<b>Community Justice Network of Vermont Inc</b>	\$13,974	Expansion of the Parenting with Respect class
<b>Community Works West Inc.</b>	\$50,000	One Family Program
<b>Trustees of Dartmouth College</b>	\$25,000	Summer Enrichment at Dartmouth (SEAD)
<b>Echoes of Incarceration (Fractured Atlas)</b>	\$25,000	General Operating
<b>Exalt Youth</b>	\$25,000	Core Internship Program
<b>Fund for the City of New York</b>	\$30,000	Save Our Streets Crown Heights (S.O.S.)
<b>Hour Children, Inc.</b>	\$50,000	General Operating
<b>Housing Plus Solutions, Inc.</b>	\$25,000	General Operating
<b>Julie's Family Learning Program, Inc.</b>	\$25,000	Adult and Children's Services
<b>JustLeadershipUSA</b>	\$25,000	General Operating
<b>Little Sisters of the Assumption Family Health Service</b>	\$25,000	Parenting and Child Development Program
<b>Lund Family Center Inc.</b>	\$25,000	Kids A Part Program

Mercury Policy Project	\$25,000	Zero Mercury Exposure Reduction Campaign
Howard Center, Inc.	\$25,000	Northern Lights Program
Osborne Association	\$25,000	Youth Action Council (YAC)
Osborne Association	\$25,000	Osborne Center for Justice Policy and Practice
Pernet Family Health Service, Inc.	\$25,000	Expansion of services to incarcerated fathers and their families
Prison Birth Project	\$25,000	General Operating
St. Mary's Center for Women and Children	\$25,000	St. Mary's Home and Bridge Home
Edwin Gould Services for Children and Families, Inc.	\$25,000	STEPS to End Family Violence
Strategies for Youth, Inc.	\$25,000	support general operating
University Settlement Society of New York	\$25,000	program support for US's Family Enrichment Program (FEP)
Vera Institute of Justice, Inc.	\$25,000	Common Justice program support
Volunteers of Legal Service, Inc.	\$25,000	Incarcerated Mothers Law Project
Voice of the Ex-Offender (V.O.T.E.)	\$25,000	General Operating
West Harlem Environmental Action, Inc.	\$25,000	General Operating
Women's Prison Association & Home Inc.	\$25,000	General Operating
Youth Represent, Inc.	\$25,000	General Operating
<b>Total Core Grants:</b>	<b>\$968,974</b>	

## Immigration Grants

Name of Organization	2016 Grant Amount	Program/Purpose
Abraham House, Inc.	\$15,000	Additional Support for Immigrant Populations served
Brooklyn Defender Services	\$15,000	Additional Support for Immigrant Populations served
Julie's Family Learning Program, Inc.	\$15,000	Additional Support for Immigrant Populations served

<b>Little Sisters of the Assumption Family Health Service</b>	\$15,000	Additional Support for Immigrant Populations served
<b>University Settlement Society of New York</b>	\$15,000	Additional Support for Immigrant Populations served
<b>Volunteers of Legal Service, Inc.</b>	\$15,000	Additional Support for Immigrant Populations served
<b>St. Mary's Center for Women and Children</b>	\$15,000	Additional Support for Immigrant Populations served
<b>Total Immigration Grants:</b>	<b>\$105,000</b>	

### Capacity Building Grants

<b>Name of Organization</b>	<b>Grant Amount</b>	<b>Program/Purpose</b>
<b>2014 Capacity Building Grants</b>		
<b>Circle</b>	\$25,000	Strategic planning
<b>Hour Children, Inc.</b>	\$50,000	Renovations and repairs to the facilities used by the supportive housing programs
<b>STEPS to End Family Violence/ Edwin Gould Services for Children and Families</b>	\$30,000	Strengthening overall internal evaluation and reporting capacity
<b>Women's Prison Association</b>	\$30,000	Strengthen and expand volunteer-led client services
<b>2016 Capacity Building Grants</b>		
<b>Community Connections for Youth</b>	\$25,000	Strategic planning
<b>JustLeadershipUSA</b>	\$25,000	Communications plan
<b>Little Sisters of the Assumption Family Health Service</b>	\$18,750	to develop agency-wide goals, outcomes, and metrics for measuring impact
<b>Pernet Family Health Service, Inc.</b>	\$25,000	to transition to a Electronic Health Records system
<b>Vera Institute of Justice, Inc.</b>	\$25,000	to transition to an independent non-profit
<b>Total Capacity Building Grants:</b>	<b>\$253,750</b>	

## Arts and Culture Grants

Name of Organization	Grant Amount	2016 Program/Purpose
Westchester Arts Council, Inc.	\$29,500	\$19,500 for Senior center Residencies; \$10,000 for Westhab's PEAK program
Brooklyn Academy of Music Inc.	\$10,000	General Operating Support
Brooklyn Ballet Inc.	\$20,000	Brooklyn Ballet in the Houses 2017
Brooklyn Institute of Arts and Sciences (Brooklyn Museum)	\$30,000	\$20,000 for PS 1 Partnership; \$10,000 for General Operations
Brooklyn Public Library	\$18,481	Creative Aging project
Brooklyn Youth Chorus Academy Inc.	\$15,000	Pathways to Excellence Initiative
Community-Word Project Inc.	\$18,000	Collaborative Arts Residency Program
Girls Write Now Inc.	\$10,000	General Operating Support
Groundswell Community Mural Project Inc.	\$15,000	Core Public Artmaking Programs
Prospect Park Alliance, Inc.	\$5,000	General Operating Support
The Shakespeare Society Inc.	\$21,500	The Hunts Point Children's Shakespeare Ensemble
The Boston Foundation, Inc.	\$35,000	Arts & Culture Discretionary Fund
<b>Total Arts and Culture Grants:</b>	<b>\$227,481</b>	

## Next Generation Grants

Name of Organization	Grant Amount	2016 Program/Purpose
350 Bay Area Climate Education Fund	\$7,500	General Operating Support
Alliance For Climate Education Inc.	\$12,500	General Operating Support with focus on programs in New York City and San Francisco
Boys & Girls Club King County	\$15,000	Safe Passage for Ranier Beach Community
Brooklyn Community Foundation	\$15,000	Brooklyn Restorative Justice Project

<b>Ecology Center</b>	\$5,000	Youth Environmental Academy
<b>Girls Educational Mentoring Services Inc.</b>	\$15,000	General Operating Support
<b>Make the Road New York</b>	\$15,000	Youth Power Project (YPP)
<b>Motivating Inspiring Supporting and Serving Sexually Exploited Youth</b>	\$6,000	General Operating Support
<b>Red Hook Initiative, Inc.</b>	\$15,000	High School Youth Leaders Program
<b>Renewable Northwest Project</b>	\$15,000	General Operating Support
<b>Community Initiatives</b>	\$15,000	General Operating Support
<b>Safe Passages</b>	\$15,000	General Operating for Safe Passages Family Resource Center and Oakland Afterschool Program
<b>Union of Concerned Scientists, Inc.</b>	\$5,000	Analysis and Advocacy to Empower Clean Energy in the West
<b>Wallowa Resources</b>	\$10,000	General Operating Support to sustain youth education programming
<b>Youth Alive</b>	\$15,000	General Operating Support
<b>Total NextGen Grants</b>	<b>\$181,000</b>	



## 2016 Trustee Discretionary Grants

The 3 trustees of the Sills Family Foundation made a total of 48 discretionary grants, ranging in size from \$389 to \$20,000, and totaling \$193,499.

### Art Sills

Name of Organization	Grant Amount
Vermont Adaptive Ski and Sports	\$20,000
Cambridge Friends School	\$15,000
School is Open	\$5,000
Academy of the City Charter School	\$5,000
Oakland Unite	\$1,000
Civicorps	\$1,000
Hip-Hop for Change	\$500
Afghan Coalition	\$1,000
Safe Passages	\$1,500
National Resources Defense Council	\$4,000
Jewish Family and Children's Services	\$1,000
High Fives Foundation	\$2,500
The Nature Conservancy	\$500
The Alano Club of Portland	\$500
The Audubon Society of Portland	\$500
Portland Homeless Family Solutions	\$500
Sustainable Northwest	\$500

### Peter Sills

Name of Organization	Grant Amount
Ward Brook Center	\$6,500
People for the American Way	\$5,000

JLUSA	\$5,000
The Doula Program	\$10,000
Vermont Foodbank	\$5,000
VSA Vermont	\$5,000
Twinfield Together Mentoring Program	\$5,000
Corporate Accountability International	\$5,000
Stroum Jewish Community Center	\$5,000
Rutgers Early College Humanities Program	\$2,500
FJC	\$2,500
Children's Defense Fund	\$15,000
Citizen's Committee for Children of NY	\$2,000

### Deborah Iarussi

Name of Organization	Grant Amount
The Record Company	\$4,500
Sousa Mendes Foundation	\$2,500
Family Services of Westchester	\$5,000
Songcatchers	\$1,500
NICA NY	\$1,000
NRCA	\$1,000
NRFEE	\$1,500
Youth Shelter Program of Westchester	\$1,000
The Sharing Shelf	\$1,000
NRDC	\$500
AS220 Youth	\$500
Michael J Fox foundation	\$20,000
Hampshire College Development office-Denice O'Neill Scholarship fund	\$8,334

<b>Pratt Institute (School of architecture Rome program</b>	<b>\$6,000</b>
<b>Willie Mae Rock Camp for Girls (scholarship for girls impacted by incarceration)</b>	<b>\$3,000</b>
<b>Farm and Wilderness (campership program)</b>	<b>\$1,500</b>
<b>Planned Parenthood</b>	<b>\$389</b>
<b>International Refugee Assistance Project</b>	<b>\$776</b>