



Sills Family Foundation

2020 Annual Report

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History and Mission

The Sills Family Foundation launched its first formal grantmaking process in 2003. The Foundation is governed by a board of three family member directors and is administered by The Philanthropic Initiative.

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

1)Criminal Justice Reform

2)Support for Families and Young Children in low income, underserved Communities

3)Environmental Justice

In addition to these focus areas, the Foundation has two additional grantmaking committees. The Arts and Culture Committee funds organizations that engage with underserved communities through the arts, as well as additional special arts and culture initiatives. The Second Generation Committee supports programs for high-risk youth, immigrants, and climate change mitigation

2020 Sills Family Foundation Grantmaking Overview

In 2020, the Sills Family Foundation granted a total of \$2,119,150 a decrease from the 2019 total of 2,361,114. Of this, the Board awarded \$1,215,000 through its core grantmaking process, \$15,000 through its rapid response program, \$215,275 through a special capacity building program, \$246,875 through its arts & culture grantmaking initiative, \$145,000 as trustee-directed discretionary grants, and \$282,000 through a mission driven selection process managed by a group of next generation foundation members. The Foundation awarded a total of 146 grants, 48 grants through its core grantmaking program, 14 arts & culture grants, 9 capacity building, and 19 next generation grants. Grants were made primarily to organizations in New York, Massachusetts, Vermont, and California.

The Foundation primarily makes general operating grants, allowing grantees to use the funds as needed, as opposed to being limited to a particular project or budget line. Grantees report that this degree of flexibility is uncommon and is highly welcome. The Foundation deeply values the expertise and leadership capacity of our grantees, and value their ability to prioritize where the grants will be best used. This year the Foundation has been able to continue funding 9 capacity building grants (mostly multi-year) to long-standing grantees. These capacity building grants are intended to support an organization through a period of structural change and internal development.

2020 was an historically challenging year due to the global Covid-19 pandemic and related economic crisis. The Foundation sought to address this through our grantmaking in several ways. We assured our current grantees that we would remain as responsive and supportive as possible, while acknowledging our need to be fiscally conservative. We streamlined our reporting requirements to allow grantees to focus on the urgent work at hand. We were able to make grants to organizations who were focused on providing emergency relief to community members, including direct cash grants, rent and food assistance.

In addition to its annual grantmaking, the Foundation continued its “Rapid Response” grant program. The goal of this program is to provide current grantees with access to additional resources that can be used to address urgent, unanticipated needs in which a relatively small amount of money (up to \$10,000) can be utilized to overcome a specific obstacle with a discrete, one-time funding solution. The Rapid Response program is open to all current grantees. In 2020, the Foundation funded two Rapid Response grants.

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, and providing high quality legal services to low income populations. In considering the rehabilitative opportunities so rarely provided to incarcerated individuals, the Foundation supports higher education and arts programming inside correctional facilities. Our 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 providers’ 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. These programs support coalition building between small grassroots organizations and help move policy and research in a more equitable direction.

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. In 2017 the foundation began to explore ways in which to increase support to vulnerable immigrant populations and others negatively impacted by the US political climate. In 2020 we continued to offer support to programs working with immigrant and refugee communities.

The Arts and Culture Committee believes that exposure to, and training in the arts can be 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. This committee has begun a special initiatives program that will be offering larger grants to certain organizations that align closely with the foundations priorities.

The Second Generation Committee of the Foundation made grants in three primary areas: addressing climate change, interventions for high-risk youth, and support to high-need immigrant communities.

Sills 2020 Strategic Grants

Grant descriptions are organized by primary focus areas.

All of the Foundation's strategic grants are designed to help families in crisis, and fall under the following three categories:

Criminal Justice Reform

Support for Families and Young Children in low income, Underserved Communities

Environmental Justice

CRIMINAL JUSTICE REFORM

The arrest and conviction of a parent creates enormous instability for his or her family. This sudden and unexpected loss of emotional connection, income, and housing, along with the accompanying feelings of stress, fear and an undeserved sense of shame can cause great harm to children.

The Foundation began by funding organizations that help these children gain some sense of stability, and that work to reunite families after their parents come home from prison.

While continuing to make the above grants, the Foundation also began funding organizations that assist incarcerated parents while they are still in prison, making it easier for them to support their families when they come home and less likely to be re-arrested. These organizations offer emotional and psychological help, parenting classes, secondary and college educations, involvement in the arts, and both criminal and civil legal assistance.

After years of involvement in this work, the Foundation recognized that while it's necessary to treat the trauma suffered by these children, it makes at least as much sense to try to prevent that trauma from ever occurring. The Foundation now also funds organizations that keep people out of prison through alternatives to incarceration, and work with young people who are at risk of committing crimes, particularly crimes of violence. It also funds programs that advocate reducing the total number of people in prison.

The Foundation's criminal justice grants can be divided into the following three subcategories:

Helping Families Impacted by Incarceration

Programs Inside Prison

Decreasing Incarceration

HELPING FAMILIES IMPACTED BY INCARCERATION

The Bronx Defenders

Bronx, NY

The Bronx Defenders received \$25,000 to support its reentry services. The Bronx Defenders challenge the entrenched problems that drive low-income individuals into the justice system by harnessing the power of community organizing, leadership development, impact litigation, and legislative reform. The Bronx Defenders operates on multiple levels: as a provider of holistic defense working one-on-one with clients and families, as a community resource, and as a force for systemic change. Through the reentry advocacy program, the organization helps clients return to the community, continue rehabilitation, and minimize barriers by helping them understand their criminal records and any implications they may have for future education, employment, or other opportunities. The reentry team also shows policymakers and stakeholders how dramatically justice involvement can affect people's lives and to push for real, long-lasting solutions that will disrupt the cycle of justice involvement and poverty. *(Third year of funding)*

Brooklyn Public Library

Brooklyn, NY

The Brooklyn Public Library was awarded \$10,000 to support its TeleStory Program. The Brooklyn Public Library has a mission of ensuring the preservation and transmission of society's knowledge, history, and culture, and to provide Brooklyn's residents with free, open access to information for education, reference and recreation. To achieve this mission, the Library has historically focused on the needs of children, youth and families, while developing new programs and resources that have helped to establish it as a leader in literacy services to New Americans, out-of-school-time services, workforce development programs, digital literacy and cultural offerings. Funding will support the Library's TeleStory program, which is focused on increasing childhood literacy and providing a safe and trusted environment in which children can connect with an incarcerated parent and other family members during a free one-hour televisit. Utilizing state-of-the-art video conferencing equipment, TeleStory fosters stronger bonds between children, aged birth through ten, and their incarcerated parents through reading books and telling stories over a live video feed. Since its launch, BPL has been able to expand TeleStory to serve additional families at more branches throughout Brooklyn and is now expanding the model to public library systems nationally. *(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 and support models. For over twenty-five 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 emergency Relief from Abuse orders among other services. Circle also has an agreement with the Department of Corrections (DOC) which includes providing joint case management to women in shelters who are under DOC supervision, and reserving living space in their emergency shelter which will house incarcerated women as they transition into the community. *(Seventeenth 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. Under the leadership of former CCF student Vivian Nixon, CCF became 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. To date, CCF students have earned over 330 degrees, ranging from Associate's degrees to PhDs; taken leadership roles in their advocacy work; become peer mentors to women in reentry; and performed with the theater group at universities, correctional facilities, and cultural centers in the Northeast. CCF students' recidivism rate has remained less than 6% over 19 years. Funding will be used to help maintain CCF's strong infrastructure as the organization rapidly expands its direct service through a three-year \$2million contract with the Manhattan DA's Criminal Justice Investment Initiative. Funding will also support their policy and advocacy program, which has expanded to include NY tuition assistance policy, advocacy training, and voter registration campaigns. *(Fifth year of funding)*

Echoes of Incarceration

Brooklyn, NY

Echoes of Incarceration was granted \$25,000 to support general operating costs. Echoes of Incarceration is an award-winning documentary initiative produced by youth with incarcerated parents. 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 to professional filmmakers. Funding will be used to support 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 and then conducting hands-on workshops with the youth. Funding will also support Echoes' direct education for youth (outside of the core crew) through its summer camp and frequent workshops with the Osborne Association and other organizational partners. *(Sixth year of funding)*

Hour Children, Inc.

Long Island City and Bedford Hills, NY

Hour Children was awarded a \$50,000 grant for Hour Children's Prison and Community Programs towards its mission to end the inter-generational cycle of incarceration and to strengthen

vulnerable women and children as they reunite, stabilize, and transform their lives. This grant will support Hour Children’s post-release community-based programs, which include: transitional and permanent supportive housing facilities; 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 shops; a “client-choice” community food pantry; mentoring program and other programs. In addition , funding supports Hour Children’s prison programming at Centers of Bedford Hills and Taconic Correctional Facilities, and Rikers Island, including transportation and visitation programs, parenting education, advocacy, a teen program, and residential Nursery unit with an infant care center at Bedford Hills. Over the past year, 98% of women in Hour Children programming avoided a return to prison and 100% of children stayed in school and advanced to the next grade level. *(Eighteenth year funding Hour Children; twelfth year funding Bedford Hills)*

HousingPlus

Brooklyn, NY

HousingPlus received \$25,000 in funding for general operating support 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. HousingPlus mission 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 their families. Funding will be used to bolster efforts to address the distinct needs of women in New York City’s criminal justice system when they move into HousingPlus housing. *(Ninth year of funding)*

HousingPlus was awarded an additional grant of \$25,000 to support the Beyond Rosie’s Campaign. Beyond Rosie’s Campaign provides an opportunity for coordination with other initiatives (including Greenhope Services for Women, Hour Children, HousingPlus, Providence House, and Women’s Prison Association) focusing on the unique problems women face, with emphasis on effective solutions. Through its work, Beyond Rosie’s seeks to achieve three goals: 1) To promote the expansion of alternative pre-detention/incarceration programming to reduce the number of women who are incarcerated in NYC; 2) To play an integral role in the development of a new secure trauma-informed facility for 100-150 people who identify as women that will replace the Rose M. Singer Center by 2020; and 3) Advocate for a permanent reinvestment of funds that support decarceration to services in the community. *(Second year of funding)*

Howard Center

Burlington, VT

The Northern Lights Program (NL) at the Howard Center was awarded a \$25,000 grant for program 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 *(Twelfth year of funding)*

Lund

Burlington, Vermont

Lund was awarded \$25,000 to support the Kids-A-Part Parenting Program (KAPP). The Kids-A-Part Parenting Program works with women incarcerated at the Chittenden Regional Correctional Facility and their families. The organization works to decrease the impact of Adverse Childhood Experiences (ACE) on the children of incarcerated mothers, and to increase the emotional wellbeing and likelihood of a successful transition once released from prison for the incarcerated women. 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. *(Fourteenth year of funding)*

The Osborne Association

Bronx, NY

The Osborne Association received \$40,000 for general operating costs. The Osborne Association works to reduce reliance on incarceration and provides effective alternatives to address issues of addiction, health and mental health, community violence and poverty that contribute to crime. Key programs the Foundation has supported in the past include Youth Experience Success (YES) and Youth Action Council (YAC), two afterschool positive youth development programs for children of incarcerated parents, and Justice Across Generations (OCJAG) which was established in 2016 to consolidate Osborne's advocacy work. Other programs include: the NYC Re-entry Hotline, Workforce and Employment Services, Substance Use Treatment, Court Advocacy Services, Support for Families Impacted by Incarceration, Elder Re-entry, and Wellness and Prevention. *(Fifteenth year of funding)*

Providence House

Brooklyn, NY

Providence House was awarded \$25,000 to support the Women's Justice Program. Providence House is a faith-based, gender-responsive agency with the mission to emphasize the dignity of every person, completely focused in its commitment to provide shelter and support to homeless, abused and formerly incarcerated women and their children in a hospitable, non-violent, compassionate atmosphere. The Women's Justice Program is part of a coalition of agencies working with NYC to provide an alternative-to-detention for women being detained unnecessarily and under adverse conditions on Rikers Island. The effort is designed to keep women struggling with mental illness out of Rikers, providing housing and services while supporting them in meeting their legal and treatment obligations, helping them secure employment or training to enhance their long-term stability, and addressing the trauma and other issues that may have contributed to their involvement with the criminal justice system. *(Third year of funding)*

Women's Prison Association

New York, NY

The Women's Prison Association received \$25,000 in general operating support for criminal justice-involved women and their families. WPA operates from three community sites in NYC and jail and prison-based offices at Riker's Island, Taconic, and Bedford Hills Correctional Facilities. Women recently released from prison or jail can access emergency assistance, case management, HIV services, mentoring, and legal support through reentry services offered in Brooklyn and Manhattan.

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. During this pandemic, WPA is continuing their operations through FaceTime, phone calls, and texts; stocking their pantries with food and other essential supplies; and working around the clock to keep their residences clean, safe, and open. *(Seventeenth year of funding)*

PROGRAMS INSIDE PRISON

Bard Prison Initiative (a program of Bard College)

Annandale-on-Hudson, NY

The Bard Prison Initiative was awarded \$25,000 to support general operating costs. Through the Consortium for the Liberal Arts in Prison and the Bard Micro-college network, the Bard Prison Initiative (BPI) works to redefine the availability, affordability, and expectations typically associated with higher education in America. BPI builds ambitious, tuition-free colleges in prisons and other underestimated communities and supports alumni as they continue their education and enter the professional world. The result of this work in the short term is a cadre of alumni who have the tools and resources for economic and social mobility and a model for other colleges to emulate; in the long run, equitable and rigorous education is essential for a more just society. *(Second year of funding)*

Brooklyn Defender Services

Brooklyn, NY

Brooklyn Defender Services received \$25,000 to support its Community Office Family Initiative. Brooklyn Defender Services provides supported legal representation to about 30,000 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 issues. Grant funding will be used to support to the Community Outreach Specialist to expand BDS's Family Support Initiative to provide area families with greater accessibility to advocacy. The CO responds directly to the need to expand BDS's Family Support Initiative to provide area families with greater accessibility to advocacy, legal and social work services, and legal education. *(Fifth year of funding)*

Hudson Link for Higher Education in Prison

Ossining, NY

Hudson Link was awarded \$25,000 for general operating to support the pre-college component of its services. Hudson Link's mission is to provide college education, life skills, and re-entry support to currently and formerly incarcerated men and women to help them make a positive impact on their own lives, their families and communities, resulting in lower rates of recidivism, incarceration, and poverty. The organization has reached over 800 families and children impacted by incarceration through its three major programs: pre-college preparatory courses, degree-track college courses, and post-release alumni services. As one of the most essential elements of the organization's work, pre-college is not an independent program but rather an integral part of the overall Hudson Link experience. Funding will continue to support costs related to administration, staffing, and materials for the pre-college program at each of the five prisons where Hudson Link delivers college courses. *(Fourth year of funding)*

[Pernet Family Health Service, Inc.](#) Worcester, MA

Pernet Family Health Service was awarded a \$25,000 grant to support the Engaging Incarcerated Fathers in Responsible Parenting. Pernet Family Health Service in Worcester, Massachusetts is a Department of Public Health certified home health and social service agency, providing emergency services, in-home care for the maternal-child population in the Worcester area, early intervention services for children with, or at-risk for, developmental delays, and more. The Engaging Incarcerated Fathers in Responsible Parenting assists high-risk Worcester families by supporting incarcerated and recently released fathers develop the skills necessary to transition to self-sufficiency, parental competence, and develop and deepen their roles as fathers and relationships with their children. The program serves the families of incarcerated fathers who have returned home from the Worcester County Jail and House of Correction within the last six months and who want to be a part of their children's lives. *(Ninth year of funding)*

[Rehabilitation Through the Arts](#) Katonah, NY

Rehabilitation Through the Arts (RTA) was awarded \$25,000 for general operating costs. The organization's mission is to use the transformative power of the arts to develop social and cognitive skills prisoners need for successful reentry. RTA serves 250 prisoners at 6NYS correctional facilities at any one time, teaching year-round in at least one facility every day of the week. Over 25 highly-qualified professional artist/educators travel to remote prisons in 3 NYS counties, teaching a wide variety of artistic media including, theatre, dance, music, writing, and visual arts. RTA's goal is to provide an opportunity for self-development to prisoners who want to change and seek the tools to do so. This year, funding will be used for salaries, program supplies (e.g., art material, books, plays, keyboards, theatre materials), and alumni expenses (stipends for Advisory Committee meetings, transportation, and payment for teaching artists). *(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 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 to assist in preserving and protecting their parental rights while in jail or prison. This assistance includes “Know Your Rights” workshops, family law consultations, legal information, advice and advocacy about maintaining contact and involvement with their children, planning for their children’s care while they are incarcerated, and planning for reunification upon their release. Amidst the COVID-19 pandemic, the ways in which VOLS provides these services depends upon external factors such as guidance from health experts and governmental policies, or upon alternative methods of communication. *(Seventh year of funding)*

In addition, VOLS received \$25,000 for the Immigration Project to provide free, high-quality legal services to young New Yorkers, work alongside clients to support them on the challenging path to being accepted by this country, ensure their voices are heard in response to the anti-immigrant rhetoric, and advocate for fair and just immigration laws. VOLS provides young immigrants and their families with wrap-around services and guidance on other ancillary issues, such as barriers to college, access to benefits, and assistance with fee waivers and grants for individuals on the path to citizenship. VOLS supports young immigrants applying for Special Immigrant Juvenile Status (SIJS); homeless immigrant youth, particularly those who are LGBTQ immigrants seeking asylum on account of their membership in a particular social group; and DACA recipients. *(Third year of funding the Immigration Project)*

DECREASING INCARCERATION

These grants fall into two categories -- programs involved in keeping specific individuals out of prison, and those that advocate for lowering incarceration rates.

PREVENTING INCARCERATION

Brooklyn Justice Initiative (Fund for the City of New York)
New York, NY

The Fund for the City of New York was awarded \$25,000 to support the Brooklyn Supervised Release Program (a program of Brooklyn Justice Initiatives). Brooklyn Justice Initiatives (BJI) is a project of the Center for Court Innovation, which was founded in 1996 as an incubator project of the Fund for the City of New York, that seeks to re-engineer the experience of criminal court in Brooklyn. Operating in the Kings County centralized criminal court system since beginning operations in 2013, BJI serves as a launching pad for an array of reform initiatives that seek to fundamentally transform the bail system, sentencing, and the way justice-involved individuals are treated. By providing meaningful pre-trial supervised release and post-plea sentencing options, Brooklyn Justice Initiatives seeks to use an arrest as a window of opportunity to change the direction of a client’s life and avoid the harmful effects of incarceration. Funding will provide financial relief to young adults, aged 24 and under, who are required to pay a court surcharge and fee associated with a guilty plea to a violation disposition. As awareness grows around the inequity and destabilizing consequences of court-issued surcharges and fees, BJI is uniquely positioned to provide immediate relief to young adults by eliminating this financial burden and facilitating earlier case closures. *(Second year of funding)*

Urban Youth Alliance International
Bronx, NY

Urban Youth Alliance International was awarded \$25,000 to support the BronxConnect program “Employment Pathways for Youth”. The Urban Youth Alliance (UYAI) is a community and faith-based organization working with urban and court-involved youth and young adults. In 1999, UYAI established BronxConnect to address the youth incarceration epidemic in South Bronx communities of color. BronxConnect’s mission is to keep youth out of jail for life, with a programmatic goal to keep youth out of jail, while demonstrating a model of employing formerly incarcerated credible messengers as staff and mentors to build community and increase public safety. Funding will support the organization’s alternative to incarceration program’s employment services focused on helping participants transition to life after the program. *(Second year of funding)*

Avenues for Justice
New York, NY

Avenues for Justice was awarded \$25,000 to support general operating costs. Avenues for Justice (AFJ) works directly with young people to help them understand, accept responsibility for, and gain control of and direct their own lives in a positive, law-abiding manner. Programs serve at-risk youth and youthful offender. AFJ achieves their goals through three fundamental components of their programs: (1) court advocacy, where AFJ staff members appear before judges to recommend that select youth who meet AFJ’s criteria are assigned to the organization; (2) youth worker assignments, where participants work with an AFJ youth worker to design a rehabilitation plan that is shared with the court; and (3) prevention programs, through which youth in East Harlem and the Lower East Side access critical services such as employment coaching, academic tutoring, and social work support. Funding will be used to support the court advocacy and crime prevention programs for youthful offenders arrested in Manhattan and at risk youths from East Harlem and the Lower East Side. *(Second year of funding)*

Common Justice
New York City, NY

Common Justice (CJ) received \$25,000 to support general operating costs for its work in Brooklyn addressing cycles of violence, the harmful effects of incarceration, and the mental and physical health consequences that arise from violent crime. CJ offers an alternative to the traditional adversarial court system that promotes healing and accountability and facilitates the recovery of individuals and communities. The organization, launched in 2009 as a project of Vera Institute of Justice and becoming an independent organization in 2017, 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. CJ engages in coalition-building

locally and nationally, operates a national learning collaborative, and engages in strategic communications to amplify the impact of the lessons learned on the ground. *(Tenth year of funding)*

[Roca, Inc.](#)
Chelsea, MA

Roca was granted \$25,000 to support the organization's program: Intervention Model for Young Parents. Roca's mission is to disrupt the cycle of incarceration and poverty by helping young people transform their lives. Roca uses an evidence-based, cognitive behavior Intervention Model designed to target the highest risk young men. However, this year Roca requested a funding shift to young mothers and their children impacted by violence and incarceration due to the particularly serious effects of Covid-19 on this group. The program includes: building a trusted relationship, providing case management services, helping them learn and practice CBT, building their parenting skills, and advocating for them with government agencies and courts. Understanding that meaningful change doesn't happen overnight, Roca's Intervention Model and Young Mothers Program are long-term approaches to behavioral change and skill building that incorporate the expectation of relapse into the program design. Over two years of intensive services in life skills, education, and employment, and two years of follow-up, Roca expects to see a range of behavior change and relapse, and a spectrum of ambivalence and motivation toward change. Roca also works to change policy for high-risk people by implementing the nation's largest pay for success contract, convening four regional working groups in MA criminal justice system leaders devoted to raising the age for adult sentencing, and sharing observations and learnings with government and community partners. *(Fourth year of funding)*

[Save Our Streets \(The Fund for the City of New York\)](#)
New York, NY

Save Our Streets (SOS) Crown Heights was awarded \$25,000 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. Funding will sustain the direct work of SOS staff to reduce violence and change community norms around gun violence. Funding will also support Neighbors in Action's therapeutic services programs, particularly the Make It Happen program which provides mentorship, intensive case management, and workshops for young men of color who have experienced community violence. *(Eighth year of funding)*

[Strategies for Youth](#)
Cambridge, MA

Strategies for Youth (SFY) received \$25,000 to support general operating costs. SFY is a national, nonprofit policy and training organization dedicated to improving relations between youth and police. SFY offers training programs for police who regularly interact with youth, for school

resources officers deployed in public schools, and for youth, ages 12-18, and parents to reduce parental reliance on police. SFY works to reorient the role of law enforcement to serve as guardians of peace, working in concert with the community to support the positive development of youth. As the core issues the organization focuses on have become national priorities, the demand for SFY to take the lead in state and federal policy conversations has increased dramatically. Funding will support general operating costs to continue to build and expand SFY's communications and fundraising and policy capacities. *(Eighth year of funding)*

Community Connections for Youth

Bronx, NY

Community Connections for Youth (CCFY) received \$25,000 for general operating costs to continue their work in supporting families and young people impacted by the juvenile justice system through the Family Strengthening Program and Parent Peer Support Program. . CCFY is a Bronx-based non-profit whose mission is to empower neighborhood and faith-based organizations to develop effective community-driven alternative-to-incarceration (ATI) programs for youth. The Strengthening Families program provides families and young people impacted by the juvenile justice system with the support and opportunities they need to decrease feelings of isolation often felt by parents navigating a complex system alone, and to empower them with the skills needed to meaningfully impact system reform. Through the program, parents are provided with monthly support groups, ongoing parenting workshops, and advocacy training to build individual and family power to impact juvenile justice reform efforts, and youth and family strengthening sessions. *(Ninth year of funding)*

exalt Youth

New York, NY

exalt Youth 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. In May 2017, exalt began a strategic planning process to scale to a 40% increase over three years to serve more youth negatively impacted by the criminal justice system and position itself as a thought leader in addressing systemic challenges facing court-involved youth. Funding enabled them to successfully serve 425 NYC court-involved youth in 2019, and they expected to serve 699 youth this year. *(Fifth year funding)*

Youth Represent

New York, NY

Youth Represent received \$25,000 for general operating funds to support comprehensive legal representation for young, low-income New Yorkers. Youth Represent is a holistic youth defense and advocacy nonprofit organization with a mission of ensuring that young people affected by the

criminal justice system are afforded every opportunity to reclaim lives of dignity, self-fulfillment, and engagement in their communities. The organization provides criminal and reentry legal representation to youth, age twenty-four and under, who are court-involved or who are experiencing legal problems because of past involvement in the criminal justice system. The organization uses a fee-for-service, community-lawyering model to represent clients. Youth Represent meets youth where they are, traveling to workforce development and youth services programs across the five boroughs - particularly to those neighborhoods most harmed by over-policing - to deliver the organization's community-lawyering model, which combines direct legal representation, Know Your Rights workshops, technical assistance for youth service organizations, and leadership and engagement opportunities for young people. *(Seventh year of funding)*

ADVOCACY

Correctional Association of New York New York, NY

The Correctional Association of New York was awarded \$25,000 for general operating support. The Correctional Association of New York (CANY) advocates for a more humane and effective criminal justice system and a more just and equitable society. CANY leverages its unique authority to inspect prisons and report on its findings to play a role in shaping and securing every major criminal justice reform in the state of New York, on topics ranging from repealing mandatory minimum sentences for drug crimes to ending the shackling of incarcerated pregnant women during labor. CANY plans to use funding to enhance its strategic oversight model by partnering in an intentional way with the families and loved ones of incarcerated people across this state. *(Second year of funding)*

JustLeadership USA New York, NY

JustLeadership USA (JLUSA) was awarded \$25,000 to support general operating costs. JLUSA empowers people most affected by incarceration to drive policy reform. 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. This year's funding will allow JLUSA to pursue Leadership, Advocacy, and Membership campaigns and program activities that drive toward the goal of #halfby2030. JLUSA plans to develop a corps of highly trained leaders from within the Leadership alumni group and within JLUSA staff who can respond to speaking requests and develop and implement technical assistance curricula for other criminal justice organizations. Additionally, JLUSA launched a Train the Trainer (TtT) program this year, which seeks to train and qualify up to 13 course trainers, all of whom have been selected from our JLUSA Leading with Conviction alumni pool. JLUSA will be able to train close to, if not more than, 10,000 people over the next ten years with a nationally distributed group of trainers. *(Seventh year of funding)*

Release Aging People in Prison Campaign New York, NY

The Release Aging People in Prison Campaign (RAPP) was awarded \$15,000 to support general operating costs. RAPP is a grassroots organizing and advocacy project that works to end mass incarceration and promote racial justice through the release of older and aging people from prison. RAPP plays a key role in New York and the greater United States to shift the public narrative around U.S. prisons and punishment to include older adults, people serving long sentences, and those convicted of violent crimes, leading efforts to challenge the concept that endless punishment is acceptable, and that prison reform can be achieved if it is limited to “non-violent, low-level” offenses. Due to RAPP’s successfully advocating for codified rule changes and replacing punitive Commissioners with individuals coming from therapeutic and non-prosecution professions, parole release rates more than doubled for all parole applicants, older applicants and those with life sentences—from 20% to 40%. In 2020, the number of elders in NYS prisons fell below 9,000 for the first time in 2013. Funding will be used to expand RAPP’s community organizing, reach, and power in key suburban areas of New York State. *(Second year of funding)*

Voice of the Ex-Offender

New Orleans, LA

Voice of the Ex-Offender (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 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. Over the past six years, VOTE has cemented its role as the hub of criminal justice reform in New Orleans, and increased its statewide and national impact with a host of policy victories. In the past year, VOTE reached 100,000 people through organizing, mobilizing, litigation, and legislation, and is now shifting to 1) target such potential voters for engagement, and 2) develop a multi-prong strategy to simplify the voter registration process. *(Eighth year of funding)*

SUPPORT FOR YOUNG CHILDREN IN LOW INCOME, UNDERSERVED COMMUNITIES

A core belief of the Sills Family Foundation is that creating an equitable society begins with supporting families with young children through access to high quality education, legal support and healthcare.

These grants fund organizations in the following two categories:

Health and education; and

Immigration

HEALTH AND EDUCATION

BronxWorks

Bronx, NY

BronxWorks was awarded \$25,000 to support the Home Instruction for Parents of Preschool Youngsters (HIPPY) program. BronxWorks is a Bronx-based settlement house and human services provider with a mission to help individuals and families improve their economic and social well-being. Services include: benefits assistance; programs for children, youth, families and seniors; immigration services; workforce development; HIV/AIDS and other chronic illness programs; health and wellness promotion; homeless services; and eviction prevention. HIPPY is a home-based childhood development and parent education program. It gives parents the tools to be their children's first teachers and helps prepare 3-5 year-olds for success in kindergarten and beyond. *(Second year of 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 ethnically and racially diverse communities around Greater Boston. Their Adult Services Program has a goal of improving family functioning, home management and parenting abilities with ongoing life skills classes, workshops, and personal and group counseling. Through the Children's Services Program, Julie's is committed to ensuring that each child gains a solid educational foundation and can be empowered with the positive self-image and inner resources that will help them break the poverty cycle. *(Eighteenth 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 strengthen and improve vulnerable children and families by meeting their basic needs for food, health care, education, and a safe home in the belief that affirming families in their own dignity improves the entire community. Funding will support the PCD Program, which emphasizes, through home visits and on-site socialization groups, ways to improve parent and child interactions and strengthen relationships by helping parents better understand their children's behaviors and development. PCD's five focus areas are language and literacy; exploration, play, and learning; self-regulation

and emotional development; attachment security and separation; and connections to resources. *(Fifteenth year of funding)*

Power of Two Brooklyn, NY

Power of Two received \$25,000 to support its Community Programs. Power of Two gives children who have experienced early adversity a foundation for success in school and life by fostering a strong and healthy attachment between parent and child. In its evidence-based Attachment Biobehavioral Catch-Up (ABC) program, Power of Two helps parents and other caregivers build resilience in children, which in turn protects them from ongoing stress and promotes academic success, physical health, and social and emotional well-being. The organization aims to scale ABC in New York City with the ultimate aim of disrupting the intergenerational cycle of poverty that affects too many families, and of providing a model dissemination strategy for other cities and states. Power of Two started disseminating ABC in 2015 in Brownsville, Brooklyn, and in 2020 will serve over 1,500 families in Brooklyn and the Bronx. This year, the organization plans to deepen its foothold and impact in Central Brooklyn and the South Bronx through growing the Community Program. *(Third year of funding)*.

The Reading Team New York, NY

The Reading Team received \$25,000 to support general operating costs in their mission to help children at high risk of reading failure become strong readers and writers. The organization engages youth in a wide range of literacy-nurturing lesson and activities so they can succeed in school and in life through three programs: preschool, school-day for four to seven year children, and after-school for k-5. Through its Preschool Program, Preschool Satellite Program, After-School Program, After-School Satellite Program, and Family Literacy Program, the Reading Team serves over 650 children from ages 2 to 11 and their parents. The organization has seen significant improvements in the reading ability of the children who participate in their programs. Funds from the Sills Family Foundation this year will be used for general operating support of the Reading Team's expanding early literacy programs. The organization anticipates serving an additional 50 children next year in both the After-School Program and Preschool Program *(Third year of funding)*

St. Mary's Women and Children's Center Dorchester, MA

St. Mary's was granted \$25,000 for general operating costs. St. Mary's Center offers eight innovative and family-centered programs for women and children who have experienced trauma and are living in poverty. The organization works in partnership with young women, many of them mothers, to break the intergenerational cycle of poverty and achieve lasting, powerful change by building their emotional well-being, educational achievements, and economic independence. St. Mary's work with families is a unique blend of strengths-based, culturally sensitive, family-centered supports that allow them to heal beyond their traumatic experiences and skill-building opportunities that empower women to rebuild their lives. Funding will provide greater flexibility to address the tremendous increase in need resulting from COVID-19. *(Sixteenth year of funding)*

STEPS to End Family Violence (a program of Rising Ground)

New York, NY

STEPS to End Family Violence, a project of Rising Ground (formerly Edwin Gould Services for Children and Families), was awarded \$25,000 to support the Community-Based Services program (CBS) and advanced clinical training. STEPS provides holistic support to all survivors of Intimate Partner Violence, with a special emphasis on supporting justice involved survivors, immigrant survivors, adolescent survivors and very young children impacted by abusive partner behavior. CBS works throughout the five boroughs, including Staten Island and expanded in the past year to partner with Sanctuary with Families' clinical team to create an interagency program called the FamilySafe Initiative. The CBS team is currently trained in Child Parent Psychotherapy, Trauma-Focused Cognitive Behavioral Therapy, several versions of Parenting Journey, and Internal Family Systems (IFS) Therapy. Anticipated loss of New York City Council discretionary funding (due to the pandemic) endangers STEPS' partnership with Avodah Jewish Service Corps (Avodah). Funds will be used to maintain the vital and longstanding services offered by the Avodah Corps Members placed at STEPS and continued adequate training in CPP (one of the most distinct features of the STEPS Community Based Services team). *(Sixteenth year of funding)*

SUPPORT FOR IMMIGRANT FAMILIES

American Civil Liberties Union Foundation, Inc .

New York, NY

The American Civil Liberties Union Foundation (ACLU) received \$25,000 to support its Immigrants' Rights Project (IRP.) For nearly 100 years, the ACLU has been working in courts, legislatures, and communities to defend and preserve the individual rights and liberties that the Constitution and the laws of the US guarantee everyone in the country. Since the beginning of the Trump administration, nearly 2/3 of the ACLU's legal actions against the administration have been to defend immigrants' rights. The Immigrants' Rights Project has three objectives: 1) curtailing abusive interior enforcement and bringing accountability to ICE and CBP; 2) challenging abusive border enforcement and discrimination; and 3) bringing fairness and due process to the immigration detention and deportations systems. IRP will bring to these efforts the ACLU's litigation expertise, media reach, and the power of its supporters' activism. *(Third year of funding)*

Brooklyn Community Bail Fund

Brooklyn, NY

Brooklyn Community Bail Fund received \$25,000 to support the New York Immigrant Freedom Fund. The Brooklyn Community Bail Fund's mission is to ensure equal access to the criminal justice system through direct service, advocacy and public education, with the ultimate goal of ending cash bail. The New York Immigrant Freedom Fund (NYIFF) builds on BCBF's work to end wealth-based pretrial detention for criminal misdemeanors as well as its history of incubating promising new initiatives. NYIFF serves immigrants detained by ICE who are eligible for freedom during the pendency of their cases but at bond amounts they cannot afford. Beyond paying individual immigration bonds, NYIFF will harness its results to strategically and opportunistically influence the larger policy conversation on detention and deportation, in NY and nationally. BCBF hopes that this will become a replicable model for an immigration bond fund. (*Sixth year of funding the Brooklyn Community Bail Fund; Second year of funding the New York Immigrant Freedom Fund*)

Brooklyn Community Foundation

Brooklyn, NY

The Brooklyn Community Foundation received \$25,000 to support the Immigrant Rights Fund, which was created within days of the 2016 election with 100% participation of the board. The Fund was designed to provide immediate and long-term support for organizations responding to injustice and fear in Brooklyn's immigrant communities. Nearly one million immigrants live in Brooklyn, upwards of 22,000 Brooklyn youth are DACA-eligible, and an estimated 172,000 are undocumented. To date the Foundation has raised over \$1,700,000 of its \$2 million goal to disperse over four years, but it is quickly outpacing this planned distribution of grants given the intense demand and continuing crisis at the federal level. The fund deploys resources through immediate response grants to respond to urgent pressures set in motion by federal policy changes and executive orders, small grants for civil resistance, and long-term grants for protecting and supporting immigrant communities. (*Third year of funding program*)

Make the Road New York

Brooklyn, NY

Make the Road New York (MRNY) received \$25,000 to support their Immigration Rapid Response Organizing. MRNY builds the power of Latino and working class communities to achieve dignity and justice through multi-issue, multi-generational organizing, policy innovation, transformative education, and survival services on workers' rights, tenant rights, LGBTQ justice, youth power and policing, public schools and education justice, immigration justice, and climate. These include organizing for city and state policies to protect immigrants, legal representation for those facing deportation, providing "know your rights" workshops and access to direct services, shaping national conversation, and conducting impact litigation. Through its work, MRNY is helping the shape the national conversation on immigration, conducting impact litigation, and pushing for national policy transformation. MRNY is now the largest immigrant base-building organization in New York State and one of the largest in the country, with over 24,000 members. (*Third year of Core Grant funding, funded in 2016-2018 by Next Generation Grants*).

Environmental Justice

The Sills Family Foundation is committed to supporting programs that work with low income communities faced with an undue burden of environmental toxins.

Coming Clean

Brattleboro, VT

Coming Clean received a \$25,000 grant to support general operating costs for its Grassroots-to-National Campaign for Healthy Communities and Environmental Justice. Coming Clean is an organization of 185 international, national, state and grassroots groups united together for healthy and just solutions to the problems of toxic industrial petrochemical production, use, and disposal. The organization's mission is to meaningfully contribute to environmental health and justice by radically reducing sources of toxic pollution in people's lives, especially the disproportionately impacted subpopulations of people of color and low-income people; to aggressively advocate for corporate and marketplace changes as a driver for policy solutions; and position environmental health and justice groups as leaders in building healthy, safe and just communities locally and nationally. Coming Clean's current focus is its Campaign for Healthier Solution which targets corporate policies that affect over 20,000 dollar stores in poor areas, and public policies that can improve adverse conditions on the ground and build toward national changes. *(Ninth 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. The current focus of the Zero Mercury Exposure Reduction Campaign is on skin lightening products laced with mercury, dental amalgam contributing to "secondary poisoning" via environmental release and mercury exposure from fish consumption particularly among sensitive populations. MPP is working in coalition with many NGOs to collaborate, build campaigns and co-release reports. *(Seventh 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. WE ACT envisions a community that has a) informed and engaged residents who participate fully in decision-making on key issues that impact their health and community, b) strong and equal environmental protections, and c) increased environmental health through community-based participatory research and evidence-based campaigns. *(Thirteenth year of funding)*

Sills Capacity Building Grants

Coming Clean

Brattleboro, VT

Coming Clean was awarded a two-year capacity building grant in 2019 (\$25,000 in year one and \$15,275 in year two) to support upgrading its technological systems. The organization is currently operating with outdated technology systems that haven't been upgraded since 2001. This capacity building project will sufficiently upgrade the organization's technology systems and provide necessary improvements to its communications platform, hub services, activity logging, and donation processing, in turn improve the capacity and functionality of Coming Clean. *(Second year of a two-year grant)*

Community Connections for Youth

Bronx, NY

Community Connections for Youth was awarded a three-year capacity building grant in 2018 of \$25,000 each year to support the implementation of their new strategic plan. In particular, the capacity building grant will support the organization's efforts to develop data collection tools and processes to help them: a) clearly and consistently measure outcomes and impact across our internal programs; and b) share with a network of affiliates who are seeking to replicate CCFY's approach in their communities. *(Third year of a three-year grant)*

HousingPlus

Brooklyn, NY

Housing + Solutions received a three-year capacity building grant in 2018 in the amount of \$25,000 per year. The intent of the grant is to support the organization's efforts to build its board's capacity, integrate communications strategies with fundraising, and grow donor streams to increase general operating support. *(Third year of a three-year grant)*

Little Sisters of the Assumption Family Health Services

East Harlem, New York

Little Sisters of the Assumption Family Health Services received a three-year capacity building grant in 2018 of \$25,000 each year to support their efforts to integrate their EMR (electronic medical records) to the Health Information Exchange, implement mobile ERM, and improve their collection rate by adopting an electronic billing system. *(Third year of a three-year grant)*

[Make the Road New York](#) *Brooklyn, NY*

Make the Road New York (MRNY) was awarded a three-year capacity building grant in 2019 of \$25,000 each year to support upgrading its database systems and increasing its measurement, tracking, and evaluation capacity. This project will improve database consistency and efficiency across all programs, increase mobile and remote functionality of the database and ease of data entry for staff, and translate their database into Spanish for monolingual staff. *(Second year of a three-year grant)*

[Mercury Policy Project](#) *Montpelier, VT*

The Mercury Policy Project (MPP) was awarded a three-year capacity building grant in 2019 (\$20,000 in year one, \$15,000 in year two, and \$15,000 in year three) to support ensuring the continuity and on-going work of MPP through facilitating an orderly, systematic and effective transition in leadership. Funds will be used to support: 1) funding a consultant for planning the transition to a new Executive Director and conducting an organizational assessment; 2) the oversight role of the current Director; and 3) the initial integration of the new Executive Director into MPP. Funds awarded in 2019 will be used starting in 2021. *(First year of a three-year grant)*

[Pernet Family Health Service, Inc.](#) *Worcester, MA*

Pernet Family Health Service was awarded a three-year capacity building grant in 2019 of \$25,000 each year to create an agency-wide trauma-informed-care training and reinforcement program. The organization recognizes that many of the people it serves each year - an underserved population that is largely invisible, with some members of the family living with criminal histories, drug abuse, language, and immigration issues - have experienced some sort of trauma. The organization will incorporate the principles of trauma-informed care into their service delivery model through formal off-site training, orientation trainings for new staff, and ongoing reinforcement of the principles learned in these trainings. *(Second year of a three-year grant)*

[Roca, Inc.](#) *Chelsea, MA*

Roca was awarded a three-year capacity building grant in 2018 of \$25,000 each year to support the evaluation of Roca's intervention model. Internal data suggests that Roca's model offers an effective approach to lifting the nation's forgotten 1% of young people out of violence and poverty, and over the next three years, Roca plans to work with an internationally-renowned evaluator to perform a comprehensive and independent evaluation of the Intervention Model. This will not only enable Roca to study which elements of the model are the most effective, but will also provide

information to practitioners and policymakers who are seeking to serve youth in their own communities. *(Third year of a three-year grant)*

[West Harlem Environmental Action, Inc.](#)

New York, NY

West Harlem Environmental Action (WE ACT) was awarded a three-year capacity building grant in 2018 of \$25,000 each year to support major donor fundraising and strategic business plan implementation efforts. The goals of the grant are to increase WE ACT's major giving program and to dedicate staff time to the implementation of their 2017-2021 strategic plan and their 2019-2021 business plan. *(Third year of a three-year grant)*

[Women's Prison Association](#)

New York, NY

The Women's Prison Association was awarded a two-year capacity building grant in 2019 of \$25,000 each year to support its current initiative to dismantle racism and maximize diversity, equity, and inclusion (DEI) at WPA. Beginning this year, WPA has convened a working group of staff to discuss internal issues related to DEI through a racial and intersectional lens. This funding will cover professional fees for Candida Brooks-Harrison, an expert facilitator, as she partners with WPA staff to address racism and oppression at all levels and achieve equitable outcomes for everyone at WPA. *(Second year of a two-year grant)*

Sills 2020 Rapid Response Grants

[A Little Piece of Light](#)

Brooklyn, New York

A Little Piece of Light (ALPOL) received \$5,000 to provide personal protective equipment (PPE) during the COVID-19 pandemic. ALPOL seeks to empower and facilitate healing for women, girls, and gender-fluid individuals who are directly impacted by trauma and involvement in the criminal justice system. Led by formerly incarcerated and family members of incarcerated individuals, ALPOL mobilizes those that share their collective trauma, incited by racism, sexism, violence, poverty and the criminal justice system.

[Brooklyn Defender Services](#)

Brooklyn, NY

Brooklyn Defender Services (BDS) received \$10,000 to provide essential clothes and books for immigrant clients at ICE detention facilities. This grant will aid approximately 120 BDS immigrant clients detained by ICE in detention centers with the necessary funds to be deposited into their commissary accounts so that they can purchase essential clothing layers such as thermal underwear, to help them stay warm and comfortable and avoid medical problems and physical

discomfort resulting from the cold due to inadequate temperature regulation in their respective facilities.

Sills 2020 Arts and Culture Committee Grants

We aim to support arts education and access to high quality cultural experiences that play a role in supporting low income children and families in achieving improved academic and personal outcomes.

Artists Striving to End Poverty

White Plains, NY

Artists Striving to End Poverty was awarded a \$10,000 grant to support ASTEP on STAGE! 2.0. The ASTEP on STAGE! Program introduces underserved youth in NYC to the transforming power of the arts by bringing performing and visual artists from the Broadway and NYC community to after-school and in-school programs. ASTEP Volunteer Artists delivers 1 to 2-hour classes focusing on drama, music, visual art and dance. The program also partners with NYC organizations serving youth affected by the justice system, incarceration, gun violence, homelessness, immigration status, systemic poverty, and HIV/AIDS. In 2020, ASTEP has had to suspend in-person workshops and move to digital programming and supporting partner organizations with food relief and arts resources for those who cannot access digital programs. In 2021, ASTEP will focus on expanding and diversifying recruitment of Volunteer Teachers, adding several new partners, and enhancing training for Artist Teachers in curriculum development, behavior management, and sensitivity and diversity training. *(Fourth year of funding)*

ArtsWestchester

White Plains, NY

ArtsWestchester was awarded a total of a \$40,000 grant: \$20,000 for the WestHab After School program and \$20,000 for general operating support. Arts Westchester's mission is to provide leadership, vision, and support to ensure the availability, accessibility and diversity of the arts in Westchester County. Ground zero for the emerging Covid-19 virus, they quickly adapted to digital formats where possible and supplemental resources for the digitally unconnected. For at-risk youth, the art workshops at the WestHab youth and family center provide opportunities to reinforce self-confidence and one's ability to work cooperatively with peers. For senior citizens, art-making workshops encourage socialization and reinforce cognitive and social skills. *(Ninth year of funding)*

Bloomfield College

Bloomfield, NJ

Bloomfield College received \$25,000 to support scholarships. Bloomfield College is a small Liberal arts institution that is committed to enabling students, particularly those who have been historically excluded from higher education, to realize their intellectual and personal goals. Bloomfield College is the 15th most diverse National Liberal Arts College in the United States, with more than half of the students identifying as first-generation US residents and are the first in their families to enroll in college. *(Third year of funding)*

Brooklyn Ballet

Brooklyn, NY

Brooklyn Ballet was awarded a grant of \$20,000 to for general operating support and for the 2021 Elevate Program. Brooklyn Ballet is a professional, not-for-profit dance company dedicated to artistic excellence and education, reflecting Brooklyn's diverse communities. Covid-19 has drastically reduced revenue streams and required Brooklyn Ballet to pivot to virtual programming. Funds will help sustain the organization and adapt the Elevate Program as it operates virtually until classes can be held in person again. The Elevate Program brings ballet into public schools and typically provides between 60 and 180 2nd and 3rd graders at each school the opportunity to participate in 12 weeks of free, in-school ballet classes taught by Brooklyn Ballet teaching artists. The programs culminate in an end-of-year showcase for students to demonstrate their new skills in front of parents and friends. Students learn to choreograph their own pieces and explore the immense creative, emotional, and physical benefits of dance. *(Seventh year of funding)*

Brooklyn Public Library

Brooklyn, NY

The Brooklyn Public Library was awarded a \$20,000 grant for its Creative Aging Program, which mobilizes 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. The programs teach the fundamentals of an art form and provide students with hands-on instruction that builds artistic skills and inspires creativity. Programs focus on visual, literary and performing arts and have included dance, photography, choral singing, painting, collage, poetry, fiber arts, and theater. With Covid-19, programs pivoted to virtual delivery, which will continue for the Creative Aging Program through 2021. Funds will be used to adapt the program, provide training to Teaching Artists and senior assistants and expand programming to more languages. *(Seventh year of funding)*

Community-Word Project

New York, NY

Community Word Project (CWP) was awarded \$20,000 to sustain and strengthen its Collaborative Arts Residences Program in a Covid and post-Covid environment. They will serve 3,000 New York City public school students in 50 underserved schools and libraries in the 2020-2021 academic year. CWP residencies infuse the arts, literacy and socio-emotional learning into the public school classroom curriculum to motivate students to be engaged and curious learners as they develop critical, creative thinking and the literacy skills needed to succeed in school and life. The arts provide additional points of entry to further engage students who otherwise struggle with accessing the content and curriculum. CWP pivoted nearly all their programming to remote learning in 2020

and will continue to work on strengthening training programs for Teaching Artists, providing multiple opportunities for students to engage in cross-curricular activities and formalizing rigorous evaluation models. Grant funds will support the overall costs of offering Collaborative Arts Residency programs. *(Ninth year of funding)*

Creative Art Works

New York, New York

Creative Art Works (CAW) received a grant of \$15,000 to provide general operating support to sustain creative education and experiences for at-risk New York City youth. CAW empowers young people through visual and multimedia arts programs that equip children, teens and young adults with essential tools and skills; connect them with community, academic success and career opportunities; and inspire them to reach for new possibilities. Working in underserved neighborhoods of New York City, in public schools, community and cultural centers, juvenile detention and foster care facilities, CAW provides dynamic creative youth development for youth who otherwise lack access through four core programs: out-of-school-time programs, in-school programs, the public art youth employment program, and community art-making programs. With Covid-19, and declines in City funding, CAW pivoted many of its programs to on-line, but had to suspend their community art-making events and several summer programs, and streamline operations. *(Third year of funding)*

Groundswell

Brooklyn, NY

Groundswell was granted \$15,000 for its Master Studio Artmaking Programs. Groundswell's suite of Master Studio (afterschool and summer programs) brings together 165 youth with artists and community partners to make public art that advances social change for a more just and equitable world. 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. Groundswell aims to have its youth participants engaged in programming over a sustained period of time (3yrs and beyond) who will, in the long-term, develop into self-sufficient, self-sustaining adults who identify as creative problem solvers, confident, healthy individuals, and agents of social change. Groundswell also pivoted many programs to on-line this year and created a Digital Learning Lab to provide laptops and tablets to program participants. *(Eighth year of funding)*

Manhattan Theater Club

New York, NY

The Manhattan Theater Club was granted \$20,000 to support its MTC Education Programs which connect young people in the NYC area and beyond with play study and play-writing activities. The mission of MTC, since 1972, has been to produce innovative theatre of the highest quality by American and international playwrights, with a focus on presenting New York, American, and world premieres. While Covid-19 will continue to affect where and how MTC works with students, the goal is to reach over 2600 students through the following MTC Education Programs: the Core Program of 4 workshops based on a play in production; the Online Stargate Theater Company program for young men in the juvenile justice system; Write on the Edge playwriting residencies; the TheatreLink distance learning program; the Write Now! Afterschool playwriting program; the Student Monologue Challenge; and professional development workshops for NYC area teachers. *(Second year of funding)*

POLIN Museum/North American Council for the Legacy of Polish Jews

Warsaw, Poland

The North American Council for the Legacy of Polish Jews received a grant of \$25,000 to provide support to the POLIN Museum. The POLIN Museum is the first public-private partnership in Poland, created jointly by the government, the local government, and a non-governmental organization. It is a modern cultural institution - a narrative museum which presents a 1,000-year history of Polish Jews. It is also a place for meetings and conversations for all of those eager to learn more about the past and present of Jewish culture, to confront the stereotypes, and to face the perils of today's world such as xenophobia and nationalistic prejudices. By promoting openness, tolerance, and truth, POLIN Museum contributes to the mutual understanding and respect amongst Poles and Jews. *(Fourth year of funding).*

The Public Theater (previously The Shakespeare Society)

Brooklyn, NY

The Public Theater received a \$15,000 grant to support The Hunts Point Children's Shakespeare Ensemble, in partnership with The Shakespeare Society. In FY18, The Shakespeare Society and The Public Theater joined forces under the Public Shakespeare Initiative, of which the Hunts Point Children's Shakespeare Ensemble will be a central and essential program. Now in its fourteenth year, the Ensemble is a program of the Public Shakespeare Initiative, implemented in close collaboration with The Shakespeare Society's long-time, vital community partner The Hunts Point Alliance for Children. Through the Ensemble, approximately 60 fourth, fifth, and sixth graders from five schools in Hunts Point will spend an entire academic year learning about, rehearsing, and ultimately performing a Shakespeare play. Based on their successful experience in 2020 pivoting this program to digital, the initiative will nimbly adapt to the circumstances of 2021 to provide in-person and/or digital programming. *(Seventh year of funding)*

Songcatchers

Larchmont, NY

Songcatchers was granted \$16,875 to support general operating costs. Songcatchers's mission is to provide low-cost access to high quality music education, training and enrichment for children and families in the New Rochelle area, focusing on the low-income, Black and Latino populations. The organization promotes excellence in an atmosphere that fosters community, mutual respect, self-esteem, leadership development and an appreciation for the arts. Songcatchers works to help students develop a lifelong appreciation of music, as well as develop character, self-esteem and focus through the discipline of regular practice. Throughout the process, students, staff and volunteers will cultivate a sense of community, belonging and joy by engaging with music. While Covid disrupted all in-person programming, Songcatchers used Google classrooms for the After School programming. The grant will help Songcatchers upgrade their technology platforms for remote work, fundraising and on-line programming, as well as go towards scholarships for students in need. *(Second year of funding)*

Vanguard Theater
Montclair, NJ

The Vanguard Theater received a \$5,000 grant for special initiatives. The Vanguard Theater produces original, collaborative and re-imagined works of theater with a dedication to D.R.E.A.M. - diversity, reciprocity, education, awareness and mentorship. *(First year of funding)*

Sills 2020 Second Generation Committee Grants

The Second Generation committee funds programs supporting immigrants, at risk youth and climate change mitigation. In 2020 we were able to make additional grants related to the Covid-19 health and economic crisis.

ASE Education Foundation

Leesburg, Virginia

The ASE Education Foundation received \$13,000 for automotive repair scholarships. This organizations mission is to provide scholarships to students pursuing training in automotive repair. This fund will provide scholarships to post-secondary automotive repair training programs for low-income high school graduates (*Second year of funding- Im pretty sure this was the third year of funding*)

Brooklyn Community Foundation

Brooklyn, NY

The Brooklyn Community Foundation received \$10,000 to support its Brooklyn Covid-19 Response Fund. The fund supplied \$3.3 million in grants to over 450 organizations that provided immediate and longer term resources to vulnerable residents across the borough. The Fund's Phase 2 will do extensive community engagement to identify and invest in community-led strategies that address injustice as well as direct relief for urgent needs exacerbated by Covid-19. (*First year of funding*)

California Immigrant Resilience Fund /Tides Foundation

San Francisco, CA

The California Immigrant Resilience Fund (CIRF) received \$10,000 in general operating support. CIRF was formed as a public-private partnership in response to the Covid-19 pandemic to provide cash assistance to undocumented immigrants in California. The fund worked with 60 partner organizations to provide \$75 million in assistance to 150,000 families and worked to establish an infrastructure and statewide network that can be quickly mobilized in response to future crises and opportunities. (*First year of funding*)

Carbon Cycle Institute

Petaluma, CA

Carbon Cycle Institute (CCI) received \$18,000 to support general operating costs in its mission to stop and reverse global climate change by advancing science-based solutions that reduce atmospheric carbon while promoting environmental stewardship, social equity and economic sustainability. CCI achieves its mission through the Ag Carbon Program, which is advancing carbon farming and regenerative agriculture that builds soil carbon and critical ecosystem services on ranches and farms (working landscapes). CCI believes climate change cannot be addressed through mitigation of GHG/carbon emissions alone; solutions must reduce the "legacy load" of carbon in the atmosphere, and these solutions should focus first on restoring natural resources and processes. Funding will support core staffing and operating expenses for CCI to successfully implement its core program to scale carbon farming and regenerative management of working lands across California through building the capacity of the organization's strategic soil and land management partners

(including Resource Conservation Districts and land trusts) and advancing state and local policies to support soil carbon sequestration and carbon farming. *(Third year of funding)*

Climate Collaborative

Oakland, CA

The Climate Collaborative received \$15,000 to support general operating costs. The Climate Collaborative (TCC) launched in March 2017 at the inaugural Climate Day at Expo West. The mission is to bring together concerned businesses from the natural products industry working collaboratively to catalyze bold action, amplify the voice of business and promote sound policy to reverse climate change. TCC will provide hands-on training on carbon farming practices and tools, bring together virtual working groups on regenerative agriculture and consumer engagement, and host monthly webinars on best practices. Funding will support the core activities of the Climate Collaborative, in providing vital, cost-free support to companies to build their internal capacity to respond to climate change, and to develop industry-wide pathways to collaboratively respond to climate change, so that their suppliers, consumers, and communities are lifted up by their action as well. In 2020, they will launch several toolkits and offer at least 12 programs with about 1500 participants as well as seek to network 200 companies to engage in Federal policy change. *(Second year of funding)*

Girls Education and Mentoring Services, Inc.

Brooklyn, NY

Girls Education and Mentoring Services (GEMS) received \$18,000 to support general operating costs, and allow GEMS to enrich its programs and services, including virtual programming during Covid. From its founding in 1998, GEMS has grown into a nationally-acclaimed organization that is one of the largest providers of services to commercial sexual exploitation and domestic trafficking (CSE) youth in the US. GEMS is dedicated to improving the lives of girls and young women the agency serves through comprehensive supportive services. General operating support will support GEMS' trauma-informed and culturally-competent programs and services. Additionally, funding will support the agency administration and technology upgrades, and the provision of basic needs and supplies (clothing, food, Metrocards, shelter, and stipends, as well as the costs associated with obtaining identification and healthcare). *(Sixth year of funding)*

GRID Alternatives

Oakland, CA

GRID Alternatives received \$20,000 to support its 2020 Greater Los Angeles Solar Career Pathways for Youth Program (SCPYP). GRID Alternatives is a nonprofit solar contractor that installs solar systems on low-income residences and trains volunteers on site in all aspects of solar installation. The organization provides solar installation training to job trainees and assists with placements into solar jobs. GRID has multiple avenues for candidates, including the Installation Basics Training certificate program, which trains individuals in the basic competency and ability to perform key aspects of the installation process, and the SolarCorps Fellowship, which is a one-year paid fellowship program for highly-motivated and enthusiastic people to join GRID full time for thirteen months. Covid forced most of the operations to shut down and so funding will be used to redevelop

the workforce development training program during Covid. Funding will also support 3 Solar Career Pathway internship positions for opportunity youth. *(Fourth year of funding)*

[The Guidance Center of Westchester](#) *Mount Vernon, NY*

The Guidance Center of Westchester received \$7,500 to support the CodeWorks vocational training program. The Guidance Center of Westchester is a multi-service, community-based organization that offers essential and lasting support to those challenged by mental illness, substance abuse, poverty, and homelessness. TGF has worked with youth and young adults to help them navigate the myriad and daunting transitions required to achieve independence. The CodeWorks Program, in collaboration with the STEM Alliance of Mamaroneck/Larchmont will engage 20 out of school youth in learning web design and increase their soft job readiness skills. *(Second year of funding)*

[Make the Road New York](#) *Brooklyn, NY*

Make the Road New York (MRNY) received \$15,000 to support the Youth Power Project Restorative Justice Program. MRNY builds the power of immigrant and working class communities to achieve dignity and justice through organizing, policy innovation, transformative education, and survival services. Their model integrates multi-issue, multi-generational organizing - on workers' rights, tenant rights, LGBTQ justice, youth power and policing, public schools and education justice, immigration justice, and climate - with an array of wraparound services that create a space of safety and support for entire families. Funds will deepen the project's restorative justice (RJ) work, ensure implementation of recent wins (repeal of 50A and the STAT Act), and generally furthering leadership development and organizing through the Youth Power Project (YPP). 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. Restorative justice creates a culture of respect and accountability, builds community anchored in shared values, and keeps students on the path to success. Through trainings, mentorship, and support circles, the entire school community plays a role in implementing RJ practices on campus. *(Fifth year of funding)*.

[MISSEY, Inc.](#) *Oakland, CA*

MISSEY received \$18,000 for general operating costs. MISSEY offers trauma-informed, non-judgmental direct services to commercial sexual exploitation children (CSEC) and transition age youth, and at-risk youth; providing intensive case management, mentoring, a drop-in center, and youth advocacy. Through these activities, youth learn to connect and collaborate with others, uplift their voices and express their truths, explore their passions and interests, and develop the confidence, knowledge, and self-advocacy skills that empower them to lead healthy, self-determined lives. Funding will support MISSEY's capacity building project to strengthen its leadership and infrastructure to ensure that they can effectively support youth, their communities and the broader CSEC movement. It will support the Moving Obstacles Vital to Ending Exploitation initiative (MOVE) which will address sex trafficking of girls in the Oakland area through prevention education, street outreach and wraparound services. *(Fifth year of funding)*

Partnerships for Trauma Recovery

Berkeley, CA

Partnerships for Trauma Recovery (PTR) received \$16,500 to support the Mosaic Healing Center. The Mosaic Healing Center is where PTR provides in-depth psychosocial care to their clients, who are refugees, asylum seekers and asylees who have survived war, torture, gender-based violence, human trafficking and persecution due to identity, sexual orientation and beliefs. Since launching the Mosaic Healing Center, PTR has provided trauma-informed, globally culturally aware, and linguistically accessible mental health and case management services to nearly 300 refugees and other international survivors of human rights abuses. At the core of PTR's model is the Global Healing & Human Rights (GHHR) clinical training program, which is also provided at the Mosaic Healing Center. Through this program, PTR trains advanced psychology doctoral students to provide trauma-informed, culturally aware, and linguistically accessible mental health care for refugees, asylees and asylum seekers in the Bay Area. *(Third year of funding)*

Refugee & Immigrant Transitions

San Francisco, CA

Refugee & Immigrant Transitions (RIT) received \$18,000 in general operating support. RIT provides educational services for refugees, asylum seekers and immigrants from 50 countries in the San Francisco Bay area. Its' programs include Education and Enrichment programs which breaks down linguistic and social barriers, Family Engagement Programs which connect families to vital wrap around services, and Community Leadership Trainings, which work to build capacity among newcomer youth and adults. RIT will continue adapting its services to the reality of Covid-19, execute a comprehensive funding strategy, and broaden and deepen community awareness. *(Fourth year of funding)*

Regeneration International

Finland, MN

Regeneration International received \$18,000 to support the U.S. Farmers and Ranchers for a Green New Deal coalition. Regeneration International works with multiple stakeholders, including consumers, farmers/ranchers, scientists, grassroots activists, and educators in key regions of the world who are committed to building alternative food and farming systems on a regional or national level, through alliance-building and policy work. The U.S. Farmers & Ranchers for a Green New Deal Project, launched in 2019, aims to build grassroots and political support for agricultural policy reforms that will provide farmers and ranchers with the resources and policy tools they need in order to transition to regenerative agriculture production practices that can draw down and sequester billions of excess carbon from the atmosphere, as well as combat the farming crisis, improve rural economic stagnation and food insecurity, and provide a framework of uniting a wide range of climate activists and social justice groups. They will organize at least 10 webinars for stakeholders, generate at least 100,000 calls/emails to Congress on the Farm System Reform Act, and conduct at least 5 briefings on Capitol Hill. *(Second year of funding)*

Restorative Justice for Oakland Youth

Oakland, CA

Restorative Justice for Oakland Youth (RJOY) received \$10,000 in general operating support. RJOY works to interrupt cycles of violence, incarceration, and wasted lives by promoting institutional

shifts toward restorative approaches that actively engage families, communities, and systems to repair harm and prevent re-offending. Funding will enable RJOY to reactivate the Re-Entry Circles of Supportive and Accountability (COSA) Project, which provides intensive services and support through the establishment and implementation of circles of support and accountability. This project will serve 8-10 Bay Area youth re-entering the community from juvenile detention and criminal system involvement. In addition, RJOY will use funding to expand the Youth Apprentice Program. *(Eighth year of funding)*

Safe Passages

Oakland, CA

Safe Passages was granted \$20,000 to support its Family Resource Center Program (FRC). Safe Passages' mission is to disrupt the cycle of poverty by engaging youth and families to build and drive a continuum of services that supports student success and community development. By partnering with over 65 public and private agencies, Safe Passages works to increase parents' access to resources, increase kindergarten readiness of young children, increase high school graduation and college entrance rates, support youth in making career choices that lead to living wage careers, and increase family/caregiver capacity to meet the social, emotional and financial needs of their families. The goal of the Family Resource Center is to support families on their path to self-sufficiency through provision of basic needs, job training programs, enrollment in public benefits and employment opportunities. With Covid, the FRC is providing more basic needs, engaging the community through more virtual check-ins and improving staff capacity to access more Covid relief funding and partnerships. *(Eighth year of funding)*

Women's Earth Alliance

Berkeley, CA

Women's Earth Alliance (IWEA) received \$20,000 to support the U.S Grassroots Accelerator for Women Environmental Justice Leaders. WEA and the Sierra Club launched the Accelerator in early 2019 to support women throughout the U.S. who are taking a lead in building actionable solutions to pressing climate and environmental challenges. In some of the most environmentally threatened regions, WEA training graduates are preserving indigenous seeds and plant knowledge key to survival; selling clean cookstoves that save lives and reduce the destruction of forests; modeling the small-scale regenerative farming practices that will feed the planet; protecting dwindling water sources; staving off destructive and toxic energy extraction; and shaping cultures of peace. This diverse cohort of 20-30 women climate leaders will engage in a 4-month action-driven training program. *(Third year of funding)*

World without Exploitation

New York, NY

World without Exploitation (WorldWE) received \$5,000 to support general operating costs. WorldWE is the largest US national coalition to end trafficking and commercial sexual exploitation with a membership of 175 organizations. Founded in 2016 to harness, support, and amplify the powerful work being done by anti-exploitation organizations across the nation, its mission is to create a world where no person is bought, sold or exploited. The organization will run the 4th annual a WorldWE Youth Summit in 2021, which brings together up to 300 student activities and artists age 16-28 for a day-long, youth-driven, survivor-centered event at Brooklyn Historical Society. They are expanding their coalition through a speakers series and the second annual WorldWE national training conference for up to 300 allies, and will establish a national Training and Technical Assistance team to coordinate Equality policy initiatives with allies. *(Second year of funding)*

Youth ALIVE!

Oakland, CA

Youth ALIVE! received \$15,000 to fund general operations to help sustain Youth ALIVE!'s interconnected programs staffed by people from the community who do the groundwork to prevent violence, help individuals and the community heal, and create engaged young leaders within the neighborhoods hit hardest by violence. The organization works to provide intensive, trauma-informed support, mentoring, case management, violence intervention, conflict mediation, mental health counseling, and leadership training to hundreds of young Oaklanders affected by violence. Their founding program, Teens on Target trains East Oakland high school students to become violence prevention educators and positive role models to their peers as well as leaders who are deeply engaged in the civic effort for peace and safety. Under Covid, their leadership training has shifted to a mentorship model, middle school programs are relying on print and radio media and other case management and service programs are done through phone and video. *(Fifth year of funding)*

Youth Shelter Program of Westchester

Mount Vernon, NY

The Youth Shelter Program of Westchester (YSPW) received \$15,000 to support the vocational/employment component of the Aftercare and Re-entry Program. YSPW provides a home-like alternative to jail for young men awaiting disposition of various criminal charges. The shelter has twelve beds in its residential facility, which serves men ages 16-21, in order to prevent them from entering the adult incarceration system. YSPW provides programming t aimed at preparing this population for their eventual return to their homes and communities, with an overall goal of reducing re-incarceration among youth. The vocational/employment component of the Aftercare and Re-entry Program identifies job opportunities for youth leaving detention at the Shelter, works to develop specific training and employment options that bear the most promise for success and provides much needed support for the young person who is returning to the family after a period of detention. Funding this year will go towards the purchase of laptops and web cameras to implement virtual programming. *(Fourth year of funding)*

Sills 2020 Grants Summary

Strategic Grants

Organization	Amount Awarded	Purpose
American Civil Liberties Union Foundation, Inc.	\$25,000	Immigrants' Rights Project
Avenues for Justice, Inc	\$25,000	General operating
Bard Prison Initiative	\$25,000	General operating
The Bronx Defenders	\$25,000	Reentry Support
BronxWorks	\$25,000	The Home Instruction for Parents of Preschool Youngsters (HIPPY) Program
Brooklyn Community Bail Fund	\$25,000	New York Immigrant Freedom Fund
Brooklyn Community Foundation	\$25,000	Immigrant Rights Fund
Brooklyn Defender Services	\$25,000	Community Office Family Initiative
Brooklyn Public Library	\$10,000	TeleStory
Circle	\$25,000	Housing Options and Programming for Battered Women Charged with Crimes
The College and Community Fellowship, Inc.	\$25,000	General operating
Coming Clean, Inc.	\$25,000	Coming Clean's Grassroots-to-National Campaign for Healthy Communities and Environmental Justice
Common Justice	\$25,000	General operating
Community Connections for Youth	\$25,000	General operating
Correctional Association of New York	\$25,000	General operating
Echoes of Incarceration (a project of Ibis Productions, Inc.)	\$25,000	General operating
exalt youth	\$25,000	General operating
Fund for the City of New York/Center for Court Innovation	\$25,000	Save Our Streets (SOS) Crown Heights

Fund for the City of New York/Center for Court Innovation	\$25,000	Brooklyn Justice Initiative
Hour Children	\$50,000	Hour Children Prison and Community Programs
HousingPlus	\$25,000	General operating
HousingPlus	\$25,000	Beyond Rosie's Campaign
Howard Center	\$25,000	Northern Lights
Hudson Link for Higher Education in Prison	\$25,000	General operating
Julie's Family Learning Program	\$25,000	Adult and Children Services
JustLeadershipUSA	\$25,000	General operating
Little Sisters of the Assumption Family Health Service, Inc.	\$25,000	Parenting and Child Development Program
Lund	\$25,000	Kids-A-Part Parenting Program
Make the Road New York	\$25,000	Immigration Rapid Response Organizing
Mercury Policy Project/Tides Center	\$25,000	Zero Mercury Exposure Reduction Campaign
The Osborne Association	\$40,000	General operating
Pernet Family Health Service, Inc.	\$25,000	Engaging Incarcerated Fathers in Responsible Parenting
Power of Two	\$25,000	Community Programs
Providence House, Inc.	\$25,000	Women's Justice Program
The Reading Team	\$25,000	General operating
Rehabilitation Through The Arts	\$25,000	General operating
Release Aging People in Prison Campaign	\$15,000	General operating
Roca, Inc.	\$25,000	Intervention Model for Young Parents

St. Mary's Center for Women and Children	\$25,000	General operating
STEPS to End Family Violence/Rising Ground	\$25,000	Community-Based Services Program
Strategies for Youth	\$25,000	General operating
Urban Youth Alliance International/BronxConnect	\$25,000	Employment Pathways for Court-Involved Youth
Voice of the Ex-Offender (VOTE)	\$25,000	General operating
Volunteers of Legal Service	\$25,000	Immigration Project
Volunteers of Legal Service	\$25,000	Incarcerated Mothers Law Project
West Harlem Environmental Action, Inc. (WE ACT)	\$25,000	General operating
Women's Prison Association	\$25,000	General operating
Youth Represent	\$25,000	General operating

Total	\$1,215,000	
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Capacity Building Grants

Organization	Amount Awarded	Purpose
Coming Clean, Inc.	\$15,275	Technological system supports (2019, year 2 of 2)
Community Connections for Youth	\$25,000	Implementation of CCFY's strategic plan (2018, year 3 of 3)
HousingPlus	\$25,000	Board capacity, communications strategies, and growing individual donor streams 2018, year 3 of 3)
Little Sisters of the Assumption	\$25,000	Integration of EMR (electronic medical records) (2018, year 3 of 3)
Make the Road New York	\$25,000	Database Efficiency Improvements (2019, year 2 of 3)
Mercury Policy Project/Tides Center	\$20,000*	Transition consultant support (2019, year 1 of 3)
Pernet Family Health Service, Inc.	\$25,000	Trauma-Informed Care Training (2019, year 2 of 3)
Roca, Inc.	\$25,000	Evaluating Roca's intervention model (2018, year 3 of 3)
West Harlem Environmental Action, Inc. (WE ACT)	\$25,000	Major donor fundraising and strategic business plan implementation (2018, year 3 of 3)
Women's Prison Association	\$25,000	Addressing Racism and Oppression and Maximizing Diversity, Equity, and Inclusion (2019, year 2 of 2)
Total	\$215,275 (without MPP), \$235,275 (with MPP)	

*These funds were awarded in 2019 and will be used in 2021

Rapid Response Grants

Organization	Amount Awarded	Purpose
A Little Piece of Light	\$5,000	To provide personal protective equipment (PPE) during the COVID-19 pandemic
Brooklyn Defender Services	\$10,000	To provide essential clothes and books for immigrant clients at ICE detention facilities
Total	\$15,000	

Arts and Culture Grants

Organization Name	Amount Awarded	Grant Purpose
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Artists Striving to End Poverty	\$10,000	ASTEP on STAGE! 2.0
Arts Westchester	\$20,000	General operating
Arts Westchester	\$20,000	Westhab Afterschool Program
Bloomfield college	\$25,000	Scholarship fund
Brooklyn Ballet	\$20,000	Elevate Program and general operating
Brooklyn Public Library	\$20,000	Creative Aging Program
Community-Word Project Inc.	\$20,000	Collaborative Arts Residences
Creative Art Works	\$15,000	General operating
Groundswell	\$15,000	Master Studio Artmaking Program
Manhattan Theater Club	\$20,000	Education Programs
Polin Museum/North American Council for the Legacy of Polish Jews	\$25,000	General operating
The Public Theater	\$15,000	Hunts Point Children's Shakespeare Ensemble
Songcatchers	\$16,875	General operating
Vanguard Theater Company	\$5,000	Special Initiatives
Total	\$246,875	

Second Generation Grants

Organization Name	Amount Awarded	Grant Purpose
ASE Scholarship	\$13,000	Automotive repair scholarship
Brooklyn Community Foundation	\$10,000	Brooklyn Covid Response Fund
California Immigrant Resilience Fund/Tides Foundation	\$10,000	General operating- Covid Response Fund
Carbon Cycle Institute	\$18,000	General operating
Climate Collaborative	\$15,000	General operating
Girls Educational and Mentoring Services	\$18,000	General operating
GRID Alternatives	\$20,000	2020 Greater Los Angeles Solar Career Pathways for Youth Program
The Guidance Center of Westchester	\$7,500	CodeWorks Vocational Training Program
Make the Road New York	\$15,000	Youth Power Project Restorative Justice program
MISSEY, Inc.	\$18,000	General operating
Partnerships for Trauma Recovery	\$16,500	Mosaic Healing Center
Refugee & Immigrant Transitions	\$18,000	General operating
Regeneration International	\$18,000	U.S. Farmers & Ranchers for a Green New Deal
Restorative Justice for Oakland Youth (RJOY)	\$10,000	General operating
Safe Passages	\$20,000	Family Resource Center Program
Women's Earth Alliance	\$20,000	U.S Grassroots Accelerator for Women Environmental Justice Leaders
World without Exploitation	\$5,000	General operating
Youth ALIVE!	\$15,000	General operating
Youth Shelter Program of Westchester, Inc.	\$15,000	Aftercare & Re-Entry Program
Total	\$282,000	

2020 Trustee Discretionary Grants

The 3 trustees of the Sills Family Foundation and their families made a total of 54 discretionary grants, ranging in size from \$500 to \$10,000, and totaling \$145,000.

Art Sills

Name of Organization	Grant Amount
Academy of the City Charter School	\$5,000
Cambridge Friends School	\$5,000
New York City Audubon Society	\$5,000
Planned Parenthood Federation of America, Inc.	\$2,500
School is Open	\$5,000
Unitarian Church of All Souls	\$2,500
Vermont Adaptive Ski and Sports	\$10,000
Eliyahu Sills	
Earthjustice	\$1,000
Stand.earth	\$1,000
THE GREEN BELT MOVEMENT	\$1,000
Tree Sisters c/o Green America	\$1,000
American Forests	\$1,000
Jackson Hobbs	
Portland Homeless Family Solutions	\$500
The Climate Trust	\$750
Transitional Youth	\$1,250
Malaak Malikyar Sills	
Gathering for Justice	\$1,000
Redwood Day School	\$500
Refugee and Immigrant Transitions	\$1,000
Matthew Sills	
Oakland Public Education Fund	\$1,500
Redwood Day School	\$1,000
Tess Hobbs	
Wasatch Adaptive Sports	\$2,500
Total	\$50,000

Peter Sills

Name of Organization	Grant Amount
A Little Piece of Light	\$5,000
Children's Aid Society	\$3,000
Children's Defense Fund	\$3,500
Corporate Accountability	\$5,000
Doula Program to Accompany and Comfort	\$10,000
Drive Change	\$5,000
Save the Children Federation, Inc.	\$3,500
Twinfield Together Program	\$5,000
Vermont Foodbank	\$5,000
Total	\$45,000

Deborah Iarussi

Name of Organization	Grant Amount
Deborah and Adam Iarussi	
American Council of Minority Women	\$1,300
Brooklyn Bureau of Community Service	\$2,100
East New York Restoration Local Development Corporation	\$3,300
Justice in Motion	\$2,067
Neighbors Together Corp	\$1,300
North Brooklyn Coalition of Neighbors Helping Neighbors (North Brooklyn Angels)	\$2,000
Planned Parenthood of NY	\$1,300
Unitarian Universalist Church of Tucson	\$3,300
Eric and Leah Sills	
AACF (Automotive Aftermarket Charitable Foundation)	\$1,500
Amistad Law Project	\$1,000
Arts Westchester	\$500
Community Resource Center (Hispanic Resource Center of Larchmont Mamaroneck Inc.)	\$1,000
Family Services of Westchester	\$2,500
Giving Circle of Lower Westchester	\$500
HHREC (Holocaust & Human Rights Education Center)	\$1,500
Mocho Village	\$500
Natural Resources Defense Council (NRDC)	\$1,000
NICA National Interscholastic Cycling Association	\$500

NRPL (New Rochelle Public Library)	\$500
Songcatchers	\$1,500
The Sharing Shelf	\$2,500
Westchester Parks Foundation	\$1,667
Susan and Larry Sills	
Disalced Inc	\$8,333
Michael J Fox Foundation for Parkinson's Research	\$8,333
Total	\$50,000