Fall/Winter 2015 Grantees

$50,000 in grants to 17 projects

#KeepDC4Me: A coalition of community organizations, neighborhoods, neighbors, families, friends, and individuals dedicated to collaboratively confronting and dismantling systems of oppression that were created and operate to displace Black people and incite violence in predominantly Black communities in the District of Columbia.

America’s Vets Helping Vets for Life: For the Million Veterans March, and for providing personal services for veterans that address the causes and consequences of homelessness in an atmosphere of dignity and respect.

Brave Soul Collective: An education, outreach, and support organization for gay / bisexual / transgender / questioning HIV-positive and -negative individuals living their lives in truth through the arts.

Campaign for Returning Citizenship to Returning Citizens (The Re-Entry Network for Returning Citizens): For political education of returning citizens, training of outreach workers who are also returning citizens, and creating safe spaces for returning citizens to share their pasts with each other.

Crafting for Consciousness: A cooperative of women of color who build community, reduce stress, promote self-sufficiency, and generate revenue while making crafts and engaging in social justice dialogue.

Empower DC: For Public Housing Empowered, a leadership training program for public housing residents. It is part of the Public Housing Campaign, which organizes public housing residents to win improvements and prevent displacement.

For the Love of Orr: For a campaign to modernize Orr Elementary, amplify parent voices in the remodeling planning process, and ensure that DCPS uses a contractor that hires 80% Ward 8 residents.

Grassroots DC: Supporting computer basics and media production training for low-income/working-class DC residents and their advocates.
**Health Care Now:** For a campaign to assure that CareFirst’s excess reserves are reinvested into community health programs in DC.

**Healthy Babies Project:** For the organization’s new peer-to-peer Teen Doula Program, which trains Teen Parent Empowerment Program graduates to provide prenatal, childbirth, and postpartum peer support to improve health outcomes for at-risk pregnant DC teens and their infants.

**IT Computer Wiz Kids:** Support for Community HelpDesk, an intergenerational, DIY training space for computer skills-building.

**On the Ground Radio Show:** A weekly radio show that covers social justice activism, with a special emphasis on sustainable living, environment, economics, labor, and the left edge of culture and media.

**Project Healthy Living/The ManDate:** Improving sexual health outcomes and influencing healthy life choices for black gay men and their social and sexual networks.

**Rebuild the Arthur Capper/Carrollsburg Community Village TimeBank:** Using timebanking as a medium of exchange to marshal human capital to rebuild, reenergize and recreate community for returning residents and new residents after the demolition of the Arthur Capper/Carrollsburg (ACC) public housing complex in Southeast DC.

**Stand Up! For Democracy in DC:** A grassroots organization, founded to address the lack of self-government of the residents of Washington, DC, which has focused on local and national educational outreach with the goal of making the connection between DC Statehood and improving the everyday lives of DC residents through realizing all the benefits and rights which statehood would make possible.

**TightShift Laboring Coop:** Supporting the launch of a worker-owned cooperative that will provide quality employment to returning citizens and troubled youth while providing excellent moving, landscaping, cleaning, and other home improvement services.

**You-Nique Services Inc.:** Providing a media platform for underserved communities to raise awareness of issues and concerns, and exercise their freedom of speech through the production of short online videos.

*Fall/Winter 2015 Grantmaking Team: Reggie Grant, Timothea Howard, Rebecca Lemos-Otero, Lucane Lafortune, Nicole Newman, Brenda Perez, C. Kimmi Ramnine, Brigette Rouson, Kaajal Shah, Jabari Zakiya; Facilitator: Iris Jacob*