



WHY  
MSC?



July 2022–June 2023

MSC'S 2023  
**ANNUAL  
REPORT**



MovementStrategyCenter





A note from  
**CARLA  
DARTIS**

Photo credit: Hewitt Photography

Dear Friends,

It's been another big year here at MSC. We've welcomed new Fiscally Sponsored Projects (FSPs), launched new grantmaking partnerships and services, added new staffers, and continued to expand outside the Bay Area.

In this year's annual report you will find our year in financials, of course; along with a field guide to the FSPs we have the pleasure of supporting, a quick reference of our programs both old and new, and some inspiring testimonials and accomplishments from across the ecosystem.

It is an honor to head a movement support organization that provides infrastructure and incubation to some of the most important transformative movements of peace and justice as our ecosystem, and the world, continues to adapt in the face of a polarized politics, war and senseless loss of life, the Supreme Court's reign of terror, continuing assaults against Black and LGBTQIA+ lives, a global migration crisis, and extreme weather that we hoped might still be a generation away.

Still, we show up each day ready to take on inequities at the intersection of racial, gender, and environmental justice with not only community-centered activism, but a holistic reinvention of philanthropy. Our work is at the vanguard: we are revolutionizing giving practices in support of a culture of equity and diversity while providing space for reflection and incubation. It's hard, but we make space for wellness, with culture and embodiment practices that have been core to the MSC ethos since our founding. To continue that tradition, we launched a new staff wellness program that combines self-care with the tenets of Transformative Movement Building.

**Our Mission** *Movement Strategy Center is a movement support organization that provides equitable intermediary services enabling access to crucial infrastructure and thought partnership for BIPOC, women, and LGBTQIA+ movement leaders, activists, and communities challenging intersectional issues of systemic racism, rampant environmental destruction, and crippling economic exploitation. We are unique in that we do not operate as a singular organization but as a collective ecosystem incubating and accelerating the work of our partner projects, which speaks to our values of radical interdependence and love.*

We also have a lot in the works. By the time you read this, we will have launched an equitable Donor Advised Fund (DAF) program that will allow individuals to make financial distributions that fight systemic barriers. We are relaunching MSC's affiliated 501(c)(4) action fund that will enable support of both partisan and nonpartisan work. We are expanding our ability to shift control of power and wealth with community advised funds and participatory grantmaking models while educating philanthropic partners. We continue to refine and expand the intermediary services we provide our FSPs to be transformational, not just transactional. And, circling back to wellness, we hope to expand our staff wellness program to other members of the ecosystem.

That's a lot, but our core mission remains the same. We will always put love at the center, and we know that we can not pursue our mission without your partnership, commitment, and belief in a world of justice. Thank you for allowing us to serve with you.

Please reach out — we welcome any feedback. Thank you, always, for your support.

Be well and stay safe,



Carla Dartis  
Executive Director

**Our Vision** *is of a Just Transition from a world of domination, extraction, and violence — where the few live at the expense of the many — to a world of interdependence, liberation, and resilience — where the many govern for the benefit of all. We understand that a Just Transition is only possible when the voices of BIPOC, women, and LGBTQIA+ leaders are honored, celebrated, and amplified, not merely tolerated.*





Photo credit: Rosie Kirk

## Fiscal Sponsorship

Designed to support transformative movement building for visionaries, leaders, social entrepreneurs, collaboratives, initiatives, and networks, this innovative movement infrastructure operationalizes BIPOC and women-centered and led projects, organizing, and community strategies with a relational and network-centered approach.

## Movement Strategy Network (MSN)

Representing the core legacy of MSC and founded to incubate and accelerate movement leaders generating strategies to transform our world, build community, grow the ecosystem, and support a Just Transition, this collection of work creates space for transformative movement building through continued transitions initiatives supported by collaborative fundraising and partnerships.

# MSC

## PROGRAMS/SERVICES

### Philanthropic Services

*Our trust based partnerships reimagine, redesign, and educate the philanthropic sector, aiming to end the current extractive practices and oppressive systems that limit and prohibit equitable access to resources for frontline grassroots community-led and centered work.*

### Foundation Regranting

A key partner for the philanthropic sector, MSC leverages resources for grassroots projects and communities who might otherwise lack access. Grounded in our work as a hub for social justice movements, we have the ability to quickly and transparently move resources from funders to communities while supporting equitable partnership, incubation, and acceleration without artificial deadlines and processes.

### Donor Advised Funds

Traditional Donor Advised Funds (DAFs) can compound wealth in large corporate institutions who are incentivized to grow rather than disburse funds to the communities who need it. MSC's radical new model moves short and intermediate term catalytic capital investments to historically excluded communities and encourages utilizing the full fund for giving and investing with a high level of deployment and turnover.

### Special Interest Funds

MSC's Special Interest Fund program was created in an effort to address the growing need to support frontline communities and groups who are limited in how they can access resources from philanthropy. It's a simple yet innovative program that enables a participatory grantmaking model allowing capital to move quickly and equitably to shift power, discretion, and control from wealthy donors to community leaders.

# MSC HAPPENINGS

## June 2022

We launched our Special Interest Fund program including the Sandbranch Revitalization Fund.

## August 2022

The MIIC Team hosted a first-ever retreat in Oakland for FSPs to gather and strategize; the Communications team joined to offer support. ↓



We launched the Equitable Intermediary Fund and Cohort to support intermediary organizations seeking to establish equitable practices for supporting grassroots leadership efforts.

We launched our Staff Wellness Program.

The Communications Team visits EARTHseed Farm, part of Sankofa Project, in Sebastopol. ↓



## September 2022

The MIIC Team restructures their department with new Project Advisors assigned to specific FSPs.

## October 2022

We released our annual report.

We republished our first of several archival blogs on the Move Blog.

## November 2022

Our Senior Leadership Team gathered in Oakland for a retreat.

We launched our FSP Fundraising Taskforce to better serve our partners' fundraising efforts.

We launched Giving Tuesday and End of Year Giving campaigns for the Sandbranch Revitalization Fund; and the Advancement Team first visits the Freedman's Settlement.

## February 2023



↑ The MIIC Team gathered in Austin for their retreat and a day of volunteering at the Festival Beach Food Forest.

The Communications Team launches office hours to support FSPs.

## March 2023



↑ The Operations and People & Culture teams volunteered during their retreat at Urban Peace Movement's Scratch & Fade event in Oakland.

## April 2023

The Communications Team visits the Bayview-Hunters Point neighborhood of San Francisco with Breathe and Felix Cove at Point Reyes National Seashore with Alliance For Felix Cove.

The Advancement team holds its first in-person retreat in Oakland.

## May 2023

We moved to a larger space at 1625 Clay Street, 6th floor — still in the heart of downtown Oakland. Warm and welcoming, it features our vast library, art-lined walls, conversation nooks, lots of greenery, and is designed to host staffers and ecosystem gatherings — including our first all staff, in-person retreat in September. →



## MSC BOARD & STAFF

### MSC Board

**Sandra Bass, Board Secretary** Associate Dean of Students  
and Director of the Public Service Center, UC Berkeley

**Sihle Dinani, Board Chair** Finance Director, Tides Advocacy

**Tomás Garduño** National Field Director, Mijente

**Taj James, Vice Chair, Co-Founder** Co-Founder, Full Spectrum Capital

**Judith LeBlanc** Director, Native Organizing Alliance

**Errika Moore** Executive Director, STEM Funders Network

**Jacqueline Patterson** Founder and Executive Director  
of the Chisholm Legacy Project

**Anasa Troutman** Executive Director, Clayborn Temple

### MSC Senior Leadership Team

**Carla Dartis, Executive Director**

**Andrea Granda, Chief Strategy & Innovation Officer**

**Lelaine Nocum, Chief Financial Officer** Noble Accounting

**Mohini Tadikonda, Chief Advancement Officer**

### Racial Breakdown of MSC Board and Staff

52.1% Black

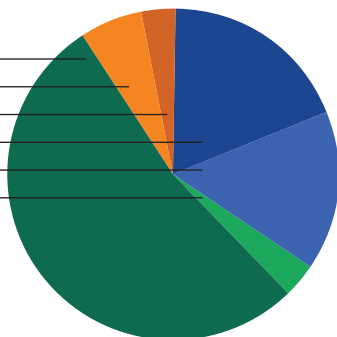
6.3% Asian

3.1% South Asian

18.7% Latinx

15.6% White

3.1% Indigenous



# MSC'S Partner Organizations



**Social Justice**



**Racial Equity**



**Environmental Justice**



**Social Equity**



**Agriculture**



**Disability Justice**



**Clean Energy**



**Gender Justice**



**Climate Resilience**



**Immigrants & Refugees**



**Food Security**



**Indigenous**



**LGBTQIA+**



**Racial Justice**

## Partner Organization Leadership Demographics

48.0% Black

2.0% Asian

6.0% South Asian

2.0% Arab

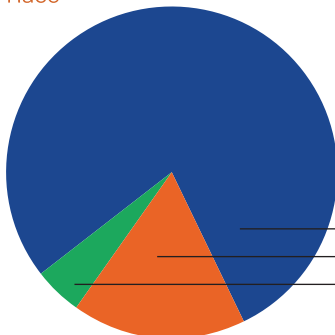
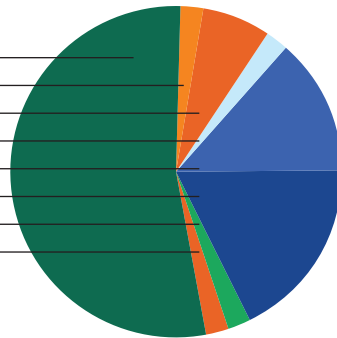
12.0% Latinx

16.0% White

2.0% Indigenous

2.0% Other

**Race**



78.3% Women

17.0% Men

4.7% Gender Non-conforming

**Gender**



MSC serves an ever-growing list of over 150 community-led and centered partners including Fiscally Sponsored Projects (FSPs), the Movement Strategy Network (MSN), and grantees. These diverse and dynamic grassroots organizations challenge systemic racism and tackle social justice causes that center on the interconnected issues of racial, gender, and environmental inequities. It can be difficult to categorize this vital work, but this myriad of focus areas makes an attempt. Our partners each work across several of these categories.



## Movement Building



## Systems Change



Community-Driven Planning



Decarceration



Economic Justice



Education Equity



Health Equity



Public Policy



## Cultural Strategy



Art Activism



Civic Engagement



Embodied Practice



Media



Rematriation & Landback



Spirituality



## Leadership Development



BIPOC



Women



Youth

## Our FSPs and Network Members

**1M4 (One Million Madly Motivated Moms)** **After Incarceration**

**Alliance for Felix Cove** **Beloved Communities Network** **BIG We Foundation**

**BIPOC Student Midwife Fund** **Breathe** **Brown Boi Project** **Democracy at Home**

**Facilitating Power** **Full Spectrum Labs** **HEAL Food Alliance** **Healing Clinic Collective**

**Intelligent Mischief** **Kilomba Collective** **Lantinx Racial Equity Project** **The Neighb**

**New Moon Collaborations** **People's Climate Innovation Center (PCIC)** **The Plant.org**

**Positive Women's Network - USA** **President's Youth Council** **RadOps**

**reSet Project** **Resonance Network** **Root. Rise. Pollinate!**

**Saginaw Just Transition Indaba** **Sankofa Project** **STEM Funders Network**

**TAYHub** **Thrive Network** **TransFormation Alliance** **Trill Digital Arts Innovation Center**

**Ubuntu Power Project** **Urban Peace Movement** **Wakanda Dream Lab**

**Weyam Healing & Conflict Transformation** **When Black + Brown Go Green**

# MSC PARTNER HAPPENINGS

Welcome to our newest FSPs!

**Alliance for Felix Cove** **Bay Area BIPOC Student Midwives**

**Democracy at Home** **The Neighb** **Saginaw Just Transition Indaba**

**TransFormation Alliance** **Trill Digital Art Innovation Center**

**Ubuntu Power Project** **When Black + Brown Go Green**

*As the Alliance was expanding its capacity, we quickly realized we needed a fiscal sponsor that could not only grow with us, but was closely aligned with our Indigenous principles of respect, generosity, reciprocity, responsibility, relationship, and gratitude. They needed to support our liberatory and de-colonizing practices related to social and environmental justice. We are humbled to have found a perfect match! [We onboarded] in May and we've been embraced with so much intention, care, and respect.*

– From **Alliance for Felix Cove's** June 2023 Newsletter



← **Beloved Communities Network** launched a Kickstarter campaign in support of their graphic guide *Ten Thousand Beloved Communities*. This remarkable book, featuring contributions from 25 esteemed leaders and a foreword by adrienne maree brown, offers insights into building world-transforming communities and features artwork by Kristen Zimmerman of **Root. Rise. Pollinate!**



← **Breathe** joined forces with Rebecca Bowe, a freelance journalist, to release a podcast titled "Sandblasted at the Shipyard." The audio series delves into contamination issues plaguing the Hunters Point Naval Shipyard and its profound impact on the predominantly Black residents residing in San Francisco's neighboring Hunters Point-Bayview community.

**BIG We Foundation** partnered with Kooler Kids to facilitate new Shelectricity V.1 curriculum for Black, Indigenous, Latine/a, multiracial and API/AAPI girls, and femme-identifying youth at the Memphis Business Academy. It focused on storytelling, civic engagement, self love, design thinking, and feminism.

In response to persistent police violence against Black communities, **1 Million Madly Motivated Moms (1M4)** joined Right To Be (formerly Hollaback!) and ANJEL Tech to offer a free training called "Bystander Intervention: How to Safely Intervene and Respond in the face of Anti-Black-Police sponsored Violence."



← **Urban Peace Movement** was featured on KPIX TV, where they underscored the importance of including the voices of young people in decision-making processes regarding matters that affect them in Alameda County. This followed the impactful #EndYouthIncarceration town hall, where supporters rallied behind their comprehensive ten-point plan for youth justice.



← **Healing Clinic Collective (HCC)** celebrated its ten year anniversary! Launched in 2013, at a time when the term "healing clinic" was new to many in the ecosystem, HCC brought ancestral teachings and guidance to a liberatory organizing process that has resulted in influencing dozens of other clinics and healing spaces in the Bay Area and beyond.



← **Wakanda Dream Lab** launched "Black Freedom Without Borders: Memories of Abolition Day," a podcast series featuring stories by Black radical storytellers who were asked to imagine a world without prisons or policing. These stories were first published in an anthology in 2020 but the new, six-part podcast features voice actors bringing the stories to life.



↳ **HEAL Food Alliance's** executive director, Navina Khanna, was named as a Castanea Fellow, joining a community of change agents and visionaries dedicated to transforming our food systems. In addition, the organization released its inaugural School of Political Leadership Alumni Report which highlighted the successes and challenges of the program's graduates.

**Brown Boi Project** was a proud member of the Move to End Violence's final cohort and hosted their closing gathering in August in Seattle. This initiative focused on transformative leadership development and building critical mass for the U.S. movement to end violence against women, girls, and gender expansive communities.

Aisha Shillingford, artistic director of **Intelligent Mischief**, was named an Artist-in-Residence for the Laundromat Project. Shillingford and other artists in the program actively work in co-creating "the Black Utopia Project," an innovative endeavor aimed to provide Black femme and non-binary residents in Brooklyn with opportunities for rest, reflection, and replenishment.

**New Moon Collaborations** has relocated to Puerto Rico, where they continue to nurture collaborations across the country that grow a culture and economy grounded in love and care. Highlights include a partnership with Birth Center Equity, where they are part of bringing forth access to midwives. And, in partnership with **Full Spectrum Labs**, they are working with Puerto Rican leadership to regenerate ancestral agriculture and spread learnings and inspiration through stories and innovations in local economic self-determination.

The newly established **BIPOC Student Midwives Fund** embarked on their first fundraising campaign coinciding with the International Day of the Midwife on May 5, 2023. All funds were intended to offer financial aid and resources to the next generation of BIPOC midwifery students in the Bay Area.

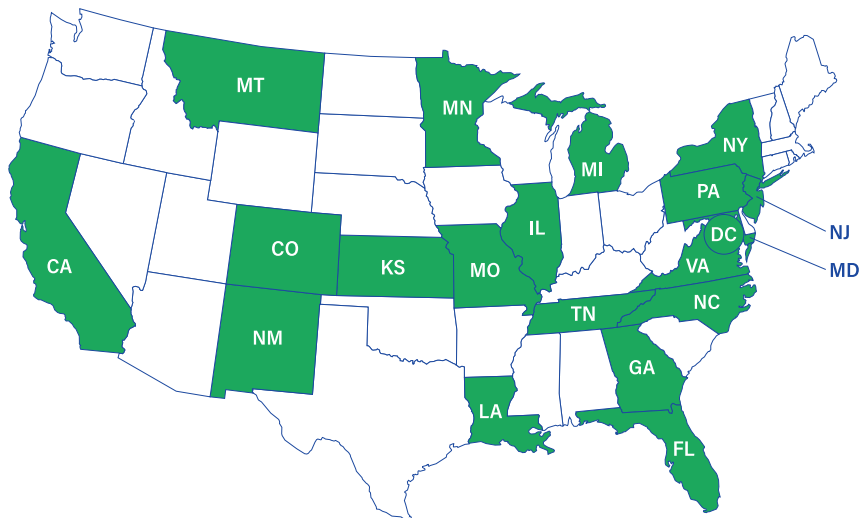
# PHILANTHROPIC SERVICES

MSC's Philanthropic Services support a shift in the power and control of wealth within the philanthropic sector by developing trust-based relationships with philanthropy while fostering deep community with frontline organizations. This suite of services reimagines the extractive and oppressive systems that limit equitable access to resources for grassroots, community-led and centered work.

MSC has regranting more than \$15 million this fiscal year in support of climate justice, racial and social equity, and youth leadership. MSC also holds five Special Interest Funds (SIFs). This grantmaking model allows capital to move quickly and equitably to community leaders, and we are currently exploring and adapting effective participatory grantmaking models for our SIFs. Between regranting and SIFs, MSC has moved over \$35 million to the community since 2020. In addition, MSC recently launched an equitable Donor Advised Fund that allows wealthy, individual donors to partner with a powerful ecosystem of activists, change agents, and capital innovators to catalyze their capital for transformative change.

## Regranting by State

**Organizations across 19 states, Washington D.C., and Canada have received grants through MSC's regranting programs.**



# COMMUNICATIONS

## A YEAR OF COLLABORATION



Photo credits: left, MSC Staff; right, Hewitt Photography

*MSC continues to expand offerings that go beyond infrastructure services. This includes communications strategy and support by request and during open office hours. The Communications Team has collaborated with over a dozen partners in the past year, including in-person visits and content creation with [Sankofa Project](#), [Breathe](#) (above left), and [Alliance for Felix Cove](#) (above right). Some highlights:*

In a Q&A blog featuring Tansy McNulty, founder and CEO of [One Million Madly Motivated Moms \(1M4\)](#), MSC explored the launch of 988. This national number replaced the National Suicide Prevention Lifeline and serves as a dedicated hotline for individuals facing suicidal thoughts, mental health or substance abuse emergencies, or emotional distress.

In support of the [Sandbranch Revitalization Fund's](#) efforts to achieve water equity and tackle the challenges within their own community, MSC explored water equity and the intersectionality of the American water system. MSC's Giving Tuesday and End of Year Giving campaigns were focused on bringing additional Hydropanels to the community.

MSC worked with Errika Moore, the Executive Director of [STEM Funders Network \(SFN\)](#), to promote the launch of their Power of Positive Influence webinar series. Through this series, SFN serves as a positive change agent amplifying impactful initiatives, inspiring philanthropic transformation, and influencing collective movement within the STEM philanthropic ecosystem.

MSC shared valuable insights from Kristen Zimmerman, a co-founder of both MSC and [Root, Rise, Pollinate!](#), in an illuminating Storytelling blog launched to coincide with the *10,000 Beloved Communities* graphic guide by [Beloved Communities Network](#). The Storytelling series sheds light on MSC's earliest days and it's featured on the Move Blog along with MSC's Shifting Philanthropy essays which shed light on the future of the equitable philanthropic sector.

# MSC'S

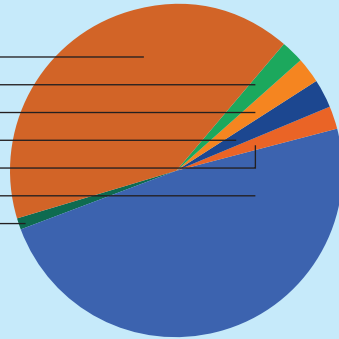
## CONSOLIDATED FINANCIAL INFORMATION

### Unaudited Results for Fiscal Year 2022-2023

#### Revenue

Foundation and corporate grants	\$28,305,859
Individual donations	\$1,459,538
Federal, state, and local grants	\$1,729,718
Philanthropic service allocations	\$2,070,000
Fees for service/consulting contracts	\$1,414,362
TRNA releases	\$33,348,530
Other Revenues	\$612,753
<b>Total Revenues</b>	<b>\$68,940,761</b>

41.1% Foundation and Corporate Grants
2.0% Individual Donations
2.5% Federal, State, and Local Grants
3.0% Philanthropic Service Allocations
2.1% Fees for Service/Consulting Contracts
48.4% TRNA Releases
0.9% Other Revenues



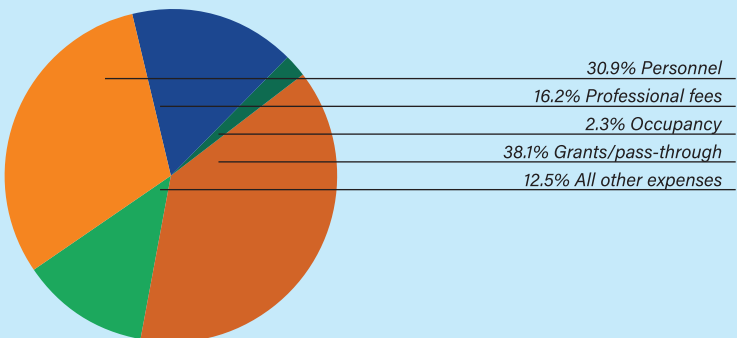
#### Operating Expenses

Personnel	\$10,293,881
Professional fees	\$5,399,652
Occupancy	\$775,762
Grants/pass-through	\$12,699,985
All other expenses	\$4,166,449
<b>Total Operating Expenses</b>	<b>\$33,335,728</b>

#### Net Surplus

**\$35,605,033**

Most of the net surplus will be carried forward to next year (TRNA)



This budget includes both MSC core operations and the operational budgets of our 40+ FSPs.

# THANK YOU

## MSC'S CORE AND FSP FUNDERS

*Boldfaced names recognize those who directly funded MSC Core Operations or Special Interest Funds.*

*AIDS United: Southern HIV Impact Fund*

*Akonadi Foundation*

*Amalgamated Foundation*

*Anonymous Fund*

**Bill & Melinda Gates Foundation**

*Borealis Philanthropy*

*Broadway Cares - Equity Fights AIDA*

**California Wellness Foundation**

*Camelback Ventures*

*Carnegie Foundation*

*Center for Science in the Public Interest*

**Chad Dyer**

**Chan Zuckerberg Initiative**

*Chicago Community Foundation*

*Chicago Community Trust*

**Claneil Foundation**

**Clarence E. Heller Charitable Foundation**

*Cleveland Foundation*

*Clorox Company Foundation*

*Community Foundation of Louisville*

*CS Fund*

*Earth Island Institute*

*Energy Foundation Midwest*

*Episcopal Society of Christ Church*

*Findlay-Freeman Fund*

**Ford Foundation**

*Full of Grace Foundation*

*Gerrish H. Miliken*

*Gilead Sciences*

*Grable Foundation*

*Greater Horizons - Future Allies Fund*

*Greater Kansas City Community Foundation*

*Groundswell Action Fund*

*Groundswell Fund*

*Heising-Simons Foundation*

*Hidden Leaf Foundation*

*HoneyBee DAF*

*Houston in Action Network*

*Humanity United*

*Johnson Ohana Foundation*

**JPB Foundation**

*Jrue and Lauren Holiday Social Justice Fund*

*Kataly Foundation*

*LBK Legacy Fund*

*M.A.C VIVA GLAM Fund*

*Marquita M Pierre Mcalister*

**Mechanics Bank**

**Morgan Stanley**

*Ms. Foundation for Women*

*Mutiplier*

*Native American Ministry*

*Council Christ Church Cathedral*

**Natural Resources Defence Council (NRDC)**

*NEO Philanthropy*

*Northern California Grantmakers*

*Youth Power Fund*

*Novo Foundation*

*Omidyar Network Fund*

*Orange Door Fund*

*PA Alliance Foundation*

*Panta Rhea Fund*

*Patagonia Foundation*

*Paul P. Dosberg Charitable Fund*

*Pennsylvania Voice*

*Philanthropy Ventures Foundation*

*Pop Culture Collaborative Fund*

*Possibility Labs*

*Resist, Inc.*

**Robert Sterling Clark Foundation**

**Robert Wood Johnson Foundation**

*Rockefeller Family Fund*

*Roy and Patricia Disney Family Foundation*

*Samueli Foundation*

*San Francisco Foundation*

*Schmidt Family Foundation*

*Seventh Generation Fund*

*for Indigenous Peoples*

*Sierra Health Foundation*

*Silverbird Fund*

*Sozosei Foundation*

*SP Fund*

*Stupski Foundation*

**Surdna Foundation**

*Tara Health Foundation*

*The California Endowment*

*The Chisolm Legacy Project*

*The Cultural Conservancy - Mino-Niibi Fund*

*The Dallas Foundation*

*The Kresge Foundation*

*The Quinn Foundation*

*The Solutions Project*

*The Steinman Foundation*

*The Wallace Foundation*

*Tides Foundation*

*TomKat Foundation*

*Tulsa Community Foundation*

**Unitarian Universalist Veatch Program  
at Shelter Rock**

*Vanguard Charitable*

*Waverley Street Foundation*

*Wellspring Philanthropic Fund*

*Windward Fund*

*Women's Catalytic Fund*

*Youth Direct Action Fund*



*There are so many points of resonance and alignment in everything that MSC does ... [They have] been an inspiration, a catalyst, and a facilitator of radical imagination and a radical love in action.*

– Jacqui Patterson  
via the MSC Storytelling Series

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