

U.S. Foundation

SUPPORT

for LGBTQ Communities of Color*

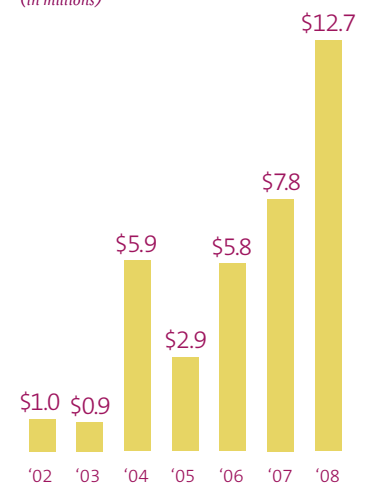
When Funders for LGBTQ Issues launched a Racial Equity Campaign in January 2008, our purpose was clear: more dollars and more funders for our diverse LGBTQ communities. And so we spent 2008 unveiling a number of original resources. A landmark study on autonomous LGBTQ people of color organizations. A research report assessing the racial equity practices of our country's leading LGBTQ grantmakers. A plenary on race and LGBTQ issues at our national gathering of LGBTQ grantmakers, held in conjunction with the Council on Foundations annual summit. And the beginnings of an LGBTQ racial equity regrants initiative that has gradually transformed the grantmaking and internal operations of eight community/public foundations nationwide—as well as the capacity and visibility of LGBTQ people of color organizations in their communities.

*** WHAT DO WE MEAN BY FOUNDATION SUPPORT FOR LGBTQ COMMUNITIES OF COLOR?**

These figures include grants to organizations *and* projects that, as reported by foundations, explicitly serve LGBTQ communities of color. Some foundations have noted that they award grants to organizations that do not specify addressing racial inequities and/or reaching communities of color yet might still benefit these populations, given the organization's setting and diverse clientele. Others counter that these types of grants should not be included since it's unknown whether their programming effectively reached communities of color and/or whether it addressed the racial disparities in their constituents. For the purposes of this research, we measure only grants to groups that explicitly serve LGBTQ communities of color or address the intersection of racial equity and LGBTQ issues—relying on self-reporting by foundations, a review of 990s, and annual reports posted online and on the Foundation Center's online database.

And now our work has begun paying off. According to our annual study, *LGBTQ Grantmaking by U.S. Foundations, 2008* revealed the largest amount of giving to LGBTQ communities of color since Funders for LGBTQ Issues began this research in 2002; U.S. foundation giving to LGBTQ people of color organizations and projects surged to \$12.6 million in 2008. Yet while more dollars are reaching our marginalized communities, too few funders in the country award any grants to these types of efforts, especially to organizations led by and for LGBTQ communities of color. **In a robust philanthropic sector, funding to LGBTQ communities—and especially to LGBTQ people of color—represents a miniscule fraction of the overall dollars awarded every year. It’s in this context that our commitment to these issues will persist stronger than ever.**

TOTAL DOLLARS AWARDED TO LGBTQ PEOPLE OF COLOR ORGANIZATIONS AND PROJECTS, 2008
(in millions)

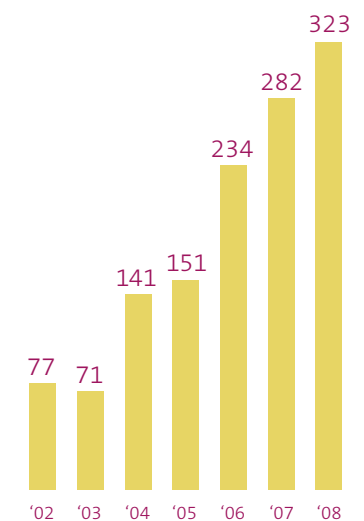


RACIAL EQUITY CAMPAIGN GOAL 1:

To increase the level of funding for LGBTQ communities of color and issues LGBTQ racial equity

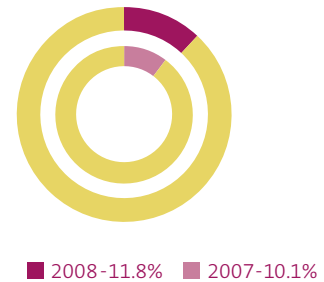
Total giving to LGBTQ people of color efforts nearly doubled from \$6.7 million in 2007 to \$12.6 million in 2008—the largest amount of giving to these communities that Funders for LGBTQ Issues has recorded since it began its research in 2002.

TOTAL GRANTS AWARDED TO LGBTQ PEOPLE OF COLOR ORGANIZATIONS AND PROJECTS, 2008



Nearly 12 percent of the \$107.2 million awarded in 2008 to LGBTQ issues went to LGBTQ people of color organizations and projects—1.7 percentage points higher than in 2007.

PERCENTAGE OF LGBTQ DOLLARS AWARDED TO LGBTQ PEOPLE OF COLOR ORGANIZATIONS AND PROJECTS, 2008

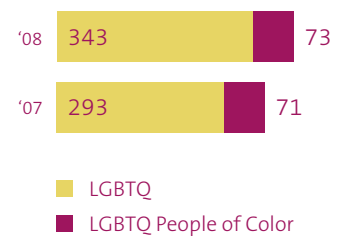


RACIAL EQUITY CAMPAIGN GOAL 2:

To increase the number of funders explicitly supporting LGBTQ communities of color

Between 2007 and 2008, the total number of U.S. foundations supporting LGBTQ people of color organizations and projects increased slightly from 71 to 73 foundations. However, the percentage of LGBTQ funders that support LGBTQ people of color decreased from 24 to 21 percent.

TOTAL FOUNDATIONS SUPPORTING LGBTQ PEOPLE OF COLOR ORGANIZATIONS AND PROJECTS, 2008

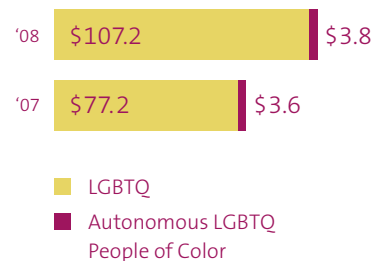


RACIAL EQUITY CAMPAIGN GOAL 3:

To increase the annual level of funding reaching autonomous LGBTQ people of color organizations

Total giving to autonomous LGBTQ people of color organizations increased modestly from \$3.6 million to \$3.8 million between 2007 and 2008. However, as a percentage of LGBTQ dollars, total giving to autonomous LGBTQ people of color organizations decreased from 4.7 to 3.5 percent.

TOTAL DOLLARS AWARDED TO AUTONOMOUS LGBTQ PEOPLE OF COLOR ORGANIZATIONS AND PROJECTS, 2008
(in millions)



The mission of Funders for LGBTQ Issues is to mobilize philanthropic resources that enhance the well-being of lesbian, gay, bisexual, transgender and queer communities, promote equity and advance racial, economic and gender justice.

To download a variety of funders tools, original commentaries and publications on the various issues affecting LGBTQ communities of color please visit: lgbtraciaequity.org



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