



FUNDERS FOR  
LGBTQ  
ISSUES

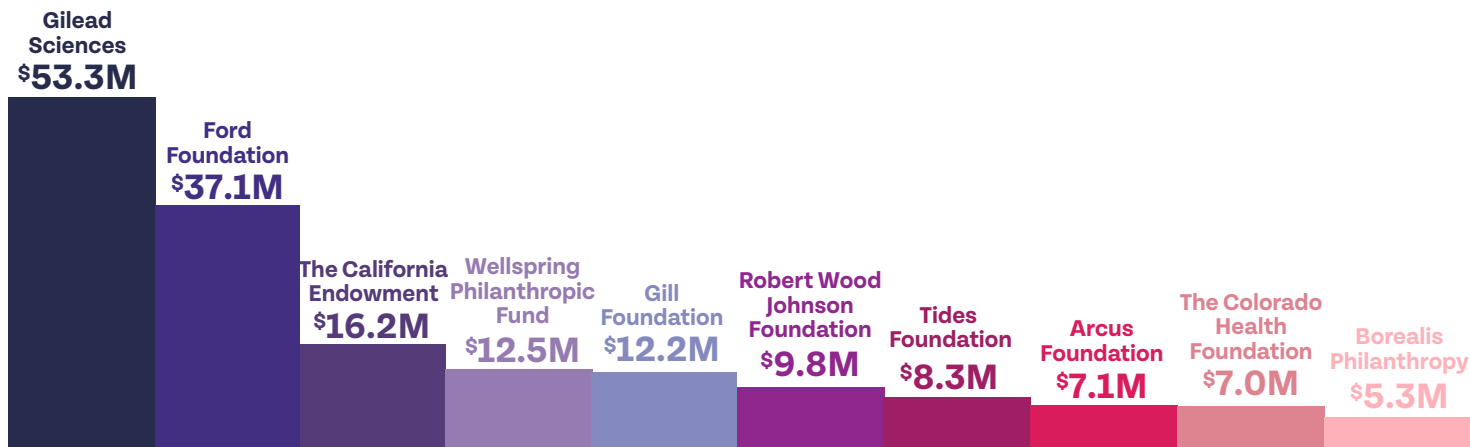
# 2021 RESOURCE TRACKING REPORT

LGBTQ Grantmaking by U.S. Foundations



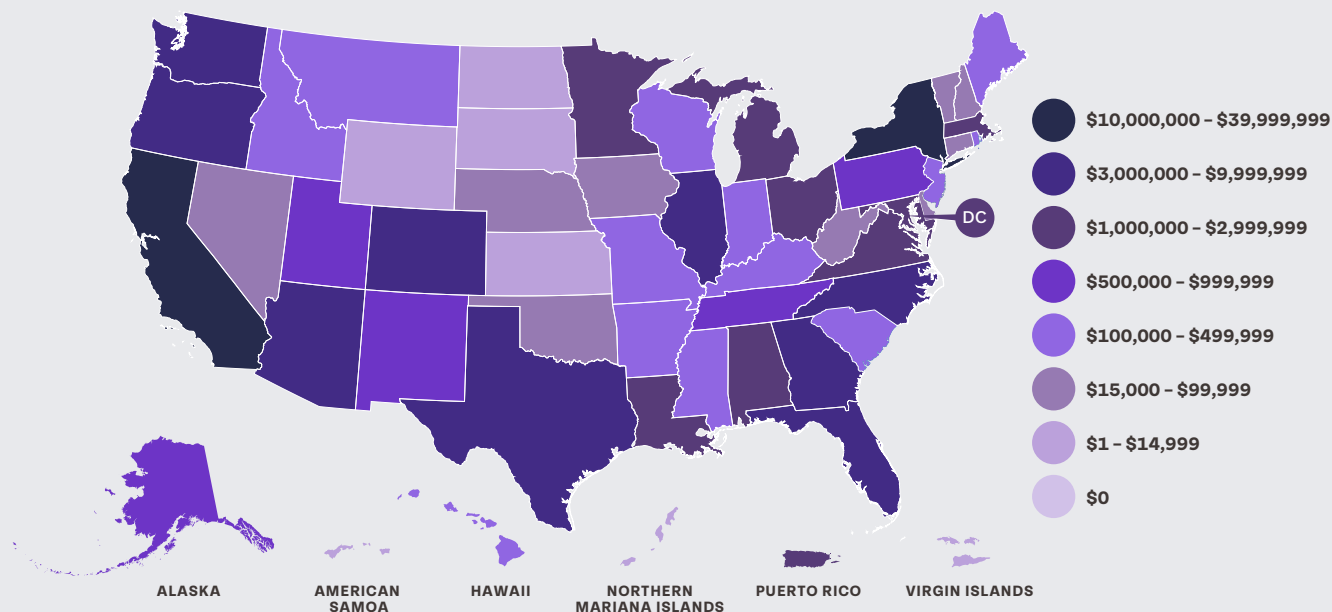
## Top 10 Funders of LGBTQ Issues, by Total Dollar Amount 2021

In 2021, the top ten funders of domestic LGBTQ communities and issues awarded \$169 million, **accounting for nearly 60 percent of all funding for domestic LGBTQ communities and issues from U.S.-based foundations.** This represents a \$60 million increase from the amount awarded by the top 10 domestic funders in 2020.<sup>1</sup>



\*This graphic includes funds awarded for the purpose of regranting.

## Local and State Funding of LGBTQ Issues, by State (2021)



\*This graphic includes funds awarded for the purpose of regranting.

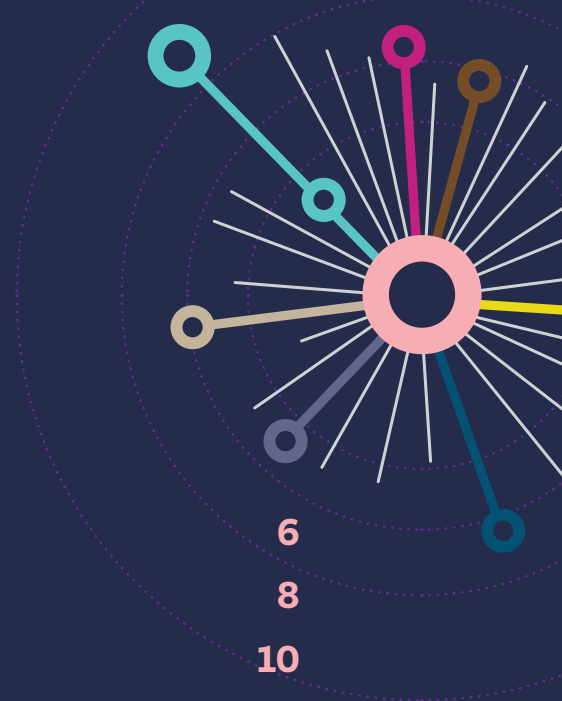
As a new adaptation, the *2021 Resource Tracking Report* **only reports on funding to domestic LGBTQ communities and issues.** For a detailed look at funding for LGBTQ communities outside of the United States, consult the *Global Resources Report* produced by the Global Philanthropy Project. The *Global Resources Report* offers a comprehensive analysis of grantmaking awarded by U.S. foundations for activities outside the United States alongside funding from international donors, governments, and multilateral agencies. Visit [globalresourcesreport.org](https://globalresourcesreport.org) for more information.

(1) Alyssa Lawther, et. al., *2019-2020 Resource Tracking Report: Lesbian, Gay, Bisexual, Transgender, and Queer Grantmaking by U.S. Foundations*, p.15, Funders for LGBTQ Issues (2022).

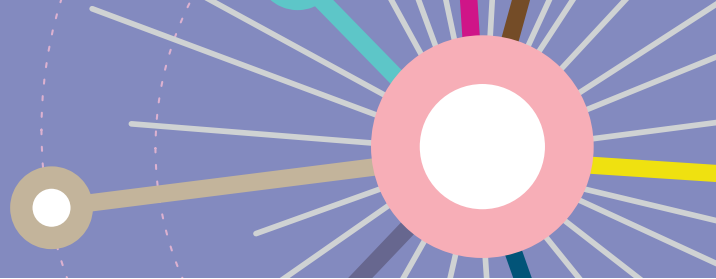


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# INTRODUCTION



We are pleased to share the *2021 Resource Tracking Report: Lesbian, Gay, Bisexual, Transgender, and Queer Grantmaking by U.S. Foundations*. This 19th edition of our annual tracking report builds upon the new approach to reporting developed last year in partnership with Strength in Numbers, an LGBTQ-led research firm with expertise in philanthropic strategy and evaluation. This approach is guided by a commitment to sustainability, transparency, and durability to develop consistent systems and methodologies that can grow with Funders for LGBTQ Issues and respond to the changing needs of the philanthropic sector.

**The most notable difference from our previous 18 reports is that this edition of the Resource Tracking Report looks only at U.S. foundation funding to U.S. LGBTQ communities and issues.**

Anyone interested in the global LGBTQ funding landscape should consult the Global Resources Report, a robust biennial report series produced by the Global Philanthropy Project.

For this report, we identified 6,585 grants for domestic LGBTQ communities and issues from 283 foundations in 2021, totaling a record high of \$281.6 million.<sup>2,3</sup> While we are heartened to see this increase, **the funding landscape for the most vulnerable members of our communities remains largely stagnant, uneven, and unstable.** Black LGBTQ, Southeastern LGBTQ, and transgender, gender nonconforming and nonbinary communities and groups largely did not reap the benefits of this increase in funding. This rising tide has not lifted all boats.

**We interpret this to mean grantmakers have increasingly understood the importance of investing far more in LGBTQ communities, groups, and causes. However, the philanthropic sector must increase investment in intersectional work and the most vulnerable members of our communities.**

Indeed, the trend of “top-heaviness” of foundation support—where a relatively small number of foundation sources provides a disproportionately large percentage of the funding for LGBTQ communities and causes—continues into foundation grantmaking for 2021. This leaves our communities and movements increasingly vulnerable to shifts in grantmaking trends, crises, and even to grantmakers’ natural staff turnover.

**We noted the following additional trends in 2021, which may offer guidance to grantmakers:**

- Nominal giving to trans communities only slightly increased from 2020, and remains lower than the record high in 2019. Foundations allocated less

(2) This is an increase of almost 56% since 2020. This increase may be partially attributed to an actual increase in giving, and partially attributed to improvements in our data collection and analysis methodology: this year we were able to collect more funding information from more funders than in years past. This included a deeper dive into publicly-available IRS data than we have been able to do in past years. Additionally, in recognition of the complexities facing grantmakers in different regions supporting an extremely diverse array of LGBTQ communities and issues, we allowed grantmakers to characterize their grantmaking in our reporting as entirely for LGBTQ communities if that was their intent in making those grants.

(3) This \$281.6 million includes \$250.8 million in direct funds and \$30.8 million in dollars awarded for re-granting.

than 4 cents per \$100 of their total giving to U.S. trans communities and issues.

- Funding to Black LGBTQ communities slightly decreased from 2020 to 2021, both in terms of dollars and as a share of overall LGBTQ funding.
- The U.S. Territories and the Mountain and Midwest regions continue to lag far behind in receiving funding support compared to the U.S. mainland coastal areas. This is especially concerning given rising extremism and violence towards BIPOC LGBTQ communities, drag performers, trans and gender expansive communities and youth, families seeking affirming health care, and their intersections, in some of these regions.<sup>4</sup>
- Grantmakers appear to continue to deprioritize funding for capacity-building efforts by LGBTQ organizations across the U.S. Given the unprecedented challenges in recent years facing the LGBTQ community on multiple fronts, it is clear that winning and defending the rights of intersectional LGBTQ communities requires building long-term, sustainable movement organizations and coalitions. Funding for capacity-building is key to support these long-term strategies.
- The impact of the COVID-19 epidemic continues to be felt throughout LGBTQ communities, and grantmakers' support for COVID-19-related efforts represented nearly 14% of overall funding to LGBTQ communities in 2021.
- In 2021, the top twenty funders combined awarded \$204 million, accounting for 73% of the year's total. While funding for children and youth increased in 2021, still more than half of that funding comes from just five foundations. This means the lion's share of funding to LGBTQ communities continues to be provided by a small number of foundation sources. Any instability in this support would have seismic impact on the community and our political movements. We hope more grantmakers will increase their giving to diversify funding sources and help stabilize support over the long-term.

## LOOKING FORWARD

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Our resource tracking work continues to evolve to more accurately capture the state of foundation funding for the U.S. LGBTQ community, and to offer analyses of trends that continue to be relevant to our community's and political movements' needs. As threats to our community increase, we look forward to offering more detailed reporting on foundation funding for strategies our communities are deploying to support ourselves, and fight back in this time of heightened crisis. Funding for safety and security (both physical and digital), rapid response funding, the role of local versus national-level funding, the impact of community-led intermediary funders, and the significance of shifting foundation priorities during election cycles are all areas we hope to explore further. We look forward to engaging with our members and the larger philanthropic community to investigate these questions more deeply in the future.

Sincerely,

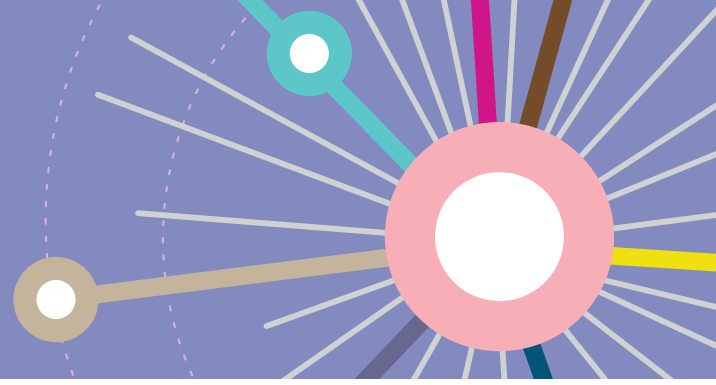
**Alyssa Lawther**  
*Senior Research Officer,  
Funders for LGBTQ Issues*

**Alexander Lee**  
*Deputy Director,  
Funders for LGBTQ Issues*

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(4) While this report focuses on 2021 grantmaking, the Club Q mass shooting in Colorado Springs in November of 2022 and its aftermath offers many lessons for grantmakers about how funders can support the healing and recovery of LGBTQ communities in the Mountain region. Please contact Funders for LGBTQ Issues if you are interested in learning more.

# TOP GRANTMAKERS 2021



The field of LGBTQ funding continues to be driven by a small group of leading funders. The leading grantmakers for calendar year 2021 are listed in the table here.<sup>5</sup>

In 2021, the top twenty funders combined awarded \$204 million, accounting for 73 percent of the year’s total. Giving from the top twenty funders of 2021 is \$66

million higher than giving from the top twenty funders of 2020. Four of the top twenty foundations were LGBTQ-specific funders.

While overall grantmaking has increased, such continued “top-heaviness” means that LGBTQ communities and movements are increasingly vulnerable to shifts in grantmaking trends, crises, and even to grantmakers’ natural staff turnover.

## Top 20 Funders of LGBTQ Communities & Issues, by Total Dollar Amount (2021)

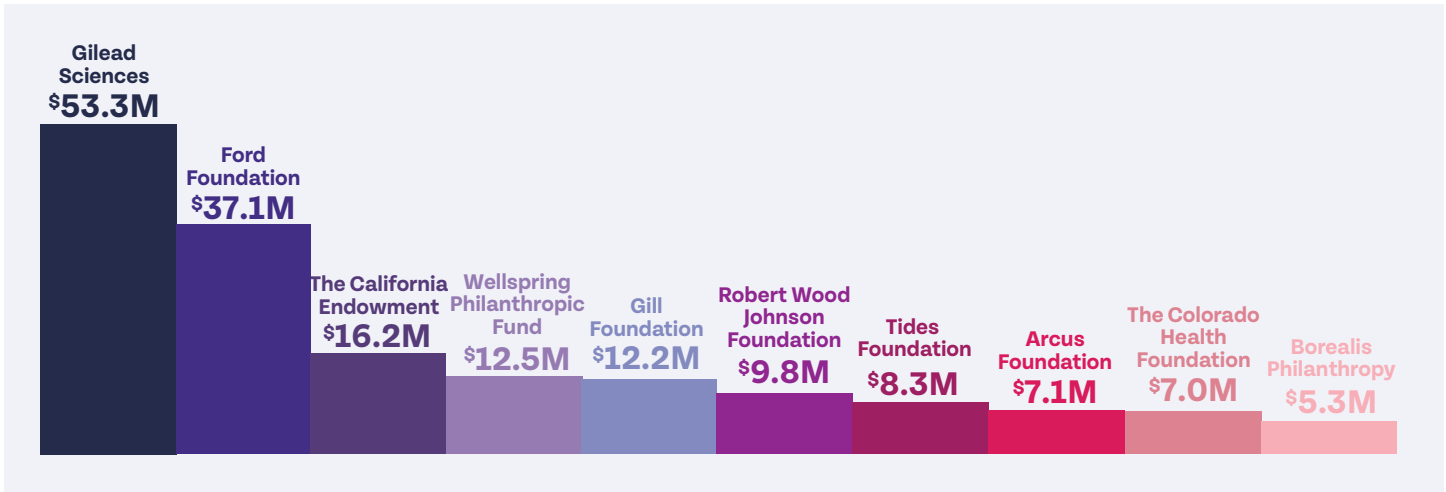
<b>1</b> <b>Gilead Sciences</b> Foster City, CA \$53,318,417	<b>8</b> <b>Arcus Foundation</b> New York, NY \$7,133,850	<b>15</b> <b>Pride Foundation</b> Seattle, WA \$3,338,970
<b>2</b> <b>Ford Foundation</b> New York, NY \$37,076,375	<b>9</b> <b>The Colorado Health Foundation</b> Denver, CO \$6,950,322	<b>16</b> <b>Evelyn and Walter Haas, Jr. Fund</b> San Francisco, CA \$3,327,500
<b>3</b> <b>The California Endowment</b> Los Angeles, CA \$16,243,982	<b>10</b> <b>Borealis Philanthropy</b> Minneapolis, MN \$5,341,900	<b>17</b> <b>The JPB Foundation</b> New York, NY \$3,250,000
<b>4</b> <b>Wellspring Philanthropic Fund</b> New York, NY \$12,487,025	<b>11</b> <b>Conrad N. Hilton Foundation</b> Westlake Village, CA \$5,275,500	<b>18</b> <b>John D. &amp; Catherine T. MacArthur Foundation</b> Chicago, IL \$2,935,000
<b>5</b> <b>Gill Foundation</b> Denver, CO \$12,153,000	<b>12</b> <b>Horizons Foundation</b> San Francisco, CA \$4,847,403	<b>19</b> <b>Wells Fargo Foundation</b> San Francisco, CA \$2,862,290
<b>6</b> <b>Robert Wood Johnson Foundation</b> Princeton, NJ \$9,753,858	<b>13</b> <b>Groundswell Fund</b> Oakland, CA \$3,571,000	<b>20</b> <b>JP Morgan Chase</b> New York, NY \$2,634,748
<b>7</b> <b>Tides Foundation</b> San Francisco, CA \$8,337,854	<b>14</b> <b>Seattle Foundation</b> Seattle, WA \$3,448,605	

*\*This table includes funds awarded for the purpose of regranting.*

(5) In contrast to other sections of this report, these lists of top funders – and all subsequent top funder lists – include dollars awarded for re-granting, so as to capture the full amount of funding flowing from (or through) each funder.



## Top Ten Funders By Total Dollar Amount (2021)

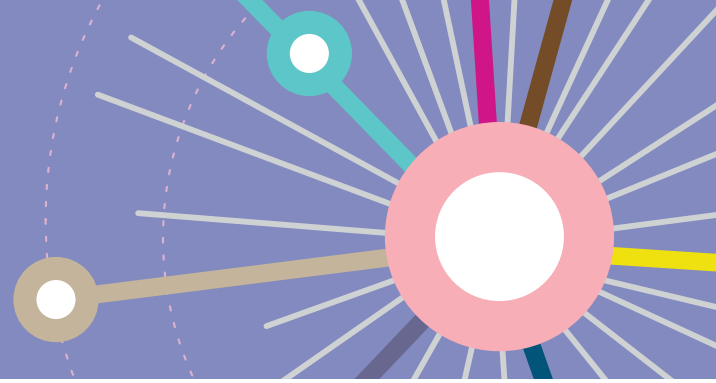


## Top 10 Funders of LGBTQ Communities & Issues by Number of Grants (2021)

1	<b>Horizons Foundation</b> San Francisco, CA <b>1,373</b>	4	<b>Trans Justice Funding Project</b> San Francisco, CA <b>306</b>	8	<b>The California Endowment</b> Los Angeles, CA <b>151</b>
2	<b>Pride Foundation</b> Seattle, WA <b>674</b>	5	<b>Tides Foundation</b> San Francisco, CA <b>208</b>	9	<b>Borealis Philanthropy</b> Minneapolis, MN <b>149</b>
3	<b>Our Fund Foundation</b> Wilton Manors, FL <b>309</b>	6	<b>Stonewall Community Foundation</b> New York, NY <b>176</b>	10	<b>Jerome Foundation, Inc.</b> Saint Paul, MN <b>128</b>
		7	<b>Gilead Sciences</b> Foster City, CA <b>170</b>		

*\*This table includes funds awarded for the purpose of regranting.*

# TOP GRANT RECIPIENTS 2021



In 2021, the top 20 recipients of LGBTQ funding received a total of \$68 million, accounting for 27 percent of all LGBTQ dollars reported in that calendar year.

Ten<sup>6</sup> of the top 20 grantees were nonprofit organizations focused specifically on LGBTQ issues.

## Top 20 Grantees Receiving Foundation Support for LGBTQ Communities & Issues (2021)<sup>7</sup>

1	<b>Southerners On New Ground (SONG)</b> Atlanta, GA \$8,407,750	8	<b>National LGBTQ Task Force</b> Washington, DC \$2,921,950	15	<b>Neo Philanthropy</b> New York, NY \$1,950,000
2	<b>Transgender Law Center</b> Oakland, CA \$7,444,026	9	<b>BYP100 Education Fund</b> Chicago, IL \$2,705,000	16	<b>Algorithmic Justice League</b> Washington, DC \$1,900,000
3	<b>Los Angeles LGBT Center</b> Los Angeles, CA \$6,881,590	10	<b>Freedom For All Americans Education Fund</b> Washington, DC \$2,632,500	17	<b>Latino Commission On AIDS</b> New York, NY \$1,750,000
4	<b>GLAAD</b> New York, NY \$6,116,627	11	<b>Social Good Fund</b> Richmond, CA \$2,563,500	18	<b>Planned Parenthood Federation Of America</b> New York, NY \$1,726,180
5	<b>Abounding Prosperity</b> Dallas, TX \$3,050,000	12	<b>Funders For LGBTQ Issues</b> New York, NY \$2,446,800	19	<b>Right To The City Alliance</b> New York, NY \$1,595,000
6	<b>GLSEN</b> New York, NY \$3,003,705	13	<b>San Francisco AIDS Foundation</b> San Francisco, CA \$2,267,450	20	<b>San Francisco Community Health Center</b> San Francisco, CA \$1,465,250
7	<b>Services &amp; Advocacy for GLBT Elders (SAGE)</b> New York, NY \$2,956,741	14	<b>Equality California</b> Los Angeles, CA \$2,063,250		

*\*This table excludes funds awarded for the purpose of regranting.*

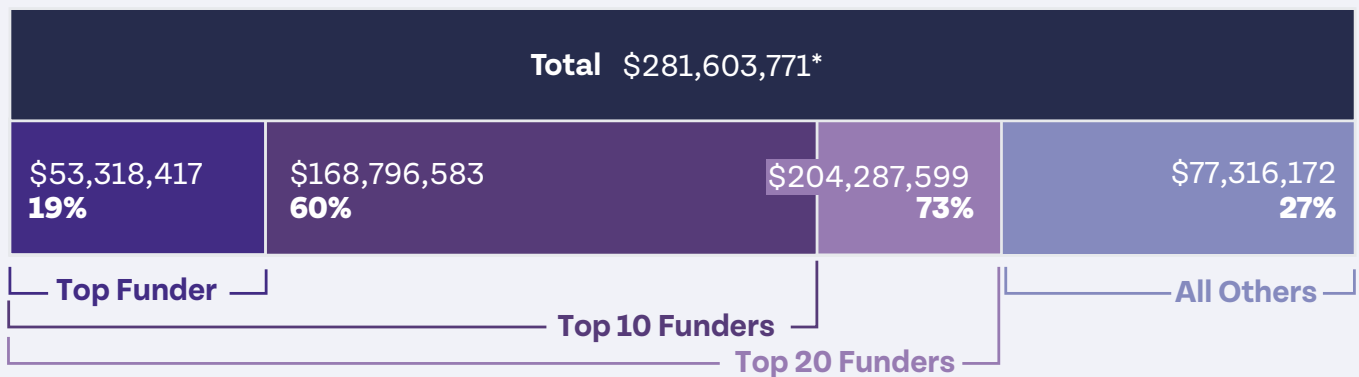
(6) This was determined based on reviews of these organizations' websites as they appeared in May of 2023.

(7) In 2021, multiple anonymous grantees received a total of \$3.9 million benefitting LGBTQ communities. If we combined anonymous grantees, they would be #5 on this list.

# The field of LGBTQ foundation support in the United States is growing increasingly top-heavy, led by a small group of leading funders.

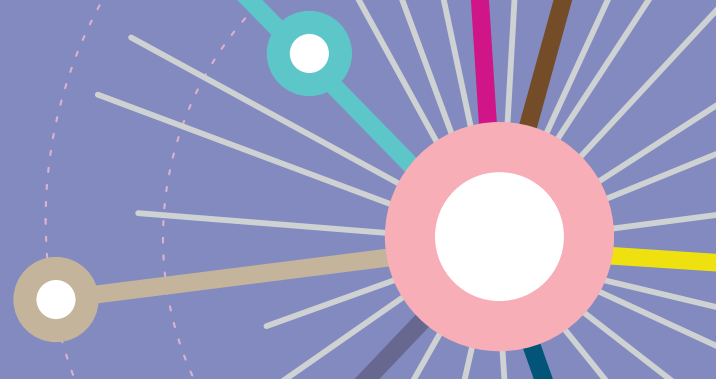
In 2021, a single foundation, **Gilead Sciences**, accounted for **19 percent** of total foundation support for U.S. LGBTQ communities. The top ten largest funders (including Gilead Sciences) are responsible for 60 percent of funding, and the top 20 funders accounted for 73 percent of all U.S. foundation support for LGBTQ communities and issues in the United States.

## Funding By Relative Amount of Domestic LGBTQ Funding (2021)



\*This analysis includes funds awarded for the purpose of regranting.

# SOURCES OF LGBTQ FUNDING 2021

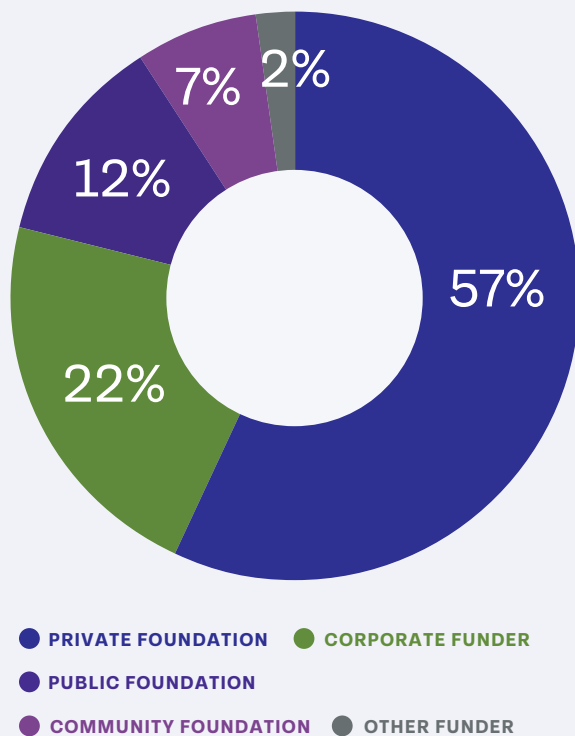


Consistent with established trends, funding from private foundations accounted for the largest share of U.S. foundation support for LGBTQ communities and issues in 2021. Support from private foundations accounted for more than half of all funding for LGBTQ communities. Corporate foundation giving overtook that of public foundations, becoming the second largest source of funding for LGBTQ communities,

accounting for 22 percent of all funding in 2021. Community foundation giving also increased slightly as a share of total giving, from 5 percent in 2020 to 7 percent in 2021.

New to our taxonomy this year is the “Other” category, which data-submitting funders could select as their foundation type if they did not fit into the pre-established categories of public, private, corporate, or community foundation. This category, which encompasses eight funders, accounts for 2 percent of total foundation giving to LGBTQ communities.

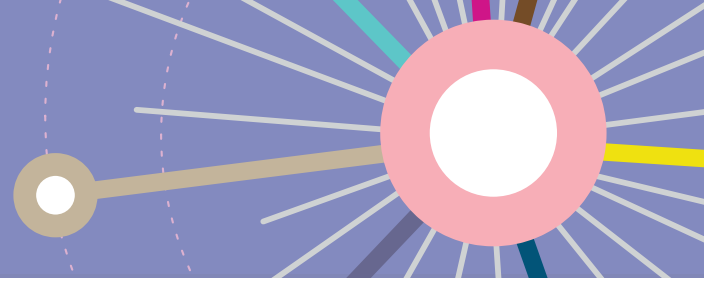
Sources of LGBTQ Funding by Funder Type (2021)



Private Foundation	\$160,899,813	57%
Corporate Funder	\$62,790,455	22%
Public Foundation	\$32,972,759	12%
Community Foundation	\$20,417,837	7%
Other	4,522,906	2%
<b>Total</b>	<b>\$281,603,771</b>	

*\*This table includes funds awarded for the purpose of regranting.*

# POPULATION FOCUS 2021

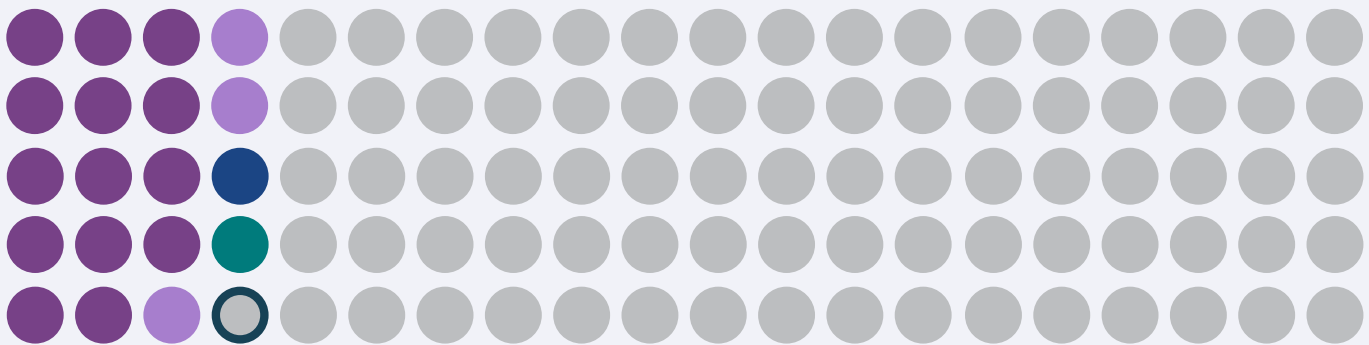


## Distribution of Domestic Grant Dollars by Sexual Orientation, Gender Identity, and Sex Characteristics

In 2021, \$203 million, or 81 percent of all U.S.-based foundation support for LGBTQ communities and issues, was allocated to the general LGBTQ community. Historically, the majority of funding has been allocated to the LGBTQ community broadly; however, this still represents a significant increase from 2020, when grantmaking to the LGBTQ community broadly accounted for 68 percent of U.S.-based foundation support for LGBTQ communities and issues.

This report captures a \$94 million (60 percent) increase in giving to LGBTQ communities and issues from what was reported in 2020. While we are heartened to see this increase, the funding landscape for the most vulnerable members of our communities remains uneven and unstable. Black LGBTQ, Southeastern LGBTQ, and transgender, gender nonconforming and nonbinary communities and groups largely did not reap the benefits of this increase in funding. This rising tide has not lifted all boats.

### Distribution of Domestic Grant Dollars by Sexual Orientation, Gender Identity, and Sex Characteristics (2021)



● TGNCNBI ● GAY MEN/QUEER MEN/MSM ● LESBIANS/QUEER WOMEN ● INTERSEX ● BISEXUAL ● ASEXUAL

TGNCNBI <sup>8</sup>	\$36,006,256	14%
Gay Men/Queer Men/MSM	\$7,607,786	3%
Lesbians/Queer Women	\$1,586,739	1%
Intersex People	\$1,541,650	1%
Bisexual People	\$1,199,183	<1%
Asexual People	\$0	0%

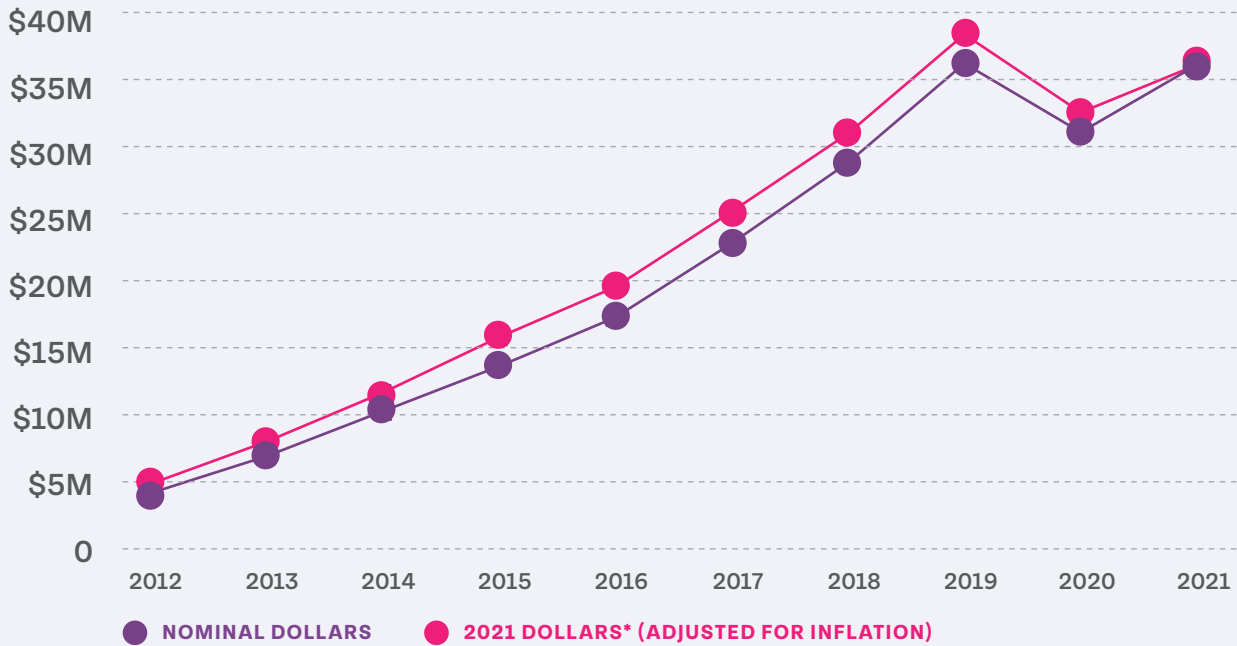
*\*This table excludes funds awarded for the purpose of regranteeing.*

(8) Transgender, gender nonconforming, and nonbinary community members

While total foundation giving to LGBTQ communities in the United States has greatly increased, nominal giving to transgender communities has only slightly increased from 2020, and is still lower than the record high of \$36.1 million in 2019. Funding to transgender communities still accounts for a very small amount of

total foundation giving. **For every \$100 awarded by U.S. foundations, less than 4 cents supported transgender communities in 2021.**

### Trans Funding Over Time (2012–2021)



\*Inflation numbers are based on the Bureau of Labor Statistics Consumer Price Index. This figure excludes funds awarded for the purpose of regranting.

	NOMINAL DOLLARS	2021 DOLLARS
2012	\$3,624,394	\$4,278,033
2013	\$6,448,133	\$7,501,144
2014	\$9,806,873	\$11,226,271
2015	\$13,246,083	\$15,145,279
2016	\$16,976,892	\$19,169,102
2017	\$22,564,755	\$24,947,163
2018	\$28,604,972	\$30,871,953
2019	\$36,121,652	\$38,283,018
2020	\$30,996,642	\$32,457,844
2021	\$36,006,256	\$36,006,256

## Distribution of Domestic Grant Dollars Among People of Color

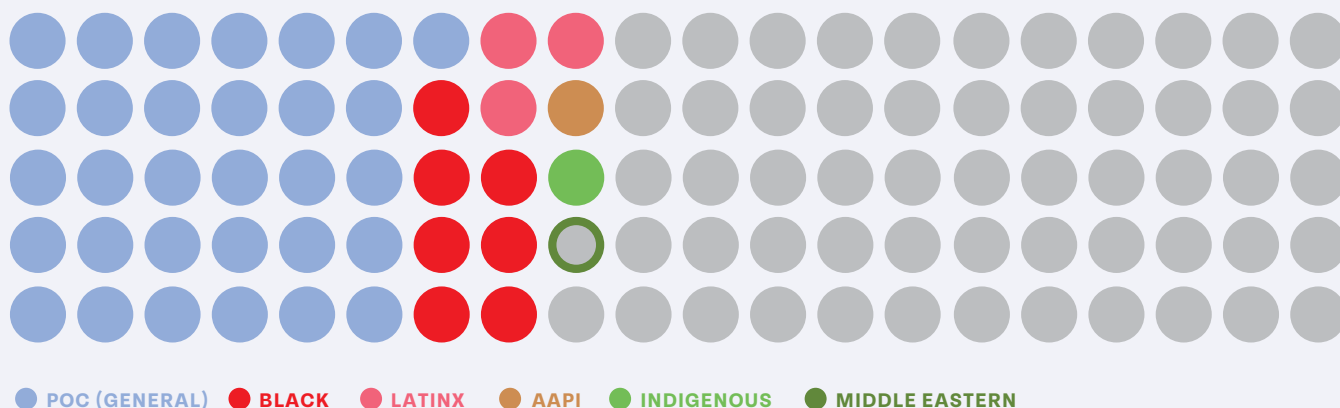
Consistent with historical trends, the majority of U.S. foundation funding to LGBTQ communities of color in the United States went not to a specific group, but to communities of color broadly. In 2021, \$78.4 million, 31 percent of overall LGBTQ funding, was allocated to LGBTQ communities of color broadly.

Despite the massive increase in LGBTQ funding from 2020, funding to Black LGBTQ communities specifically has slightly decreased, from \$18.7 million (12 percent of LGBTQ funding) in 2020 to \$18.4 million (7 percent of LGBTQ funding) in 2021. This is especially troubling

in the wake of racial justice uprisings following the murders of George Floyd and Breonna Taylor by law enforcement in 2020, and the seeming groundswell of foundation pledges made in response. While disappointing, this stagnation in funding matches similar philanthropic trends observed elsewhere.<sup>9</sup>

Funding for all other specific LGBTQ communities of color slightly increased from 2020 to 2021, but in total represents only 5 percent of overall LGBTQ funding.

### Distribution of Domestic Grant Dollars Among LGBTQ People of Color [POC] (2021)



POC (General)	\$78,356,616	31%
Black	\$18,360,080	7%
Latinx	\$8,262,384	3%
AAPI	\$2,145,735	1%
Indigenous	\$1,694,837	1%
Middle Eastern	\$155,000	<1%

*\*This table excludes funds awarded for the purpose of regranting.*

(9) Malkia Devich Cyril, et. al. *Mismatched: Philanthropy's Response to the Call for Racial Justice*, Philanthropic Initiative for Racial Equity (September 2021).

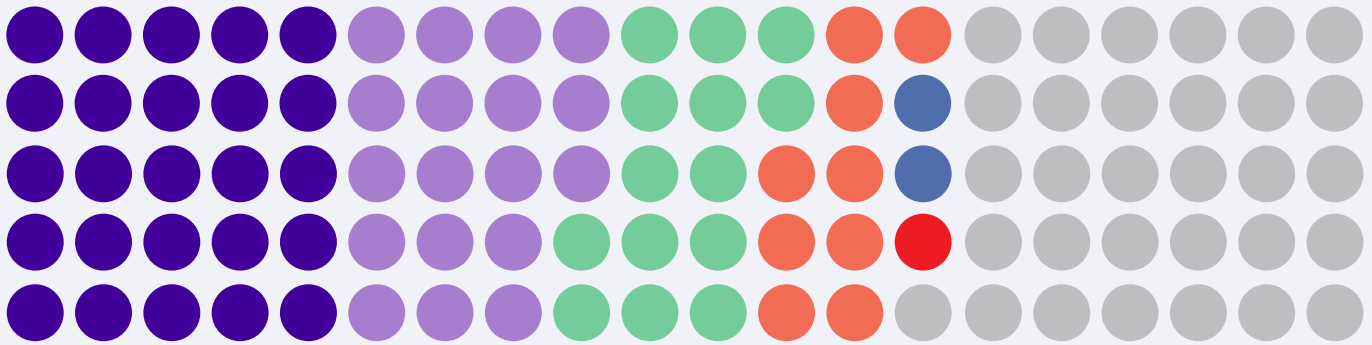
# Distribution of Domestic Grant Dollars Among Other Populations

Funding for LGBTQ children and youth, historically the most funded subpopulation, reached a new record high of \$63.4 million in 2021, accounting for 25 percent of total funding to LGBTQ communities and issues.

Funding to homeless and marginally housed LGBTQ communities, LGBTQ immigrants and refugees, and LGBTQ older adults also increased from 2020 to 2021. However, funding specifically to LGBTQ people of faith and LGBTQ sex workers decreased from 2020 to 2021.

As with overall funding, funding to these specific LGBTQ populations is very dependent on a few top funders. Gilead Sciences, the top funder of LGBTQ sex workers, homeless and marginally housed LGBTQ communities, LGBTQ people of faith, and LGBTQ older adults, accounted for a disproportionate share of funding specifically aimed at these communities (ranging from 45 percent of the funding for LGBTQ sex workers to 83 percent of funding to LGBTQ older adults).

## Distribution of Domestic Grant Dollars Among Other Populations (2021)



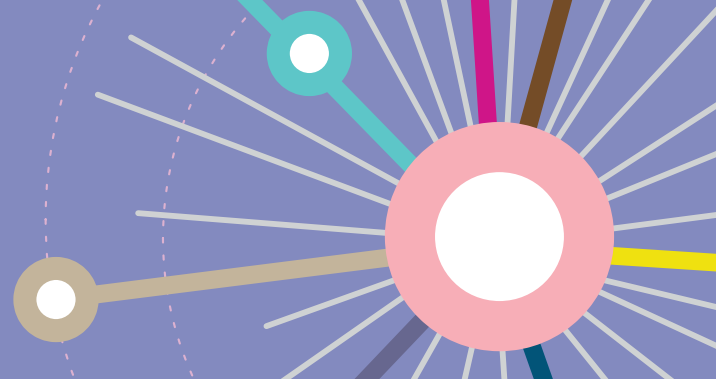
- CHILDREN & YOUTH
- HOMELESS & MARGINALLY HOUSED PEOPLE
- IMMIGRANTS AND REFUGEES
- OLDER ADULTS
- PEOPLE OF FAITH
- SEX WORKERS

<b>Children and Youth</b>	\$63,355,984	25%
<b>Homeless and Marginally Housed People</b>	\$45,051,592	18%
<b>Immigrants and Refugees</b>	\$35,377,812	14%
<b>Older Adults</b>	\$22,535,492	9%
<b>People of Faith</b>	\$3,953,665	2%
<b>Sex Workers</b>	\$2,300,321	1%

*\*This table excludes funds awarded for the purpose of regranting.*



# LOCAL, STATE, AND REGIONAL FUNDING OF LGBTQ ISSUES

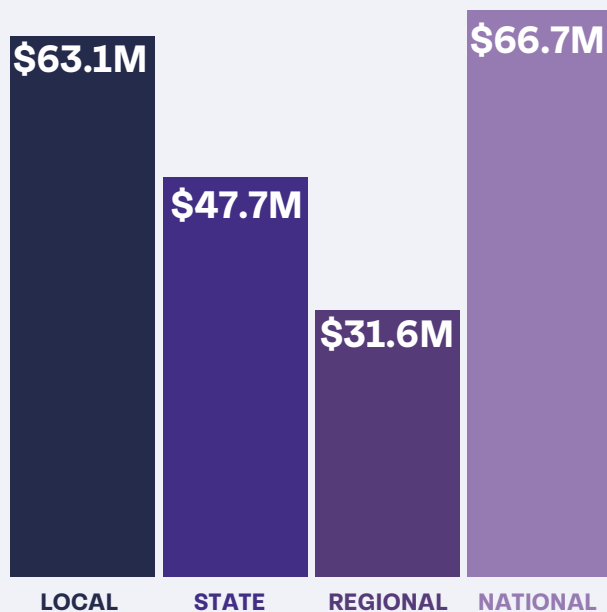


## Geographic Level of Domestic Funding

Funds awarded for work inside the United States were almost evenly allocated between the local and national level. National level funding accounted for 27 percent of support for LGBTQ communities and issues in 2021, while local level funding accounted for 25 percent. This is a shift in share from 2020, when national level funding accounted for 42 percent of support for LGBTQ communities and issues in the United States. However, the dollar amount allocated at the national level has remained similar: \$66.3 million in 2020, and \$66.7 million in 2021.

Percentages reported here are reflective of the total grant dollars awarded in the U.S., including those for which geographic focus was anonymous or could not be ascertained. In reports prior to 2019, we found a higher percentage of grants focused on work at the local level. For this report, we only coded grants as local in focus if the geographic target was specified in the grant.

### Distribution of Domestic Funding for LGBTQ Communities & Issues, by Geographic Level (2021)<sup>10</sup>



Local	\$63,071,620	25%
State	\$47,740,703	19%
Regional	\$31,566,692	13%
National	\$66,721,549	27%

*\*This table excludes funds awarded for the purpose of regranteeing.*

(10) This table captures the geographic level of the funded work, not necessarily the level of the funded organizations. So, e.g., a national group and a local group doing local work would both be counted as Local.

## Focus of Local, State, and Regional Funding

In 2021, the Pacific region received the largest share of local, state, and regional LGBTQ funding, accounting for 19 percent of all funding to LGBTQ communities and issues. This was largely driven by funding to California, which was the most highly funded state in the nation for LGBTQ communities and issues (\$38.9 million).

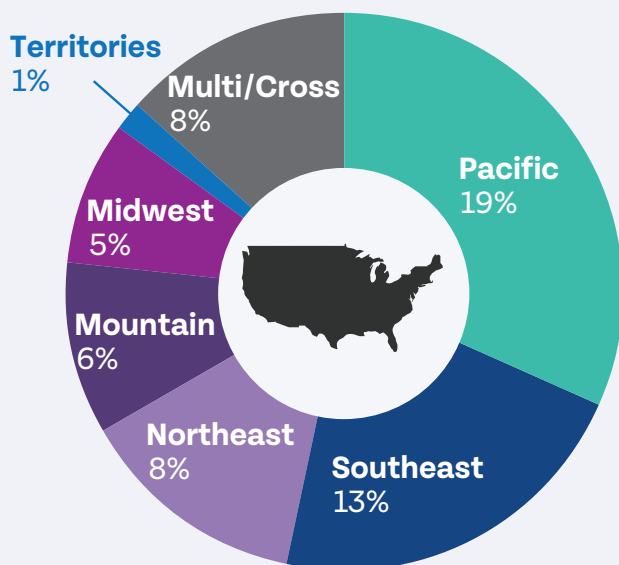
New York was the second most highly funded state, with \$12.3 million of LGBTQ funding. No other state received more than \$10 million of LGBTQ state and local funding.

The Southeast was the second most funded region, accounting for 13 percent (\$32.2 million) of all funding to LGBTQ communities and issues. However, the increase

in overall funding in 2021 did not seem to benefit the region—the nominal dollar amount of foundation funding for the Southeastern U.S. appears to have remained the same from 2018 levels,<sup>11</sup> despite the escalating right-wing attacks targeting LGBTQ community members there and the surge in community-led organizing and activism. Furthermore, funding for the Southeast appears to be disproportionately awarded to only a few states (Texas, Florida, North Carolina, and Georgia), while half of the states in the region received less than \$1 million in 2021.

No other region received more than 10 percent of total LGBTQ funding.

### Local, State, and Regional LGBTQ Funding, By Region (2021)

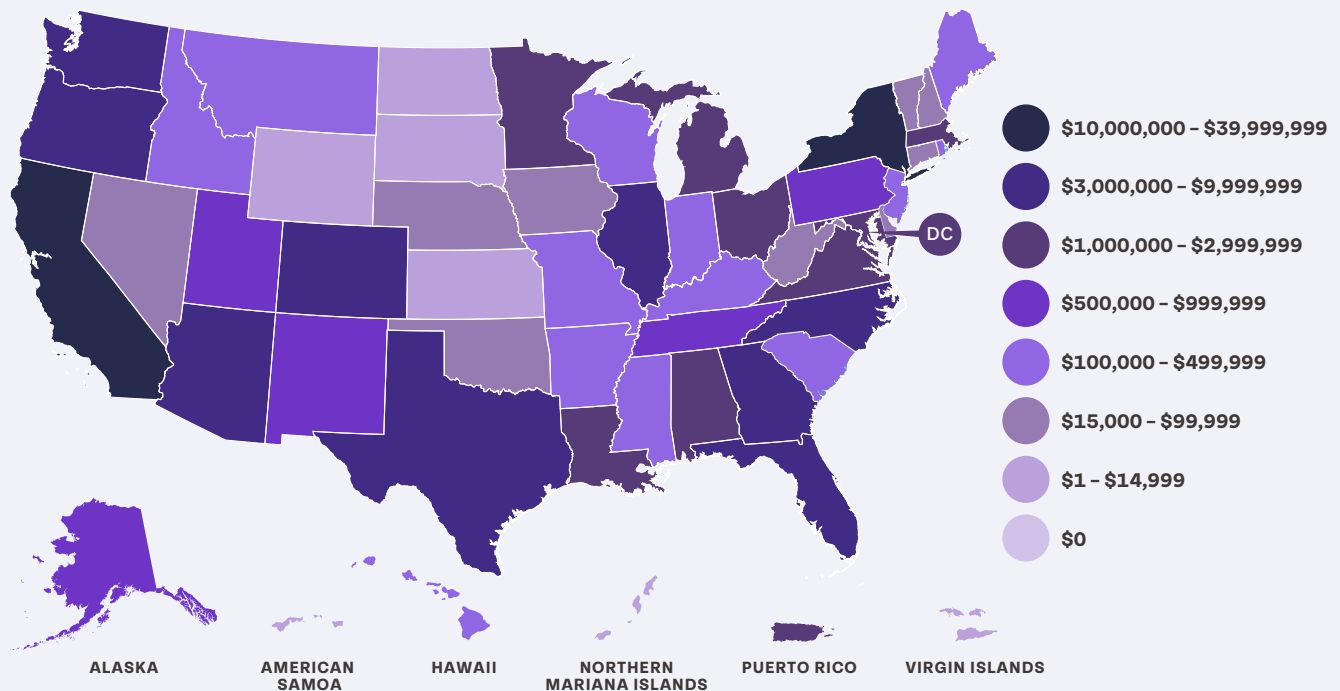


Pacific	\$46,433,967	19%
Southeast	\$32,214,600	13%
Northeast	\$18,924,019	8%
Mountain	\$13,983,305	6%
Midwest	\$11,978,515	5%
Territories	\$2,035,800	1%
Multi-Region/ Cross-Region	\$18,939,385	8%

*\*This table excludes funds awarded for the purpose of regranteeing.*

(11) It is possible that grantmaking classified as “multi-region/cross-region” also included specific Southern states or regions, and thus would not be captured in the “Southeast” category.

## Local and State Funding of LGBTQ Communities & Issues, by State (2021)



\*This graphic excludes funds awarded for the purpose of regranteeing.

Alabama	\$1,552,020	Illinois	\$3,755,326	Montana	\$408,900	Rhode Island	\$110,000
Alaska	\$545,000	Indiana	\$318,919	Nebraska	\$82,500	South Carolina	\$299,700
American Samoa	\$2,500	Iowa	\$35,500	Nevada	\$88,800	South Dakota	\$15,500
Arizona	\$3,131,591	Kansas	\$7,000	New Hampshire	\$75,000	Tennessee	\$532,400
Arkansas	\$133,000	Kentucky	\$397,653	New Jersey	\$249,554	Texas	\$6,516,445
California	\$38,942,946	Louisiana	\$1,482,500	New Mexico	\$926,500	Utah	\$551,713
Colorado	\$8,481,701	Maine	\$183,640	New York	\$12,282,561	Vermont	\$49,000
Connecticut	\$43,000	Maryland	\$1,663,116	North Carolina	\$3,040,002	Virgin Islands	\$25,000
DC	\$1,966,750	Massachusetts	\$1,167,450	North Dakota	\$2,500	Virginia	\$1,215,361
Delaware	\$58,560	Michigan	\$2,915,062	Ohio	\$1,505,425	Washington	\$3,271,770
Florida	\$3,525,112	Minnesota	\$1,708,778	Oklahoma	\$47,004	West Virginia	\$81,500
Georgia	\$3,061,350	Mississippi	\$166,500	Oregon	\$3,600,025	Wisconsin	\$348,500
Hawaii	\$90,500	Missouri	\$231,005	Pennsylvania	\$737,360	Wyoming	\$10,500
Idaho	\$314,600	Northern Mariana Islands	\$5,000	Puerto Rico	\$1,978,300		

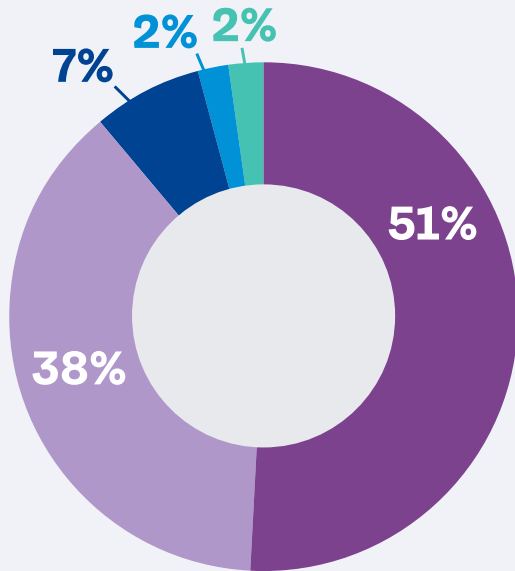
# FUNDING FOR U.S. LGBTQ COMMUNITIES & ISSUES BY TYPE OF SUPPORT

Consistent with established trends, funding for program or project-specific support continued to be the most common type of support type among grants for U.S. LGBTQ communities and issues in 2021, accounting for 51 percent of all domestic support awarded by U.S. foundations. General operating support accounted for 38 percent of all funding.

While capacity building grants increased as a share of grantmaking from 2020 to 2021 (from 4 percent to 7 percent), the small share of these types of

grants threatens the future of our movements and communities. Given the unprecedented challenges in recent years facing the LGBTQ community on multiple fronts, it has become more and more clear that winning and defending the rights supporting intersectional LGBTQ communities will require building long-term, sustainable movement organizations and coalitions. Such long-term movement and institution building requires capacity-building support.

## Distribution of Funding for U.S. LGBTQ Communities & Issues by Type of Support (2021)



- PROGRAM SUPPORT
- GENERAL OPERATING SUPPORT
- CAPACITY BUILDING
- MEMBERSHIP/SPONSORSHIP
- SCHOLARSHIP, FELLOWSHIP, AWARD TO INDIVIDUAL

Program Support	\$128,197,755	51%
General Operating Support	\$94,559,448	38%
Capacity Building	\$17,883,963	7%
Membership/Sponsorship	\$5,779,395	2%
Scholarship, Fellowship, Award To Individual	\$4,440,885	2%

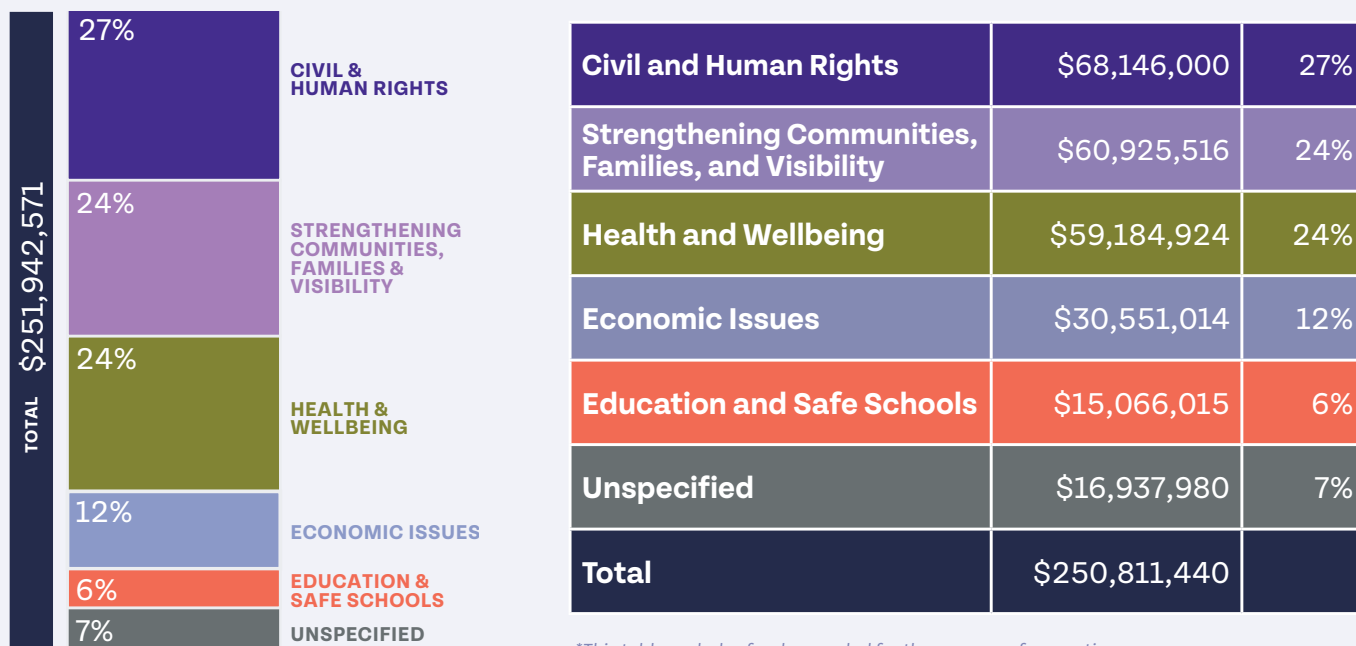
*\*This table excludes funds awarded for the purpose of regranting.*

# ISSUES ADDRESSED IN DOMESTIC FUNDING

Funding for civil and human rights continued to garner the largest share of funding in 2021, accounting for 27 percent of all grant dollars from U.S.-based foundations in support of LGBTQ communities and issues. Funding to support strengthening communities, families, and visibility was the next most funded category. This issue area, encompassing a broad range of activities including community-building programs, pride celebrations,

and visibility initiatives, accounted for 24 percent of all funding. Support for health and wellbeing closely followed, accounting for 24 percent of all domestic funding in 2021, up slightly from the 21 percent reported in 2020. Economic issues doubled as a share of funding, from 6 percent of total LGBTQ funding in 2020 to 12 percent of total LGBTQ funding in 2021.

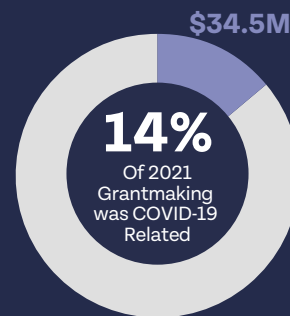
## Distribution of Funding for U.S. LGBTQ Communities & Issues, by Issues Addressed (2021)<sup>12</sup>



\*This table excludes funds awarded for the purpose of regranting.

## Funding for COVID-19 in 2021

The ongoing COVID-19 pandemic has had a profound impact on every aspect of society. Our analysis of U.S. foundation funding for LGBTQ communities and issues in 2021 found \$34.5 million in grantmaking—**14 percent of all reported grantmaking in our dataset**—was related to COVID-19.



(12) For 7 percent of grants, we were not able to identify an issue area through automated coding or manual review. Grants coded to multiple issues were weighted with the inverse of the number of issues to which they were coded; for example, if a grant was coded to economic issues and to education and safe schools (2 issues), each category included ½ (50%) of the funding for that grant. COVID funding is not included in this weighting; for example, if a grant was coded to economic issues, education and safe schools, and COVID, then economic issues and education and safe schools would each include ½ (50%) of the funding for that grant and COVID would receive 100% of funding for that grant.

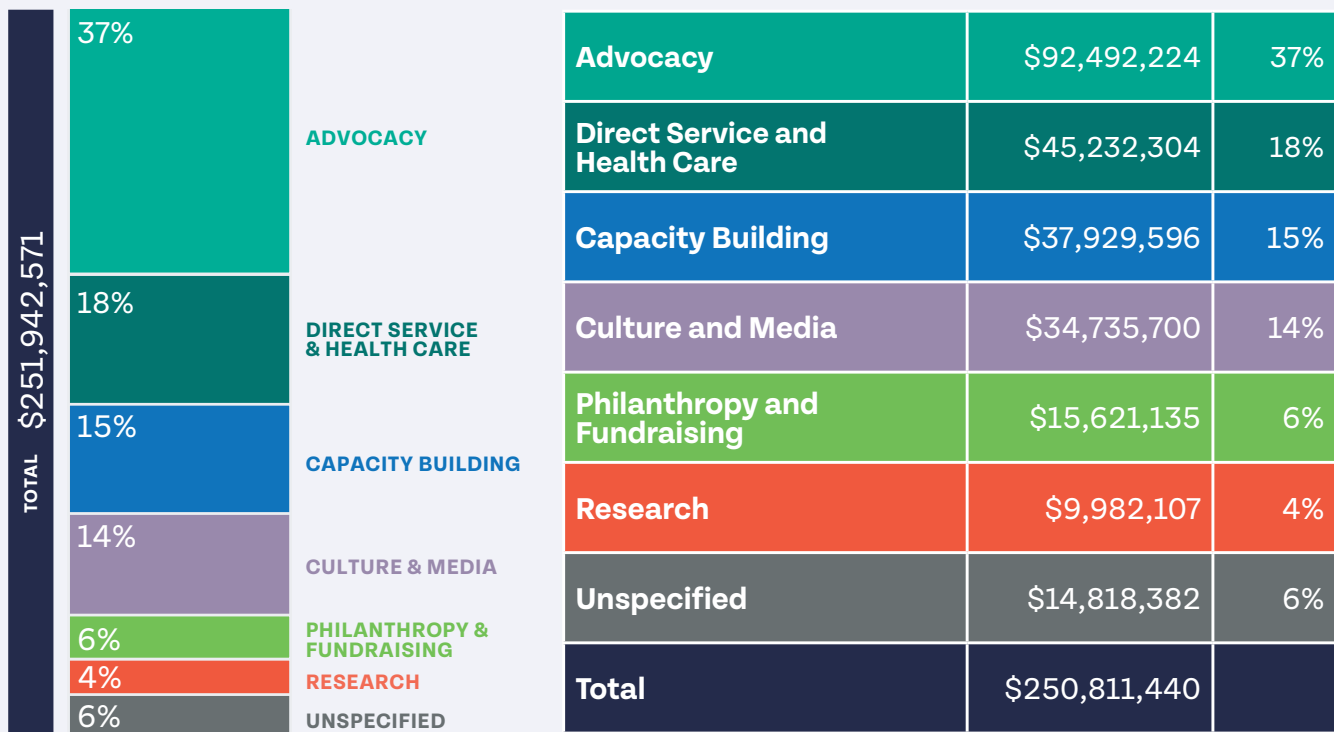
# STRATEGIES FUNDED IN DOMESTIC FUNDING

In 2021, funding for advocacy in support of LGBTQ communities and issues garnered the largest share of funding, accounting for 37 percent of all U.S. foundation support for LGBTQ communities and issues. This support strategy includes funding for governmental advocacy, community organizing, public education efforts, and/or litigation to influence policy

and/or the allocation of resources in support of LGBTQ communities.

Following advocacy, support for direct services and health care received 18 percent of all support. The remaining funds were distributed for capacity building, culture and media, philanthropy and fundraising, and research.

## Distribution of Funding for U.S. LGBTQ Communities & Issues, by Strategy (2021)<sup>13</sup>



*\*This table excludes funds awarded for the purpose of regranting.*

(13) For 6 percent of grants, we were not able to identify a strategy through automated coding or manual review. Grants coded to multiple strategies were weighted with the inverse of the number of strategies to which they were coded; for example, if a grant was coded to advocacy and to capacity building (2 issues), each category included ½ (50%) of the funding for that grant.

# COMMUNITY FOUNDATION GRANTMAKING FOR U.S. LGBTQ COMMUNITIES & ISSUES

In 2021, community foundations awarded \$20.4 million (7 percent) to LGBTQ communities and issues (or \$18.4 million, 7 percent, after funds awarded for the purpose of regranting are excluded).

## Top Community Foundation Funders 2021

- 1 **Seattle Foundation**  
Seattle, WA  
\$3,448,605
- 2 **Pride Foundation**  
Seattle, WA  
\$3,338,970
- 3 **Silicon Valley Community Foundation**  
Mountain View, CA  
\$2,555,531
- 4 **New York Community Trust**  
New York, NY  
\$1,204,450
- 5 **Brooklyn Community Foundation**  
New York, NY  
\$1,073,500
- 6 **The Community Foundation for Northeast Florida**  
Jacksonville, FL  
\$1,027,333
- 7 **Stonewall Community Foundation**  
New York, NY  
\$942,344
- 8 **San Francisco Foundation**  
San Francisco, CA  
\$711,500
- 9 **Cleveland Foundation**  
Cleveland, OH  
\$633,425
- 10 **East Bay Community Foundation**  
Oakland, CA  
\$629,223

\*This table includes funds awarded for the purpose of regranting.

## Top Community Foundation Grantees 2021<sup>14</sup>

- 1 **FTYTNI Howe Productions**  
Seattle, WA  
\$800,804
- 2 **Jacksonville Area Sexual Minority Youth Network**  
Jacksonville, FL  
\$595,833
- 3 **The Trevor Project**  
West Hollywood, CA  
\$456,690
- 4 **Liberty Hill Foundation**  
Los Angeles, CA  
\$400,000
- 5 **Lesbian Gay Bisexual Transgender Community Center**  
Cleveland, OH  
\$314,750
- 6 **Chicago Community Foundation**  
Chicago, IL  
\$300,000
- 7 **Planned Parenthood Federation Of America**  
New York, NY  
\$289,630
- 8 **Groundswell Fund**  
Oakland, CA  
\$270,000
- 9 **Westside Community Mental Health Center**  
San Francisco, CA  
\$250,000
- 10 **Services & Advocacy for GLBT Elders (SAGE)**  
New York, NY  
\$243,800

\*This table excludes funds awarded for the purpose of regranting.

(14) Student scholarships accounted for a total of \$601,000 from community foundations. If we combined these, they would be #2 on this list.

# CORPORATE FOUNDATION GRANTMAKING FOR U.S. LGBTQ COMMUNITIES & ISSUES

In 2021, corporate foundations awarded \$62.8 million (22 percent) to LGBTQ communities and issues (or \$59.6 million, 24 percent, after funds awarded for the purpose of regranting are excluded).

## Top Corporate Funders 2021

- 1 **Gilead Sciences**  
Foster City, CA  
\$53,318,417
- 2 **JP Morgan Chase**  
New York, NY  
\$2,634,748
- 3 **MAC Viva Glam Fund**  
New York, NY  
\$1,911,986
- 4 **T-Mobile**  
Bellevue, Washington  
\$1,250,000
- 5 **StartSmall LLC**  
San Francisco, CA  
\$1,190,080
- 6 **Federal Home Loan Bank of Dallas Corporate Giving Program**  
Dallas, TX  
\$750,000
- Citi Foundation**  
Long Island City, NY  
\$750,000
- 7 **Bristol Myers Squibb**  
New York, NY  
\$494,074
- 8 **Jim Moran Foundation, Inc.**  
Deerfield Beach, FL  
\$260,000
- 9 **Target Foundation**  
Minneapolis, MN  
\$83,000

\*This table includes funds awarded for the purpose of regranting.

## Top Corporate Funder Grantees 2021

- 1 **GLAAD**  
New York, NY  
\$5,010,300
- 2 **Los Angeles LGBTQ Center**  
Los Angeles, CA  
\$4,441,840
- 3 **Abounding Prosperity**  
Dallas, TX  
\$3,050,000
- 4 **San Francisco AIDS Foundation**  
San Francisco, CA  
\$2,200,000
- 5 **Services & Advocacy for GLBT Elders (SAGE)**  
New York, NY  
\$1,805,000
- 6 **Latino Commission On AIDS**  
New York, NY  
\$1,750,000
- 7 **San Francisco Community Health Center**  
San Francisco, CA  
\$1,450,000
- 8 **Postgraduate Institute For Medicine**  
Englewood, CO  
\$1,275,775
- 9 **Wake Forest University**  
Winston-Salem, NC  
\$1,254,698
- 10 **Us Helping Us, People Into Living**  
Washington, DC  
\$1,210,000

\*This table excludes funds awarded for the purpose of regranting.



# PRIVATE FOUNDATION GRANTMAKING FOR U.S. LGBTQ COMMUNITIES & ISSUES



In 2021, private foundations awarded \$160.9 million (57 percent) to LGBTQ communities and issues (or \$137.5 million, 55 percent, after funds awarded for the purpose of regranting are excluded).

## Top Private Foundation Funders 2021

- 1 **Ford Foundation**  
New York, NY  
\$37,076,375
- 2 **The California Endowment**  
Los Angeles, CA  
\$16,243,982
- 3 **Wellspring Philanthropic Fund**  
New York, NY  
\$12,487,025
- 4 **Gill Foundation**  
Denver, CO  
\$12,153,000
- 5 **Robert Wood Johnson Foundation**  
Princeton, NJ  
\$9,753,858
- 6 **Arcus Foundation**  
New York, NY  
\$7,133,850
- 7 **The Colorado Health Foundation**  
Denver, CO  
\$6,950,322
- 8 **Conrad N. Hilton Foundation**  
Westlake Village, CA  
\$5,275,500
- 9 **Evelyn and Walter Haas, Jr. Fund**  
San Francisco, CA  
\$3,327,500
- 10 **The JPB Foundation**  
New York, NY  
\$3,250,000

*\*This table includes funds awarded for the purpose of regranting.*

## Top Private Funder Grantees 2021<sup>15</sup>

- 1 **Southerners On New Ground (SONG)**  
Atlanta, GA  
\$8,230,000
- 2 **Transgender Law Center**  
Oakland, CA  
\$6,469,500
- 3 **National LGBTQ Task Force**  
Washington, DC  
\$2,705,000
- 4 **BYP100 Education Fund**  
Chicago, IL  
\$2,605,000
- 5 **Los Angeles LGBT Center**  
Los Angeles, CA  
\$2,319,500
- 6 **GLSEN**  
New York, NY  
\$2,209,000
- 7 **Freedom For All Americans Education Fund**  
Washington, DC  
\$2,110,500
- 8 **Neo Philanthropy**  
New York, NY  
\$1,950,000
- 9 **Algorithmic Justice League**  
Washington, DC  
\$1,900,000
- 10 **Funders for LGBTQ Issues**  
New York, NY  
\$1,851,800

*\*This table excludes funds awarded for the purpose of regranting.*

(15) Multiple anonymous grantees received a total of \$3.9 million from private foundations. If we combined anonymous grantees, they would be #3 on this list.

# PUBLIC FOUNDATION GRANTMAKING FOR U.S. LGBTQ COMMUNITIES & ISSUES



In 2021, public foundations awarded \$33.0 million (12 percent) to LGBTQ communities and issues (or \$30.8 million, 12 percent, after funds awarded for the purpose of regranting are excluded).

## Top Public Foundation Funders 2021

- 1 **Tides Foundation**  
San Francisco, CA  
\$8,337,854
- 2 **Borealis Philanthropy**  
Minneapolis, MN  
\$5,341,900
- 3 **Horizons Foundation**  
San Francisco, CA  
\$4,847,403
- 4 **Groundswell Fund**  
Oakland, CA  
\$3,571,000
- 5 **Our Fund Foundation**  
Wilton Manors, FL  
\$2,240,853
- 6 **Third Wave Fund**  
New York, NY  
\$1,690,500
- 7 **Black Tie Dinner**  
Dallas, TX  
\$1,449,999
- 8 **New York Women's Foundation**  
New York, NY  
\$1,407,500
- 9 **Astraea Lesbian Foundation For Justice**  
New York, NY  
\$941,000
- 10 **Women's Foundation of California**  
San Francisco, CA  
\$565,000

*\*This table includes funds awarded for the purpose of regranting.*

## Top Public Funder Grantees 2021

- 1 **The Future Perfect Project**  
Kingston, NY  
\$1,050,000
- 2 **Transgender Law Center**  
Oakland, CA  
\$596,826
- 3 **The Trevor Project**  
West Hollywood, CA  
\$530,230
- 4 **Pride Live**  
New York, NY  
\$500,000
- 5 **All Out Action Fund**  
New York, NY  
\$461,500
- 6 **Funders For LGBTQ Issues**  
New York, NY  
\$431,500
- 7 **The Translatin@ Coalition**  
Los Angeles, CA  
\$419,000
- 8 **Kaleidoscope Youth Center**  
Columbus, OH  
\$400,000
- 9 **Transtech Social Enterprises**  
Culver City, CA  
\$350,000
- 10 **Women With A Vision**  
New Orleans, LA  
\$310,000

*\*This table excludes funds awarded for the purpose of regranting.*

# OTHER FOUNDATION GRANTMAKING FOR U.S. LGBTQ COMMUNITIES & ISSUES

In 2021, foundations that self-identified as not falling into one of the previous categories awarded \$4.5 million (2 percent) to LGBTQ communities and issues (or \$4.5 million, 2 percent, after funds awarded for the purpose of regranteeing are excluded).

## Top Other Funders 2021

- 1 **Elton John AIDS Foundation**  
New York, NY  
\$1,413,206
- 2 **Trans Justice Funding Project**  
New York, NY  
\$1,272,500
- 3 **Trinity Church Wall Street**  
New York, NY  
\$810,000
- 4 **AIDS United**  
Washington, DC  
\$614,700
- 5 **Transgender Strategy Center (TSC)**  
Richmond, CA  
\$175,000
- 6 **Outright Action International**  
New York, NY  
\$110,000
- Advocates for Youth**  
Washington, DC  
\$110,000
- 7 **Frameline, Inc.**  
San Francisco, CA  
\$17,500

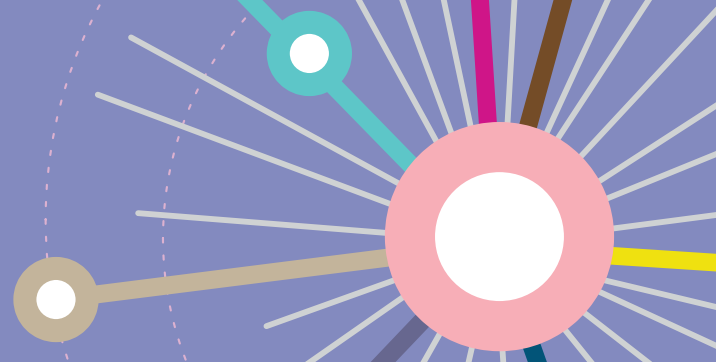
*\*This table includes funds awarded for the purpose of regranteeing.*

## Top Other Funder Grantees 2021

- 1 **Transgender Law Center**  
Oakland, CA  
\$1,323,500
- 2 **Normal Anomaly**  
Houston, TX  
\$180,000
- Us Helping Us, People Into Living**  
Washington, DC  
\$180,000
- TruEvolution**  
Riverside, CA  
\$180,000
- In The Meantime Men's Group**  
Los Angeles, CA  
\$180,000
- 3 **The Bros In Convo Initiative**  
Orlando, FL  
\$179,386
- 4 **S.O.U.L Sisters Leadership Collective**  
Miami, FL  
\$150,000
- 5 **THRIVE Support Services**  
Atlanta, GA  
\$144,000
- 6 **Girls for Gender Equity (GGE)**  
New York, NY  
\$125,000
- 7 **Trinity Community Connection**  
New York, NY  
\$100,000
- Hetrick-Martin Institute**  
New York, NY  
\$100,000
- Princess Janae Place**  
New York, NY  
\$100,000
- Girl Vow, Inc**  
New York, NY  
\$100,000

*\*This table excludes funds awarded for the purpose of regranteeing.*

# METHODOLOGY



**This report describes the amount and type of giving by U.S. foundations for LGBTQ communities and issues, including subsets of the community (e.g. transgender women, LGBTQ youth). The report does not include grants to organizations or projects that are generally inclusive of LGBTQ people. Major individual donors (i.e. MacKenzie Scott) were also not included in our reporting, as we focus on foundation funding.**

We collected data in three ways: foundations could submit grant-level information for each year using a template provided by Funders for LGBTQ Issues, IRS Form 990 data could be provided from the Candid database, or grants could be identified using published annual reports. The dataset was deduplicated by funder name; in other words, if funders submitted directly, their grants as reported by Candid or online annual reports were not included.

Multi-year grants are counted in-full in the year they were awarded. This method best reflects a foundation's priorities in the year of reporting, though does contribute to fluctuations from year to year.

In order to be considered for inclusion in the dataset, grants had to include the following minimum information: grantee name, funder name, amount of funding, and support type (e.g. general operating, program). Grants were included if there was sufficient evidence that 50% or more of the support provided was for LGBTQ+ issues and people. Any one or more of the following was considered sufficient evidence that the grant was for LGBTQ+ issues and communities: if the submitting foundation indicated that all their grantmaking was LGBTQ-specific, or

if the individual grant entry indicated that it was awarded for the specific purpose of supporting LGBTQ communities or issues (through the grant description or the selection of LGBTQ population categories in the direct submission template). Grants that lacked specificity in their grant description could also be included in the dataset if they were awarded to an organization whose mission was solely focused on LGBTQ communities or issues.

Grants were assigned to LGBTQ populations (e.g. asexual, lesbian), other populations (e.g. Black, youth), issues, and strategies using keyword searches of grant descriptions and grantee missions. Where keywords indicated that grants had multiple LGBTQ populations, multiple other populations, multiple issues, or multiple strategies, grant amounts were weighted by the inverse of the number of populations (or issues or strategies) the grant addressed. For details on how population, issue, and strategy weights were created, please contact the authors of the report.

Estimating change over time in the funding to LGBTQ communities and issues is an important goal of this report; however, there are significant limitations in comparability across years. Funder willingness and capacity to provide grantmaking data, COVID-19-related delays in data collection and submission (in the form of online reporting, IRS data, and direct submission to Funders to LGBTQ Issues), and the discovery of new funding organizations all impact the data available for inclusion in our reporting. This year saw a particularly robust outreach and data collection period compared to the previous two years, which were affected by a number of factors that limited these processes.



# ACKNOWLEDGMENTS

**This project would not be possible without the participation of our members and other philanthropic entities who generously shared grantmaking data and other insights for this report.** We are especially grateful to our colleagues at **Funders Concerned About AIDS** (FCAA) – in particular, **Caterina Gironda** – for sharing LGBTQ-specific HIV/AIDS grantmaking data and for consistently being outstanding collaborative partners in our research efforts. Our work has been strengthened through collaboration with the research team at **Global Philanthropy Project**. In addition to sharing grantmaking data, **Ezra Nepon** and **Jay Postic** have contributed invaluable support and feedback that has strengthened our shared mission to increase philanthropic support for LGBTQ communities around the globe. We are also indebted to **Andrew Wallace** for his continued advice and guidance.

For this report, we benefited from 990 data purchased from **Candid**.

# Mission

Funders for LGBTQ Issues works to increase the scale and impact of philanthropic resources aimed at enhancing the well-being of lesbian, gay, bisexual, transgender and queer communities, promoting equity, and advancing racial, economic and gender justice.

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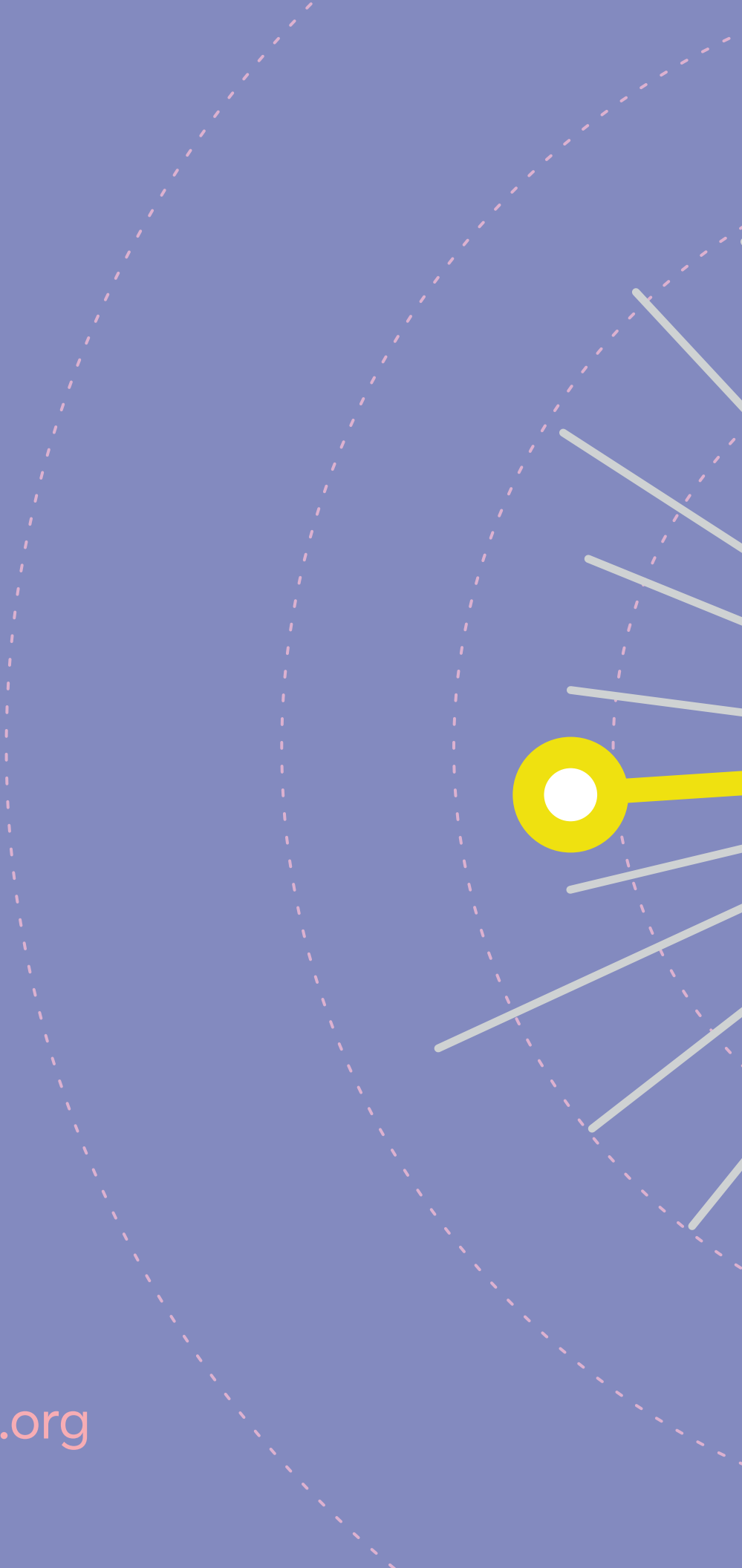
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