



Opportunity to Join Funder Lab (February-June 2022) on Philanthropy and Social Movements

Convened by Building Movement Project and the Robert Wood Johnson Foundation

During the 2020 uprisings against anti-Black racism and amidst a global pandemic, every sector in the United States including philanthropy condemned systemic injustice and committed to implementing more equitable policies and practices within their institutions. As we enter 2022, it remains vital for foundations to support social change movements, from emergence to infrastructure to sustainability. Movement building is a strategy to build collective power in order to change unfair systems, policies and institutions.

*Recognizing the increased awareness within philanthropy of the role and importance of social change movements in today's society, Building Movement Project (BMP), with the support of the Robert Wood Johnson Foundation, invites professionals from grantmaking institutions to join us for the inaugural **Philanthropy and Social Movements Funder Lab** between February and June of 2022.*

What is the Philanthropy and Social Movements Funder Lab?

The *Philanthropy and Social Movements Funder Lab* is an opportunity for philanthropic professionals to learn more about contemporary social movements and the needs of movement leaders while exploring approaches to initiate and sustain investments in social movements at their philanthropic institutions.

The lab is an extension of BMP's [Move The Money](#) project, which provides a set of resources for grantmaking institutions to foster their support of social movements. The 2022 funder lab will be a structured learning and community-building opportunity to delve deeper into the values and practices identified in *Move The Money*.

Who is the Lab for?

This lab is specifically designed for people within philanthropy who are seeking to learn about, discuss, plan and execute strategies that will lead to more meaningful and strategic investments in the organizations, leaders and networks that are sustaining movements for social change.

We invite professionals from a range of grantmaking institutions to apply, from small family foundations and donor-advised collaboratives to corporate and well-established national foundations. Participation in all sessions of the lab is required, and there is no cost to participate. We encourage pairs of participants from the same organization (such as a senior leaders and a program officer) to join, given that institutional change often requires people at various levels of leadership to be involved from the starting point.

The *Philanthropy and Social Movements Funder Lab* might be for you if:

- You are at an early stage of learning about social movements (even if you have been in philanthropy for some time);
- You have a goal, however modest or lofty, for yourself or your foundation, around supporting movement building, and you intend to share insights and recommendations from the lab with your foundation;
- You have an interest in influencing your foundation's grantmaking priorities, your own grantmaking portfolio or your institution's grantmaking practice; and,
- You are able to attend all the sessions (more below)

How will the lab work?

The four-month learning lab is designed as a virtual cohort learning opportunity. Participants will attend a monthly 2-hour virtual meeting on the second Tuesday of each month between March and June of 2022. There is a shorter 1-hour welcome session in February. Each session will include a combination of presentations, dialogues with funders, peer learning opportunities and personal reflection time to address questions and challenges.

Below are the sessions and dates:

Welcome Session – Tuesday, February 15th, 2022 | 1pm – 2pm ET/10am-11am PST

Session 1 - Tuesday, March 8th, 2022 | 1pm – 3pm ET/10am – 12pm PST

- What are Social Movements? What do Movement Leaders Need?

Session 2 – Tuesday, April 12th, 2022 | 1pm – 3pm ET/10am – 12pm PST

- What could be Philanthropy's Role in Supporting Movements?

Session 3 – Tuesday, May 10, 2022 | 1pm – 3pm ET/ 10am – 12pm PST

- Shaping Philanthropy Practice and Overcoming Barriers

Session 4 – Tuesday, June 7, 2022 | 1pm – 3pm ET/ 10am – 12pm PST

- Individual and Collective Commitments and Next Steps

How can I participate?

Please let us know if you are interested in participating by completing this [information form](#) by January 31, 2022. We have 15-20 slots available and plan to reach out to participants in early February.

If you have questions or wish to participate:

Please reach out to Deepa Iyer, BMP's Director of Strategic Initiatives at diyer@buildingmovement.org if you have any questions.