

Transcending Borders; Building Futures



ASTRAEA LESBIAN FOUNDATION FOR JUSTICE

2018 Annual Report



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**Astraea Lesbian Foundation for Justice
2018 Annual Report**

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Table of Contents photo: 2015 MLK Day March and Rally.

Credit: Naomi Ishisaka

Report cover: Southerners On New Ground at a 2016 action.

Credit: Elainiel Baldwin

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J. Bob Alotta
Executive Director



FRIENDS,

Astraea exists to resource and sustain liberation; to shift power and build momentum for our movements. We do so by raising money and investing in brilliant, powerful, dynamic grassroots LGBTQI change-makers, communities, activists, and artists. **In 2018, we made 256 grants totaling \$4.6 million to organizations in 69 countries and 21 U.S. states.**

This year, we challenged ourselves to consider what we are fighting *for*, not just what we are fighting *against*. We turned toward the innovative, collaborative possibilities that this contentious political moment actually offers us. We accompanied our movements beyond funding; in addition to making grants, we strategically invested in LGBTQI movement building, supporting activists by co-creating collective spaces to heal, learn, and grow. We lifted up grassroots organizing, prioritizing the holistic safety and healing of activist communities around the world. We connected beyond oppressive structures to harness the power of ancient and new technologies, online and offline, providing solidarity in critical times.

We reached across the world, across both physical and imagined borders intended to separate us, and instead opted to create sustainable ecosystems of resistance and power. We acted transformatively and together.

We acted ***to build towards joy***. Acted to ***transform technology and revive collective and ancestral wisdoms***. We acted to ***shift power toward feminist futures*** and ***decolonize knowledge to harness the power*** within our movements.

Astraea has always been committed to a feminism that is intersectional, intergenerational, and intentional with racial, gender, and economic justice at its core. This year we continued to fire up philanthropy - uplifting queer, Black, migrant, and People of Color communities, and advocating for more resources to support LGBTQI grassroots activists and movements.

Together, we are transcending nation-states, gender binaries, and racial segregation; transcending socio-economic status and traditional notions of family; transcending bathroom bills and healthcare for the privileged; transcending colonial laws, language, and ideals.

Welcome to this year in review, where we share highlights from Astraea and some of our grantee partners. Read about how together, we are creating the future we believe is possible and necessary for our communities to thrive. A joyful future where we transcend barriers and secure liberation for us all.

VISION & MISSION

About Astraea

Astraea Lesbian Foundation for Justice is the only philanthropic organization working exclusively to advance LGBTQI rights around the globe. We support hundreds of brilliant and brave grantee partners in the U.S. and internationally who challenge oppression and seed social change. We work for racial, economic, social, and gender justice, because we all deserve to live our lives freely, without fear, and with profound dignity.



SION

Vision

We envision a world where all people can actively and enthusiastically belong, regardless of their sex, sexuality, gender, bodies, dis/ability, race, class, nationality, migration status, or any other aspect of identity or circumstance.

Mission

Our mission is to fuel local and global movements that shift power to LGBTQI people and organizations pursuing social justice and human rights. We do this by providing support in the form of grantmaking, philanthropic advocacy, communications, and capacity building.

Our programmatic pillars foster powerful collective action by:

- **Investing** in LGBTQI activists, artists, and organizations who have limited access to funding but are best positioned to make transformative change,
- **Advocating** for greater and better philanthropic resources for LGBTQI movements, helping funding reach those who need it most,
- **Amplifying** LGBTQI movement voices through media and communications to raise awareness and shift the narrative, and
- **Propelling** LGBTQI organizing forward through capacity building and leadership development.



OUR FUNDS

Astraea supports LGBTQI groups that promote racial, economic, and gender justice, including groups led by and for trans, intersex, and gender non-conforming people, lesbians, bisexual, and queer women, as well as artists and cultural changemakers. Our grantmaking prioritizes support for those with limited access to traditional funding, and who are best placed to make change. We strengthen LGBTQI groups by providing flexible general support grants ranging from \$5,000 to \$30,000 per year.

U.S. Fund

The U.S. Fund is Astraea's longest-standing fund. We have been funding at the intersections of racial, gender, economic, migrant, and reproductive justice movements - centering the leadership of queer, trans, and gender non-conforming People of Color in the U.S. for over 40 years. Over the last year, **we awarded over \$2.1 million in grants, to 59 organizations in 21 states, with 99% of this funding going to LGBTQI Black and People of Color-led groups.**

International Fund

Astraea's International Fund has existed for over 20 years and has worked with organizations in 101 countries during that time. The fund supports groups led by LGBTQI communities - prioritizing LGBTQI-led organizing in particular - working for progressive social change. This year, **we awarded over \$2.2 million in grants, to 102 organizations in 49 countries.** Our international grantee partners are responding to closing civil society spaces, combatting backlash and violence from conservative forces, engaging in new forms of movement building across national and regional borders, and building capacity around physical and digital security.

Global Arts Fund

Astraea's Global Arts Fund is a biennial fund which supports, showcases, and connects impactful art by LGBTQI people and organizations that are using art as a tool for social transformation yet have limited access to resources for this critical work. **In our 41-year history we have granted over \$4 million to more than 200 individuals and 300 organizations,** supporting artists like Audre Lorde and Cheryl Clark, and new honorees such as singer-songwriter Be Steadwell and the arts collective East African Visual Artists.

Intersex Human Rights Fund

Astraea's Intersex Human Rights Fund is the first dedicated intersex fund in the world, and since its creation in 2015, the fund has leveraged nearly \$2 million in new funding for the global intersex community. Our latest cycle of grants was also our largest, totaling **\$275,000 in 41 grants to 37 powerful intersex-led organizations and projects in 33 countries.** Our grantee partners use advocacy, policy, and cultural change strategies to work towards ensuring the human rights, bodily autonomy, physical integrity, and self-determination of intersex people around the world.

Fertile Ground Fund

Launched in 2018, the Fertile Ground Fund is a flexible funding source that provides resources based on the shifting needs and desires of Astraea's grantee partners, allowing them to be more nimble and responsive. It supports activists to seize opportunities to seed and grow movement visions, ensuring organizations can prioritize collective liberation and sustainability towards building long-term movements. This year, Astraea's Fertile Ground Fund **granted a total of \$110,000 to 15 grantee partners** for projects aiming to intervene against the violence of policing, deepen cross movement-collaboration to combat state criminalization efforts, and invest in resiliency strategies for sustainability.



BUILDING TOGETHER TOWARDS JOY

Astraea supporters at a January
2018 event in Washington, D.C.
Credit: Satsun Photography



BUILDING TOGETHER TOWARDS JOY

Astraea has always supported activists and organizations working to create joy for their communities. Our grantee partners break down barriers, and work to build up strong cross-border, intergenerational, multi-gendered, and multi-racial movements.

This is critical as we continue to face a global moment of upheaval - a time of xenophobic, racist, homophobic, transphobic, neoliberal, and patriarchal policies and state practices; of the criminalization of dissent; of the violent policing of the lives and bodies of Black, Indigenous, People of Color, im/migrant, trans, and queer folks; of tighter borders and boundaries.

Over the last year, we have deepened our commitment to supporting cross-regional organizing and collective action led by lesbian, bisexual, and queer (LBQ) women, and trans, intersex, and non-binary communities. We have amplified the brilliant visions and collaborative resistance of activists in 69 countries. In the U.S., we have fueled some of the most transformative organizing led by queer, trans, and gender non-conforming People of Color, building resilient movements.

Intersex Human Rights Fund

In our recent *The State of Intersex Organizing* report, intersex groups reported an ongoing need for convening spaces to build community within regions to strengthen the movement. Over the last year, Astraea supported the first region-based intersex convenings in the world led by and for intersex activists in Africa, Asia, and Latin America. These convenings offered skills-building and strategy sessions for activists and resulted in three powerful public statements and the founding of two regional networks in Asia and Latin America and an informal network in Africa. Activists have formed new organizations out of these convenings, with some becoming Astraea grantee partners.

In 2018, grantee partners have continued to bring attention to the violations of intersex people's human rights in their countries, across regional spaces, and in international spaces like the UN. They continued advocating for the end to intersex infanticide and to non-consensual 'normalizing' surgeries and treatments, while supporting intersex people and their families.

Astraea's Why We Fund Intersex Activism event featuring Pidgeon Pagonis in New York City, May 2018.
Credit: Astraea archives





Members of grantee partner Trans Queer Pueblo at a 2018 protest. Credit: Lerman Montoya



ASTRAEA

US Fund

In the last year, the groups we support within the U.S. Fund have continued to resist violence and white supremacy, increase the visibility of healing justice strategies, find intersections between racial, economic, reproductive, and migrant justice movements, and fight against discriminatory practices, as well as dismantle the criminal justice system.

Pushing back against this administration's attempts to isolate our communities and rollback wins for LGBTQI communities, Astraea hosted a 'Freedom From Violence and Criminalization' convening in January 2018, bringing together 20 U.S. Fund grantee partners from across LGBTQ, racial, migrant, and reproductive justice movements. Grantee partners gathered for a day of lively, fruitful dialogue on strategies for resisting criminalization, creating space for exchanging strategies, building power, and cultivating of new relationships, thought partnerships, and alliances. The convening gave groups the space to consider the state of their movements, explore different ways of thinking about criminalization and gender justice, and engage in strategy sharing and brainstorming about possibilities for collaboration.

The Black LGBTQIA+ Migrant Project

Supported by Astraea since their formation in 2017

The Black LGBTQIA+ Migrant Project was formed in response to the invisibilization of Black LGBTQIA migrants' experiences of being undocumented, queer, and Black within migrant narratives, immigration justice, and racial justice movements. At a time when separating families has become blatant government policy in the U.S., BLMP is working to connect people, build together, and create collective safety mechanisms. Working at the local, regional, and national level to address intensifying attacks on their communities, they organize community and movement building events around the country to reduce isolation, create support systems for trans and queer Black migrants, and build leadership and local power.



Facilitators during Black LGBTQIA+ Migrant Project's workshop at Creating Change 2019 in Detroit.
Credit: Black LGBTQIA+ Migrant Project



Members of Asociación OTD attend a 2017 LGBTI pride march in Chile. Credit: Armando Escoffier

GRANTEE – CHILE INTERNATIONAL FUND

Asociación OTD

Supported by Astraea since 2015

Asociación OTD is a community-based organization that works for the human rights of trans people (transgender, transsexuals, *travestis*, and intersex people) through various political and cultural interventions. The group has been able to create major impact in the country through its organizing approaches, which include community and capacity building, as well as the mobilization of LGBTI and allied communities. For the last five years, OTD has led coalition efforts around an instrumental, comprehensive national gender identity law, which reached its final approval in the Chilean Senate. The bill defines the right for trans people to obtain legal gender recognition, legal name change, and protect trans autonomy and gender expression.

International Day Against Homophobia
event, May 2008, Kyrgyzstan.
Credit: LGBT Organization Labrys Kyrgyzstan



GRANTEE – KYRGYZSTAN **INTERNATIONAL FUND**

Labrys

Supported by Astraea since 2006

Labrys' work represents a balance between community mobilization and empowerment, cross-border partnerships, public education, and national and international policy advocacy. The group has been instrumental to movement-building across Central Asia. They actively collaborate with LGBTQ, feminist, and human rights organizations across the region, and provide capacity building and fiscal sponsorship support to lesbian and trans initiatives in Kazakhstan, Tajikistan, and Uzbekistan. Labrys has also organized across issues to advocate for anti-discrimination legislation and equal protections for LGBTQI and other marginalized communities under the law. They have developed a manual and guidelines for affirming trans healthcare, which were signed by Kyrgyzstan's Ministry of Health in January 2017. In 2018, they focused their advocacy efforts on integrating the manual into a training program for medical universities in Kyrgyzstan and training endocrinologists on the topic of hormonal therapy. Their advocacy for the comprehensive anti-discrimination legislation continues, as does their central role in building queer and trans movements across Central Asia.

Gender DynamiX

Supported by Astraea since 2007

Through their resilience and commitment to achieving legal and personal self-determination for trans and intersex people in and across the Southern Africa region, Gender DynamiX continues to set the tone for envisioning trans and intersex rights across South Africa and the continent at large. The organization is currently focused on redrafting South Africa's gender recognition law to fully incorporate fundamental rights for diverse trans people, a win which could serve as inspiration for groups across the African continent. Gender DynamiX is galvanizing, coordinating, and consolidating support across human rights movements, ensuring that protecting trans and intersex folks should be a priority for all human rights activists.



Gender DynamiX's Trans Health & Advocacy Conference in November 2011 in South Africa. Credit: Zanele Muholi

TRANSFORMING TECH

REVIVING COLLECTIVE



TECHNOLOGY;

THE WISDOMS

U.S. Fund grantee partners attend
Astraea's healing justice convening
in Detroit in June 2018.
Credit: Healing By Choice Detroit

TRANSFORMING TECHNOLOGY; REVIVING COLLECTIVE WISDOMS

Through our grantmaking and capacity building, Astraea is invested in supporting safe places for our communities to heal, rebuild, learn, collaborate, and grow. We provide activists with the tools they need to build their holistic security capabilities, an approach that integrates physical and digital security, as well as self/collective care. This is how we collectively build power, resilience, and joy. As activists contend with fraught political environments, heightened oppression, and constant surveillance, we are committed to the holistic wellbeing of LGBTQI communities around the world.

By supporting groups fighting for digital rights, Astraea supports the evolution of an Internet that centers gender justice, racial justice, and sexual liberation. We are lifting up the methods and wisdom of traditional healing and practices alongside dialogues around digital security as we work to strengthen our paths towards liberation.



U.S. Fund grantee partners attend Astraea's healing justice convening in Detroit in June 2018.
Credit: Healing By Choice Detroit

ASTRAEA

Healing Justice and Resiliency Convening

In June 2018, prior to the Allied Media Conference, Astraea organized a convening centering healing justice and resiliency. The gathering brought together 29 participants from 15 U.S. grantee partner organizations to discuss past and present healing justice strategies as central to movement building. We collaborated on ways to address generational trauma, policing, and surveillance, as well as strengthen movement resilience.

The convening was a healing space in and of itself, led by a combined team of healers and practitioners. Astraea created a generative space to support activists' visions, build and sustain new and existing strategies across regions, and to enhance thought partnership across racial, migrant, and economic justice LGBTQI organizing to address generational trauma, grief, and crisis from systemic oppression collectively.



LGBT Organization Labrys Kyrgyzstan on
Trans Day of Visibility, 2017.
Credit: LGBT Organization Labrys Kyrgyzstan

ASTRAEA

Landscape Mappings and Tech Assessments

As part of Astraea's commitment to increasing knowledge and programming around Internet freedom for LGBTQI activism and expanding our work on CommsLabs - our radical global digital movement-building initiative for activists - this year we invested in research around digital activism and the use of media and technology amongst activists in Central Asia and Eastern Europe (CAEE), India, and the Dominican Republic, and laid the groundwork for this kind of work in the U.S.

In May 2018, together with TGEU - Transgender Europe, Astraea launched a new report, *Mapping Digital Landscapes of Trans Activism in Central Asia and Eastern Europe*. The report gives a regional overview of digital organizing by trans activists in 26 countries of Central Asia and Eastern Europe (CAEE), emphasizing shared patterns of digital usage, barriers to safe use of the internet, and resistance strategies to homo/transphobic-motivated censorship, surveillance, and online attacks.

The report provides a set of recommendations for funders and tech communities, social media corporations, and government entities. It emphasizes the urgent need to invest resources in trans movements in the CAEE region, to increase their capacities to organize digitally, and to combat the growing crackdowns on internet freedom and civil society.

Strategic Communications

Storytelling and communications are powerful tools for cultural change, relationship-building, and deepening understanding of LGBTQI lives. Astraea's support for organizations in Kenya spans two decades, resulting in deep, trusting relationships with grantee partners. Over the last two years, Astraea supported 8 LGBTQI organizations from across Kenya through a hands-on, participatory research and skills-building project to strengthen their communications strategies.

Through interactive workshops, communications clinics, research, and grantmaking, activists collaborated to develop media that shifts misconceptions about LGBTQI people.

The research revealed many surprises: activists witnessed the impact of stories as people's mindsets began to change and they expressed an openness to learning about and supporting LGBTQI people in their communities. The project uncovered new opportunities to reach potential supporters with targeted messaging that uplifts shared Kenyan values. Kenyan activists are using these skills across their varied approaches to their work; from accompanying advocacy efforts challenging colonial-era laws used to criminalize LGBTQI communities to strengthening their community organizing.



Activists attend a strategic communications workshop in Kenya, 2018.
Credit: Neolight Productions

Association Okvir

Supported by Astraea since 2014

Association Okvir supports LGBTIQ+ communities in reclaiming public space in Bosnia and Herzegovina (BiH) through community building, cultural production, activism, and alliance building. Working with a feminist “multiple discriminations” approach, Okvir roots its work in the intersections of sex, gender, race, class, ethnicity, age, and ability. In line with its efforts to increase LGBTIQ+ visibility and knowledge in public space, Okvir launched Queer Archive this year. The digital media project hosts a collection of historical narratives and counter-narratives about LGBTIQ+ activism and life during the war and transitional period in the former Yugoslavia.



Members of Association Okvir attend a march in Bosnia & Herzegovina.
Credit: Association Okvir



Members of the Center for Media Justice at a 2018 rally for net neutrality. Credit: Center for Media Justice

GRANTEE — CALIFORNIA, U.S. U.S. FUND

Center for Media Justice

Supported by Astraia since 2018

The Center for Media Justice (CMJ) fights for racial and economic justice in a digital age by advancing communication rights, access, and power for all communities harmed by persistent inequality and oppression. The organization continues to equip under-represented communities with the skills and security means to strengthen digital organizing for human rights progress. Their recent efforts include researching and organizing against criminal justice and commercial use of facial recognition technology to collect data about marginalized communities.



Sappho for Equality at a protest in 2013.
Credit: Sappho for Equality

GRANTEE — INDIA INTERNATIONAL FUND

Sappho for Equality

Supported by Astraea for over 10 years

Sappho for Equality is a lesbian activist forum fighting for equal rights for LGBTQ people and an end to gender and sexuality based discrimination. They are committed to uplifting and centering the needs and realities of queer people in Eastern India, by employing a variety of technologies to amplify their ability to tell creative stories and amplify authentic narratives. Sappho for Equality has hosted an LGBT Film and Video Festival in Kolkata, India for the past 10 years, and produce 'SWAKANTHEY' a biannual, bilingual six-page newsletter of academic articles, non-fiction writing, and poetry. In the past year, they held a national lesbian, bisexual, and trans (LBT) convening to build and hold space for LBT activism and resistance in the face of a growing fascist government.

Their work in shifting narratives around LGBTQ people in India, as well as their work alongside other grassroots groups in India to advocate both online and offline for LGBTQ rights, played an important role in the historic repeal of Section 377 in September 2018. The colonial-era law criminalized homosexual acts under India's penal code.

The Racial Justice Action Center

Supported by Astraea since 2014

The Racial Justice Action Center is a multiracial organizing and training center working to build the grassroots leadership and power of communities of color and low income communities. The organization collaboratively provides resources and training toward leadership which transforms individuals, communities, and societies. Their work is fundamentally rooted in healing justice and uses this approach to help activate leaders to mediate, mitigate, and interfere with projections of anger and fear in the current political moment.



RJAC at a protest in Atlanta, GA, 2017. Credit: Racial Justice Action Center



SHIFTING POWER TO FEMINIST FUTURE

WARD S

2018 Free Our Future action in San Diego.
Credit: Angela Jimenez for Auburn
Theological Seminary/Mijente

SHIFTING POWER TOWARD FEMINIST FUTURES

At the root of our lesbian feminist ethos is a desire to shift power and privilege into the hands of those who are building our movements and transcending traditional power structures. We believe that movements are more powerful when they are intersectional, intergenerational, and inclusive.

Grassroots organizations and LGBTQI activists require more than just campaign-based support. They also need resources to survive, heal, thrive, build power, and make change. Our programs work together to resource our movements in meaningful and sustainable ways that directly respond to the challenges of this political moment.

ASTRAEA

Transformative Philanthropy

Philanthropy is most effective when it is aligned with and led by movements. This year, we continued to be a voice for gender, racial, and economic justice in philanthropy, working to undermine systemic funding inequities and shift more resources to LBQ, trans, intersex people, and People of Color, and to activist-led and community-owned grantmaking.

Continued on page 39



Guests attend a January 2018
Astraea event in Washington, D.C.
Credit: Satsun Photography

ASTRAEA

U.S. Fertile Ground Fund

In 2018 we launched our Fertile Ground Fund (FGF), awarding \$110,000 in grants to 15 U.S. grantee partners. This initial round of grants comes during especially oppressive political times. As funders, we were called on to support and resource groups to quickly, strategically, and effectively respond to the oppressive state policies and practices.

One of our U.S. FGF grantee partners is the national organization, Law for Black Lives, a national network of radical lawyers, law students, and legal workers of color committed to building the power of the Black Lives Matter (BLM) movement. Formed in the aftermath of the Ferguson and Baltimore uprisings, critical moments within the BLM movement, the group's belief is that now more than ever it is essential that lawyers, legal workers, organizers, and cultural workers strengthen their connections to continue collaborating in order to increase the impact of their legal, organizing, and advocacy work. Their FGF grant will support a 'Movement Lawyering Network Gathering' bringing radical lawyers, legal workers, and cultural workers together for a day of strategizing, skill building, and relationship building to explore ways that media, art, and technology tools can tell compelling client stories, democratize the law, and build stronger alliances outside the legal community.

A group of diverse people, including men and women of various ethnicities, are gathered outdoors for a protest. They are holding a large white banner with bold black and purple text. The banner reads "COMMUNITIES UNITED FOR POLICE REFORM" and "ChangeTheNYPD.org". Some individuals are wearing hoodies and jackets, suggesting a cool day. In the background, there are other signs and a building with classical architectural features like columns and arches. One sign in the background says "got re" and another says "A Les and Ge".

**COMMUNITIES
UNITED FOR
POLICE REFORM**
ChangeTheNYPD.org

U.S. Fund grantee partners Communities United for Police Reform and Audre Lorde Project in New York City, 2018.
Credit: Communities United for Police Reform



form?

TRANSGENER@S
UNIDAS EN
CONTRA
DE LA
VIOLENCIA
POLICIAL

together! end police violence! LOVE
Know Justice
Know Police
Each other!

Not
Criminal
COMMUNITIES
UNITED FOR
POLICE
REFORM

LGBTQ
Community
Police

The Audre Lorde Project

Black, Latinx, Arab, Asian, Pacific Islander, Gay, Bisexual, Two Spirit, Trans
Gender Non-Conforming People of Color
Community Organizing Center

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Web: www.alp.org



TransJustice NOW!
Demanding Jobs, Access to Quality
Education, Affordable Healthcare,
Housing for all New Yorkers

TransJustice - a part of the Audre Lorde Project



The intersex flag.
Credit: Morgan Carpenter of
Intersex Human Rights Australia

GRANTEE – NEPAL INTERSEX HUMAN RIGHTS FUND

Campaign for Change

Supported by Astraea since 2018

Campaign for Change (CfC) is an intersex-led organization formed in 2016. CfC supports the intersex community in Nepal, helping those in rural and remote areas access healthcare, education, and other services. CfC activists work with the health sector to avoid forced genital mutilation on intersex children. As a result of their advocacy efforts, CfC has seen more increased coordination between community members, stakeholders, and allies and the group has been particularly active in collaborating with national feminist organizations, coordinating with law enforcement agencies, the national Human Rights Commission, media houses, and other human rights defenders in Nepal. In the past year, CfC has built strong relationships in the international arena to advocate for the recognition of intersex human rights, through UN Treaty Bodies (CRC, CEDAW, and UPR), UN agencies (UNDP), and international non profit organizations (ILGA-Asia, Intersex Asia).

Queer African Youth Network

Supported by Astraea since since 2013

The Queer African Youth Network (QAYN) is a queer, feminist, women-led network that came together to support the leadership of young LBQ women in West Africa. Their work has grown to focus more broadly on strengthening LGBTQ organizing in West Africa and Cameroon and is holding strong to the support and growth of lesbian, bisexual, and queer (LBQ) women's leadership, building a base of social justice movement support for LGBTQ issues and promoting a cultural shift, and improving policy and legal environments. They hold space for LBQ leaders to meet, collaborate, and learn in order to build relationships and lay the groundwork for lasting change. Over the last couple of years, QAYN continued with their work to build the institutional capacity of member and non-member organizations and with Astraea's support, QAYN has recently been able to bolster and strengthen several nascent young LBQT women's groups in West Africa.



Illustration from QAYN's 2015 magazine, Q-zine.
Credit: Queer African Youth Network (QAYN)

aligo

Supported by Astraea since since 1993

aligo activates its local queer People of Color (QPOC) community through intersecting art, health through wellness, and social justice programming. aligo brings a holistic multi-faceted approach to their work by investing not only in community activism, but also highlighting artistic ability, healing, and cultural product as activism. In keeping their work hyper-local and Texas focused, aligo serves as a model for other local groups across the country to commit to increasing social justice awareness. They have doubled down on their efforts to provide community-first spaces, such as artistic showcases and wellness clinics, which continue to sustain multi-issue activism across the state. Astraea supports aligo through our Funding Queerly Giving Circle which is housed at Astraea.

Members of aligo gather in Austin, Texas in 2014.
Credit: aligo



Transformative Philanthropy

Continued from page 33

This year we:

Supported and participated in the second annual Black Lesbian Conference in New York. Astraea moderated the central plenary alongside other Black lesbian activists, highlighting the importance of building together in the Black lesbian community.

Co-presented a plenary and strategy session about funding cross-issue work against criminalization at the 2018 Funding Forward Conference. We co-organized and moderated a panel on intersectional anti-criminalization grantmaking at the 2018 Neighborhood Funders Group conference.

Advocated with governments and foundations to dramatically increase their support of LGBTQI rights. We advocated in state capitals to engage with the Equal Rights Coalition and new children's rights funders to ensure that intersex and trans funding stayed firmly on philanthropic agendas. We continued to develop our LBQ philanthropic advocacy project with Mama Cash, building a parallel body of research that will enable us to secure more and better funding.

Launched our *Why We Fund* series, looking at who, where, and why we fund. We held discussions with donors and grantee partners on intergenerational organizing, healing justice, and our ongoing commitment to supporting intersex organizing.

Supported the development of activist-led funding infrastructure that shifts decision-making power into the hands of activists. by serving on the interim governing body of West Africa's new Indigenous LGBTQI fund Initiative Sankofa d'Afrique de l'Ouest (ISDAO) and fiscally hosting the global International Trans Fund.

GALANG members at a 2015
march in the Philippines.
Credit: GALANG



DECOLO



INTEGRATING KNOWLEDGE; BUILDING POWER

DECOLONIZING KNOWLEDGE; BUILDING POWER

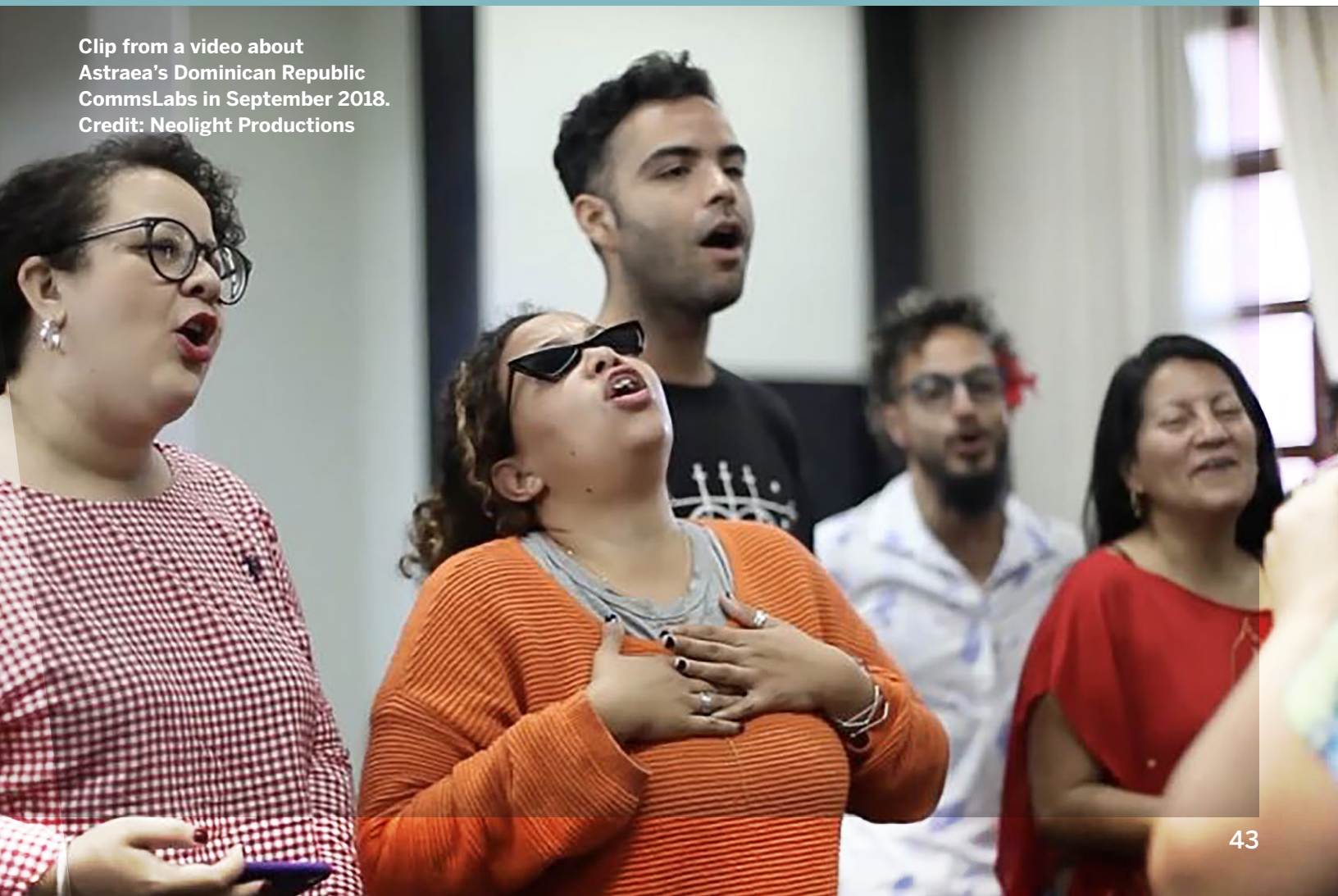
Building power also means centering the knowledge production and narratives of queer, trans, intersex, Black, People of Color, migrant, Indigenous peoples, and feminist communities. Astraea works to uplift the voices of those whose perspectives are often left out or dismissed. We support organizations who bridge knowledge gaps, harness the power of storytelling, and hold space to challenge traditionally held language and ideas, and in doing so, build more inclusive communities. Through research, reports, and media production, Astraea is shining a spotlight on the needs and groundbreaking work of LGBTQI activists on the frontlines.

ASTRAEA

Media Production

Stories matter, and who tells them matters even more. As a philanthropic organization, we are tasked not only with telling our own story, but also with supporting our grantee partners in telling theirs. Our storybank project is a series of videos featuring interviews with LGBTQI activists and donors from around the world talking about their local context and vision for collective liberation. In 2018 we created a number of videos profiling activists from South Africa to the Philippines. By using our digital platforms we ensure that grantee partners are able to promote their critical activism, reaching a wider base and connecting across borders. Watch all these videos online at www.astraeafoundation.org/videolibrary. Through our digital media platforms, we lift up and stand in solidarity with grantee partners by sharing the articles, videos, and other media they produce on the web, and we align ourselves to important campaigns such as Trans Day of Visibility and Intersex Awareness Day.

Clip from a video about
Astraea's Dominican Republic
CommsLabs in September 2018.
Credit: Neolight Productions



March against Transphobia in
the Dominican Republic, 2014.
Credit: Carlos Rodríguez

ASTRAEA

ACIONAL Research and Reports

Over the last year, we have worked with activists, writers, and researchers around the world to produce a number of reports that highlight LGBTQI experiences and funding; the 'Mapping Digital Landscapes of Trans Activism in Central Asia and Eastern Europe,' 'The State of Intersex Organizing (2nd ed),' 'The State of Trans Organizing (2nd ed),' a 'Dominican Republic LGBTTT Landscape Analysis,' and an 'LBQ Movement Highlights' graphic report.

Read all our reports online at www.astraeafoundation.org/our-impact/publications



GALANG

Supported by Astraea since 2011

GALANG's work elevates community building as resilience and resistance among lesbian, bisexual, and trans (LBT) activists and organizers from local low-income communities. *Galang* is the Filipino word for respect. The word signifies respect for human rights and diversity, which goes to the heart of GALANG's vision for equality and justice. Along with their efforts to secure legal protections for LGBTQ people nationally, in the last year they have focused on providing sexuality education to bridge gaps in knowledge and foster communal understanding.

GALANG at the 2018 Rally for
SOGIE in Quezon City, Philippines.
Credit: GALANG



Young Women United's 2017 Family
Pride Celebration in New Mexico.
Credit: Alyana Bowman



GRANTEE — NEW MEXICO, U.S. U.S. FUND

Young Women United

Supported by Astraea since 2017

Young Women United (YWU) works to build communities where all people have access to the information, education, and resources needed to make real decisions about their own bodies and lives. By building community space by and for bilingual and Spanish speaking people, the group is fostering dialogue on reproductive justice for LGBTQ youth, women, People of Color, and Indigenous communities in New Mexico. In the past year, YWU led advocacy efforts to introduce SB78, also known as the “Ban The Box” bill, through the New Mexico House and Senate. The bill would have removed the question of criminal conviction history from initial employment applications in an effort to reduce recidivism, boost local economies, and support family reunification. While the bill did not pass, YWU was extremely successful in educating community members and policy-makers about the collateral consequences of criminal convictions and incarceration. In the year ahead, YWU plans to debut their feature film, focusing on the importance of decriminalizing substance use and incarceration during pregnancy.

Disturbing Binaries around Knowledge Production

Dr Nour Abu-Assab & Dr Nof Nasser-Eddin from CTDC
Roula Seghaier & Ghiwa Sayegh from Kohl Journal

Members of Kohl's team
speak at a 2018 event
in the United Kingdom.
Credit: Kohl Journal



GRANTEE — LEBANON INTERNATIONAL FUND

Kohl: a Journal for Body and Gender Research

Supported by Astraea since 2017

Kohl is a progressive, queer feminist journal on gender and sexuality based in Lebanon and covering the Southwest Asia, Middle East, and North Africa regions. It sheds the light on queer and feminist histories in the region aiming to challenge the hegemony of knowledge production and counter Orientalist and neo-colonial narratives by ensuring that young feminist scholars and activists in the region play a central role in shaping knowledge about themselves. In 2017, they published two issues, involving a total of 30 authors, 10 discussants, 24 peer reviewers, and 3 translators - mostly women, non-binary, and trans young feminist activists, artists, and scholars.

Intersex South Africa

Supported by Astraea since 2018

Intersex South Africa (ISSA) is an organization that was established by the late Intersex Activist Sally Gross. The organization has acted as a catalyst for information dissemination, awareness raising, and advocating for the rights of intersex people in South Africa, acknowledging that there are major knowledge gaps in South Africa as far as intersex issues are concerned. Shortly after ISSA was revived in 2017, the group co-hosted a meeting with Iranti and the Cultural, Religious and Linguistic Communities' (CRL) Rights Commission bringing together over 40 stakeholders to discuss intersex infanticide, stigma, and discrimination against intersex people in rural areas. In addition, ISSA also succeeded in getting the attention of and hosting a meeting with the Department of Justice to engage in matters of intersex genital mutilation, infanticide, healthcare procedures, and standards of living for intersex people.



Intersex South Africa hosting a workshop at the Human Rights Festival in Johannesburg, South Africa in March 2018.
Credit: Gugu Mandla

U.S. Fund grantee partners
attend Astraeca's healing justice
convening in Detroit in June 2018.
Credit: Healing By Choice Detroit

GRA

NTMAKING DATA



Our Legacy

Over the course of 41 years, we have granted over

via 4,750+ grants to 1800+ grantee partners in 101 countries and 45 U.S. states.

\$40M

General Operating Support

70%

of our grants in 2018 provided general operating support, because we trust that organizations know their needs best.

LBQ, GNC, and Trans*-led organizing

Astraea prioritizes movements led by those voices that are most often silenced, but have always been at the forefront of grassroots movements. In 2018,

\$1.2M+

in grants supported lesbian, bisexual, and queer women-led groups.

\$1.6M+

was awarded to groups led by trans and gender non-conforming people.

Renewal Grants

Astraea has always believed in supporting the sustainability and growth of grassroots organizations, with many of our grantee partner relationships spanning over a decade.

83%

of our grants this year were renewal grants reaffirming Astraea's commitment to building deep, lasting relationships with grantee partners.

New Organization Grants

20%

of all our 2018 grantmaking supported nascent and growing organizations that are 5 years old or less, creating new partnerships, and supporting the expansion of movements in the United States and around the world.

Black- and People-of-Color-led organizing

99%

of our U.S. funding over the last year went to LGBTQI Black and People of Color-led groups. At Astraea, we have always been committed to amplifying the organizing, advocacy, and voices of Black people and People of Color, who are disproportionately affected by racist policies and practices.

* "Trans" and "gender non-conforming" refer to the focus on gender identity; they can include lesbian, bisexual, and queer identifying people on the sexual orientation spectrum.

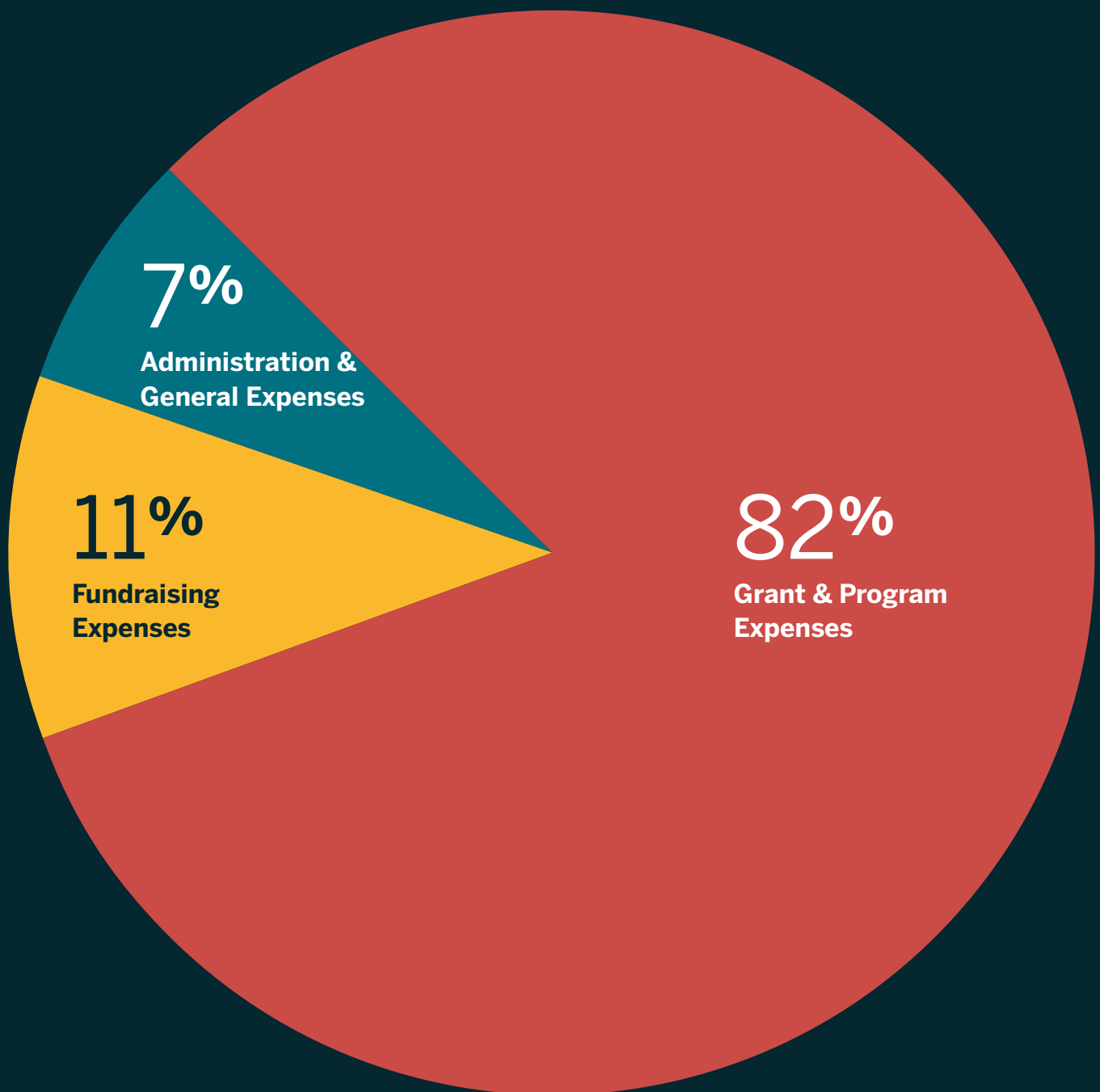


FINANCIAL STATEMENT

Participants at Astraea's
Dominican Republic CommsLab
in September 2018.
Credit: Carlos Rodríguez

NT

Statement of Activities



	Unrestricted	Temporarily Restricted	Permanently Restricted	All Funds
Support and Revenue				
Grants and Contributions				-
<i>Core Programs and Expenses</i>	880,454	10,759,562	-	11,640,016
<i>Sponsored Projects</i>	-	1,849,643	-	1,849,643
In-kind Contributions	-	282,850	-	282,850
Gross Benefit Event Income	248,052	27,918	-	275,970
Less: Direct Expense	(143,862)	-	-	(143,862)
Program Fees	40,151	-	-	40,151
Net Investment Return	39,920	381,030	-	420,950
Foreign Currency Transactions (loss) gain	-	21,779	-	21,779
Reimbursed Expenses	89,963	-	-	89,963
Other Income	15,496	-	-	15,496
Total Revenue	1,170,174	13,322,782	-	14,492,956
Net Assets Released From Restrictions				-
<i>Core Programs and Expenses</i>	8,909,684	(8,909,684)	-	-
<i>Sponsored Projects</i>	1,446,160	(1,446,160)	-	-
Total Revenue after Releases	11,526,018	2,966,938	-	14,492,956
Expenses				
Program Services				
Grantmaking	4,889,930			4,889,930
Core Programs	3,576,558			3,576,558
Sponsored Projects	1,295,052			1,295,052
Total Program Services	9,761,540	-	-	9,761,540
Supporting Services				
Administrative and General	833,079			833,079
Fundraising	1,335,273			1,335,273
Total Supporting Services	2,168,352	-	-	2,168,352
Total Expenses	11,929,892	-	-	11,929,892
Changes in Net Assets	(403,874)	2,966,938	-	2,563,064
Net Assets as of June 30, 2017	2,078,195	6,025,492	3,461,717	11,565,404
Prior Period Adjustment	(151,516)	945,886		794,370
Net Assets as of June 30, 2018	1,522,805	9,938,316	3,461,717	14,922,838

Based on Audited Financial Statements for the fiscal year ending June 30, 2018

GRATITUDE AND LOVE ACROSS THE WORLD





ING

Astraea & FRIDA party in
New York City, 2018.
Credit: Astraea Archives

GRATITUDE AND LOVING ACROSS THE WORLD

To build the futures we want, we have to find our communities and love into one another deeply. Astraea is incredibly grateful for our global community of donors and grantee partners. We can't do this work without the support of our staff, advisors, board, donors, grantee partners, and supporters. Thank you for showing up and believing in the power of transformative philanthropy.



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Beirut, Lebanon

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