THE FUNDING OF BLACK-LED ORGANIZATIONS

WITHIN THE PHILANTHROPIC SECTOR THERE IS A SURGE OF INTEREST IN RACIAL EQUITY, ACCOMPANIED BY NEW SUPPORT FOR BLACK-LED ORGANIZING AND SOCIAL CHANGE ORGANIZATIONS. ¹

IN THE WASHINGTON, DC REGION, FOUNDATIONS ARE LAUNCHING GRANTMAKING PROGRAMS THAT WILL SUPPORT BLACK-LED ORGANIZATIONS AND THEIR POWER AND MOVEMENT-BUILDING WORK.

The percentage of grants by the largest 1000 foundations which went to African Americans in 1998.

The percentage of grants by the largest 1000 foundations which went to African Americans in 2006.²

The percentage of organizations that focus primarily on Black women and girls which receive foundation funding. Of the $356 million from foundations available for women and girls of color (WGOC) in 2017, less than $15 million, about 4.2%, was specified as benefiting Black women and girls.³

The percentage of funding by the nation’s largest foundations that is specifically targeted to the Black community.⁴

Percentage of grantmaking from the 25 community foundations that we surveyed, which was specifically designated for Black communities, even though a combined 15% of these 25 cities’ populations are Black.⁵

Rate at which trans-inclusive organizations which focused on Black women and girls were less likely to receive foundation funding (20.6%) and more likely to receive government funding (84.4%). Trans-inclusive organizations that focus on Black women and girls were much more likely to have budgets of less than $20,000.⁶

BLACK EXPERIENCE IN THE PHILANTHROPIC SECTOR:⁷

→ WHITE MEDIOCRITY REWARDED AND PROTECTED TIME AND AGAIN IN THE NORMAL COURSE OF OUR WORK;

→ BIPOC GLOBAL MAJORITY PEOPLE⁸ BEING UNDERPAID, OVERWORKED, AND ACTIVELY EXCLUDED FROM ADVANCEMENT OPPORTUNITIES;

→ TOKENISM THROUGH STRUCTURES, PRACTICES AND WORKPLACE CULTURES TREAT BIPOC GLOBAL MAJORITY PEOPLE AS REPRESENTATIVES OF THEIR RACE;

→ THE CENTRALITY OF ANTI-BLACKNESS AND THE INDIVIDUAL AND COLLECTIVE TRAUMA IT REPEATEDLY INFlicts ON BLACK PEOPLE.