

# AMPLIFY FUND

NEIGHBORHOOD FUNDERS GROUP

The Amplify Fund is a national pooled fund with two strategic goals: 1) to nurture and strengthen the conditions necessary for Black and indigenous communities, and communities of color to build power for equitable development gains, and 2) to organize funders so they shift what and how they fund.

[www.nfg.org/amplify](http://www.nfg.org/amplify)

## WE DO THIS BY:

Featuring racial justice prominently in our problem statement, vision, activities, outcomes, values, and practicing racial justice in the operations of the fund.

Genuinely relinquishing power to local and BIPOC community leaders. For example, North Carolina’s co-created grantmaking strategy was developed by Local Strategy Advisors, and was used by Amplify staff to identify grantees who then created an Eastern North Carolina alignment memo. Additionally, the design of the second phase of Amplify’s work (planned to launch in 2023) is being led entirely by grantees, including grantees in Eastern North Carolina.

Finally, Amplify funders are committed to organizing within their institutions and the broader field of philanthropy in service of doing what works for grantees.

Ford Foundation

Raikes Foundation

The Cricket Island Foundation

General Service Foundation

Resourcing Justice Fund

The Geraldine R. Dodge Foundation

Jessie Smith Noyes Foundation

Robert Wood Johnson Foundation

The JPB Foundation

Laughing Gull Foundation

Surdna Foundation

The Kresge Foundation

Missouri Foundation for Health

Susan Sandler Fund

Threshold Philanthropy

Open Society Foundations

The California Endowment

Z Smith Reynolds Foundation

Amplify has distributed  
over \$3 million in  
North Carolina





**Guided by the locally-developed strategy to build power and address equitable development issues, Amplify has distributed over \$2.4 million in North Carolina.**

#### **MULTI-YEAR GENERAL OPERATING SUPPORT:**

- A Better Chance A Better Community (ABC2)
- Alphalife Enrichment Center
- Association of Mexicans in North Carolina (AMEXCAN)
- Brunswick Housing Opportunities
- Blueprint NC
- Farm Labor Organizing Committee - Campaign for Migrant Worker Justice
- Columbus County Forum
- Democracy Green
- Kinston Teens, Inc.
- Men and Women United for Youth and Families
- New Hanover for All (Carolina Federation Fund)
- North Carolina Association of Community Development Corporations
- North Carolina Environmental Justice Network
- Pender United
- Robeson County Cooperative for Southern Development
- Rural Empowerment Association for Community Help (REACH)

This includes general operating grants and additional grants such as COVID, wellness, capacity building, collaboration, and Future of Amplify design.

#### **SUPPORT FOR GRANTEE-LED COLLABORATIONS:**

- Collaboration led by Brunswick Housing Opportunities, Columbus County Forum, and Pender United to provide training, administrative/HR help, accounting, management, information sharing, and back office support to small Black- and Brown- led community nonprofits in Eastern North Carolina.
- Collaboration between AMEXCAN and Columbus County Forum to begin regional community conversations and address the intersecting needs of Latinx and African Americans regarding civic engagement, education, and environmental justice in Eastern North Carolina.
- Collaboration between A Better Change A Better Community, Alphalife Enrichment Center, Blueprint NC, Men and Women United for Youth and Families, and Deep Roots CPS Farm to conduct a feasibility study on the development of a food sovereignty and food security infrastructure, including research on Black and other POC growers, Black-led food hubs, food processing and distribution centers, and centralized databases.

The Amplify Fund recognizes that Black and indigenous communities, people of color, and low-income people are experiencing the most negative impacts of development, and (currently) have the least say. Therefore, we envision a reality where those cobenefit from the changes caused by development, including wealth creation, land control, and quality of life outcomes.

In 2020, grantees in Eastern North Carolina Identified the following equitable development issues as priorities:

## **LAND & ENVIRONMENTAL JUSTICE**

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In order to defend against extraction, exploitation, and dirty energy and agribusiness, one goal in Eastern North Carolina is to support Black farmers, and access to land

## **JUST RECOVERY**

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Given the threat of hurricanes, one goal in Eastern North Carolina is to prepare for disasters through mutual aid/resiliency hubs and a stronger social safety net.

## **CIVIC ENGAGEMENT**

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Given the issue of political representation in North Carolina, especially among Black, rural communities, one goal is to educate communities about redistricting, at-large voting, voting restrictions or access, representation at the elected official level, and electoral shifts.



In 2020, grantees in Eastern North Carolina highlighted five conditions necessary to build power:

1. Community organizing
2. Inter-generational leadership development
3. A communications infrastructure
4. Shared analysis, strategies, and narratives for collaboration
5. Stronger organizational capacity

Of the 16 grantee organizations in Eastern North Carolina, almost half are led by women or non-binary individuals, and

100% are Black or Latinx led.

We operate with the belief that the solution to development challenges is shifting decision-making to Black and indigenous communities, and communities of color, with strong racial justice analysis. So, we aim to nurture and strengthen the conditions necessary for those communities to build power.

Join us to support  
these conditions,  
issues, and grantees!  
Email Melody Baker.

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Photo Credit: NFG