



ANNUAL REPORT 2005

**CROSSROADS | FUND**  
change, not charity



“ *Four decades later I am still uncomfortable with the credit given to me for starting the bus boycott. I would like [people] to know I was not the only person involved. I was just one of many who fought for freedom...*

*As I look back on those days, it's just like a dream. The only thing that bothered me was that we waited so long to make this protest and to let it be known wherever we go that all of us should be free and equal and have all opportunities that others should have.*

”

**Rosa Parks**

## WE DEDICATE THIS ANNUAL REPORT TO ROSA PARKS.

In school we learned Rosa Parks was too tired to give up her seat to a white rider, that her long day working as a seamstress left her too exhausted to move, that weariness is what motivated her defiance of the law in segregated Montgomery, Alabama, 1955.

Our schoolbooks obscured the real story, the real Rosa Parks. Ms. Parks was an evolving community activist. She served as Secretary of the Montgomery NAACP from 1943 to 1957 and attended the Highlander Folk School, an education center for workers' rights and racial equality in Tennessee only six months before she sat on that particular bus.

She was not the first black bus rider to have been arrested in Montgomery for refusing to move. Rather, she became central to a campaign organized by black activists, including herself, to create fundamental change on the local level, change that would have a catalytic effect on the civil rights movement in our country.

***Rosa Parks was tired, not only because of a long day at work. She was tired of racism and discrimination. She was tired of being treated as less than a full citizen. Her ever deepening experience — as a black woman in Montgomery, as a civil rights activist — led her to join with others in her community and work tirelessly to change the racist system of segregation.***

Our work at Crossroads Fund is about supporting the development and vision of people very much like Rosa Parks. They are people who, as individuals, are tired of the injustice that exists in their lives. They join with others in strategizing, building, and acting to change the conditions for all in communities throughout the city.

The past year saw some big accomplishments at Crossroads Fund. We successfully completed the first year of our strategic plan. Our goal of initiating a Donor Advised Program was realized. We nearly doubled the amount of grants given out from the previous year. Crossroads Fund is solidly moving forward to strengthen our stability as a resource for developing movements in and around Chicago.

In the year ahead you will be hearing more from us about some new programs encouraging increased engagement in political participation right here in Chicago. History tells us that the action of one woman on December 1, 1955 in Montgomery, Alabama sparked 50,000 others to join together over a 381 day boycott that helped to ignite the civil rights movement. **Experience tells us that we need all of us — Rosa Parks and more — to build movements. Our work at Crossroads Fund is to pool resources to help develop and build movements. We can only do it with help and support from each other.**



Bill Barclay  
Board Co-Chair



Neena Hemmady  
Board Co-Chair



Jeanne Kracher  
Executive Director



“ We give to Crossroads Fund because social change can and must happen in different arenas. Crossroads gives grassroots organizations resources to realize self-empowerment and shows people that you don’t have to be a politician to change society in meaningful and just ways. ”

Sarah Workneh, Mel Sabella and Fozzy  
Crossroads Fund Donors



# IMPACT

Crossroads Fund is a grantmaking body — we have four grants programs, each with designated funding interests. Our Seed Fund, Donor Advised Program, Technical Assistance Fund, and Emergency Fund work in concert to ensure support for a variety of groups striving for social and economic justice — in Chicago and beyond.

## 2005 GRANTS PROGRAMS

### SEED FUND

This is where it begins. Seed Fund grantees are emerging, risk-taking grassroots groups with innovative strategies for creating change. They are led by people whose voices have often not been heard, in communities that often go unnoticed. They address complex and challenging issues and practice new working models. Early support from Crossroads Fund is a stepping stone from which many groups move on, gain visibility, and create lasting change throughout Chicago and beyond.

### DONOR ADVISED FUNDS

Donor advised giving allows donors with substantial resources to support grassroots organizations in the Chicago area, with the guidance and support of the board of directors and staff of Crossroads Fund. Starting a Donor Advised Fund at Crossroads allows you to take a significant tax deduction and access an unparalleled resource: the deep knowledge Crossroads Fund has of grassroots issues and organizations. Our rich history and experience, combined with donor resources, serves as a strategic giving program that acts as a true catalyst for change.

### TECHNICAL ASSISTANCE FUND

Building a solid infrastructure is critical for any social justice organization in order to create measurable and sustainable change. Technical Assistance grants support organizational development needs such as evaluation, technology, and training that many emerging grassroots groups cannot otherwise afford.

### EMERGENCY FUND

It often takes a small amount of money, fast, to effectively respond to breaking news, mobilize around a sudden development, or take advantage of an unexpected opportunity. This fund provides quick support at a critical time for social change organizations and coalitions.

In 2005, Crossroads Fund supported 31 groups working for social change across issues. We are particularly interested in groups with a racial justice and anti-oppression analysis. We are proud that, in a year of continued economic struggle and political uncertainty, we were able to increase our grantmaking by 78%. In the following list of all grant recipients, groups are categorized based on **one** primary focus of their work.

The listed grantees received funding from any one of our grantmaking programs, including Seed Fund (SF), Donor Advised Funds (DA), Emergency Fund (EF), and Technical Assistance (TA).

## ART & CULTURE

### CHICAGO PALESTINE FILM FESTIVAL (CPFF) (SF)

\$3,000 to promote dialogue and counter mainstream media by giving voice to the lives and experiences of Palestinians.

### COMMUNITY FILM WORKSHOP OF CHICAGO (SF)

\$4,000 to provide film and digital media/arts education to groups with limited access to media, with a focus on African American youth.

### HAROLD! THE BOOK PROJECT (DA)

\$49,000 to compile photos from the Harold Washington years for publication in a book.

### NEW WORLD RESOURCE CENTER (DA)

\$8,000 to support a non-profit bookstore and community space that provides resources for local organizing efforts.

## CRIMINAL JUSTICE

### CITIZENS ALERT (SF)

\$5,000 to work for systemic change in law enforcement agencies, while advocating for victims of police brutality and misconduct in and around Chicago.

### WAREHOUSED PRISONERS: LONG-TERM PRISONER POLICY PROJECT (SF)

\$3,000 to investigate the problems faced by prisoners serving life sentences in Illinois prisons, and push for changes in law, policies, and practice to promote offender rehabilitation and public safety.

## DISABILILTY RIGHTS

### CHICAGO ADAPT (SF)

\$3,000 to use direct action and grassroots organizing to advocate for the independence and empowerment of people with disabilities and to remove institutional and cultural barriers to everyday life choices in housing, personal services, transportation and the workplace.



# WAREHOUSED PRISONERS

**Warehoused Prisoners: Long Term Prisoner Policy Project** highlights problems faced by the growing number of prisoners serving virtual and actual life sentences in Illinois prisons. This is done through: monthly meetings of prison reform advocates, studies on long term incarceration in Illinois, surveying states with progressive polices and recruiting and training private lawyers to represent “C” number inmates — inmates who were left behind when indeterminate sentencing was abolished, making “C” number prisoners ineligible for parole hearing.

For inmates serving life sentences, no distinction is made between those who want to or can change their lives from those who continue to pose a threat to the public. All are “warehoused” together in maximum security institutions, without access to education, jobs or job training and with few avenues to reduce their sentences.

Long Term Prisoner Policy Project managed to persuade Department of Correction officials to transfer two commuted death row inmates to a medium security prison. The inmates worked with the warden to develop peer education programs in the areas of restorative justice and breaking the cycle of recidivism. This was instrumental in institutionalizing programs that bring long-term prisoners to medium security prison programs.

“ Very few local foundations have any interest in funding prison reform issues. Crossroads is one of the few who understand the statement by Fyodor Dostoyevsky; ‘A society should be judged not by how it treats its outstanding citizens but by how it treats its criminals.’ ”

Aviva Futorian  
Board Member  
Warehoused Prisoners



## ENVIRONMENT & COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT

### NUCLEAR ENERGY INFORMATION SERVICES (NEIS) (EF)

\$435 to lobby at a meeting to educate the public on the hazards from nuclear power and work to mobilize a grassroots movement to oppose nuclear power.

### PEOPLE FOR COMMUNITY RECOVERY (SF)

\$5,000 to engage community members from the Southeast Chicago public housing community of Altgeld Gardens in a fight for environmental justice.

### PILSEN ALLIANCE (SF, TA)

\$7,000 to organize grassroots campaigns in the Pilsen community to fight gentrification and bring a community voice to development issues.

## HUMAN RIGHTS & WORKER RIGHTS

### COMMITTEE FOR NEW PRIORITIES (EF)

\$500 to convene workers, community organizations and people of faith at at Unity Rally for Justice and Peace at Home and Abroad.

### DAY LABORER COLLABORATION (SF)

\$5,000 to train workers and develop worker leadership, while organizing for comprehensive changes in the day labor industry to end illegal and exploitative practices.

### JANE ADDAMS SENIOR CAUCUS (SF)

\$8,000 to organize low-income Northside seniors to improve their quality of life and build a strong community voice.

### LATINO UNION OF CHICAGO (SF)

\$5,000 to organize workers to improve the conditions of low-income and immigrant workers and day laborers, and to address systemic injustices in the day labor industry.

### NATIONAL BORICUA HUMAN RIGHTS NETWORK (SF, DA-GRAM Fund)

\$7,500 to work in the Puerto Rican community on human rights issues, with a special emphasis on building youth leadership.

## IMMIGRANT ISSUES

### KOREAN AMERICAN RESOURCE AND CULTURAL CENTER

(SF, DA-GRAM Fund)

\$11,000 to nurture Korean American community leadership and activism to solve critical problems the community faces, such as poverty, immigration issues and youth empowerment.

### SOUTH ASIAN PROGRESSIVE ACTION COLLECTIVE (TA, DA-GRAM Fund)

\$2,750 to take action on issues pertaining to the South Asian diaspora, including the loss of civil rights in the U.S. and responding to globalization.

## INTERNATIONAL POLICY & ADVOCACY

### COMMITTEE FOR A JUST PEACE IN ISRAEL & PALESTINE (CJPIP) (SF)

\$2,000 to organize educational events and conduct advocacy with public officials to advance the cause of peace and justice for Palestinians and Israelis.

### NICARAGUA SOLIDARITY COMMITTEE (DA)

\$5,000 to educate Chicago communities about issues in Nicaragua and U.S. foreign policy toward Nicaragua, and promote fair trade and labor rights.



# PILSEN ALLIANCE

**Pilsen Alliance** is dedicated to improving the quality of life and preserving the rich Mexican culture of the Greater Pilsen community. Pilsen's close proximity to downtown Chicago and to major education and health institutions has made it vulnerable to gentrification.

Pilsen Alliance is fighting gentrification. As an organization they have learned that zoning laws are one of the most powerful tools developers use to establish a blue print for their plans. Learning about zoning laws and practices became a priority. As a result, when the City of Chicago announced that they were revamping the city's zoning code, which had not been updated for about 50 years, they authorized Pilsen Alliance to conduct their own independent survey. The survey served as a powerful tool for community members to gain an understanding and develop strategies to protect themselves from helplessly being displaced.

Knowledge of zoning laws enabled residents to appeal for community driven zoning, so that community members are in charge of whether buildings are zoned for commercial, residential, or single-family use. In addition to putting control of zoning in the hands of community members, Pilsen Alliance calls for accountability from elected officials to aid in the effort to resist gentrification.

“

*Crossroads Fund is one of the few foundations that values, understands and funds community organizing and systems change work. Without the support of the Crossroads Fund, the vital work of smaller agencies doing systems change work would not be possible.*

”

Alejandra Ibañez  
Executive Director  
Pilsen Alliance



## LESBIAN/GAY/BISEXUAL/TRANSGENDERED ISSUES

### AFFINITY COMMUNITY SERVICES (SF)

\$6,000 to serve lesbian & bisexual women of African descent in the Chicago area, focusing on the intersection of race, sexual orientation, class, and gender.

### COALITION FOR EDUCATION ON SEXUAL

#### ORIENTATION (CESO) (DA-GRAM Fund)

\$2,500 to bring together a statewide coalition of 41 organizations to address anti-gay violence in Illinois schools.

### GAY, LESBIAN, AND STRAIGHT EDUCATION

#### NETWORK CHICAGO (GLSEN CHICAGO) (SF)

\$3,000 to work to end anti-gay bias and homophobia in Chicago Public Schools and throughout the area by supporting student led gay-straight alliances.

## WOMEN & GIRLS

### BEYONDMEDIA EDUCATION (SF, DA-GRAM Fund, Ron Sable Award)

\$14,000 to partner with under-represented women, youth and communities to create and distribute alternative media and arts, including videos, websites, performances and exhibitions.

### CHICAGO FRIENDS OF WE-ACT<sub>x</sub>—RWANDA (DA)

\$27,556 to run a clinic in Rwanda for HIV positive genocide survivors, including widows, orphans and rape victims, that serves as a model for international/local collaboration.

### GIRL TALK (DA-GRAM Fund)

\$2,500 to lead workshops for girls incarcerated in Cook County's temporary detention center, and link girls in detention with resources upon re-entry into their communities.

### INCITE! WOMEN OF COLOR AGAINST VIOLENCE (DA)

\$2,500 to organize a movement to end violence against women of color and their communities.

### KOREAN AMERICAN WOMEN IN NEED (KAN-WIN) (DA)

\$5,000 to advocate for and support Korean American women and children affected by domestic violence, and raise awareness in the community to create broader social change.

### THE WOMEN'S VOICES FUND (DA)

\$30,235 to provide programming that promotes feminist dialogue and the work of women and local progressive writers, through book discussions and author readings.



# CHICAGO FRIENDS OF WE-ACT<sub>x</sub> — RWANDA

In 2004, local physician and Crossroads Fund donor Mardge Cohen started working with the group Women's Equity in Access to Care and Treatment (WE-ACT<sub>x</sub>), a national group that has taken on the gargantuan task of trying to assure that HIV positive women and girls around the globe are receiving medical care and attention. Dr. Cohen and other doctors and activists within WE-ACT<sub>x</sub> were looking for help in creating a clinic in Rwanda to provide emergency care for women who had been raped and infected with HIV during the 1984 genocide.

Dr. Cohen traveled to Rwanda several times a year, working within WE-ACT<sub>x</sub> to provide medical care and help the local women's and widows' groups with resources to establish the clinic. When Dr. Cohen returned from her second trip to Rwanda, Crossroads Fund was there. In an effort to raise awareness of this issue, Crossroads Fund worked with Dr. Cohen and WE-ACT<sub>x</sub> to create the Donor Advised Fund, *Chicago Friends of WE-ACT<sub>x</sub> — Rwanda*. This successful partnership has meant more resources and greater visibility for the project in Rwanda.

Today, there are two pilot clinics in Rwanda serving over 2200 persons with HIV. At capacity, they will provide care for 6000 adults and children. Not only do women receive antiretroviral treatments in these clinics, but also food, school fees for their children, HIV testing and treatment for the children. Some women work in income generation programs and as community health workers. These clinics were created with the idea that they would be models, particularly for women's health care and empowerment, to be replicated in other communities/countries. WE-ACT<sub>x</sub> is developing curricula, training programs and centers for advocacy towards this end.

Crossroads Fund is constantly seeking new opportunities to partner with donors and create lasting systems for change. Through Donor Advised Funds, we are able to diversify our strategy and have an impact on a wider range of progressive movements.



## YOUTH

### METROPOLITAN AREA GROUP FOR IGNITING CIVILIZATION (MAGIC) (SF)

\$4,000 to work in Woodlawn to fight gentrification and racism, and the impact of these issues on youth.

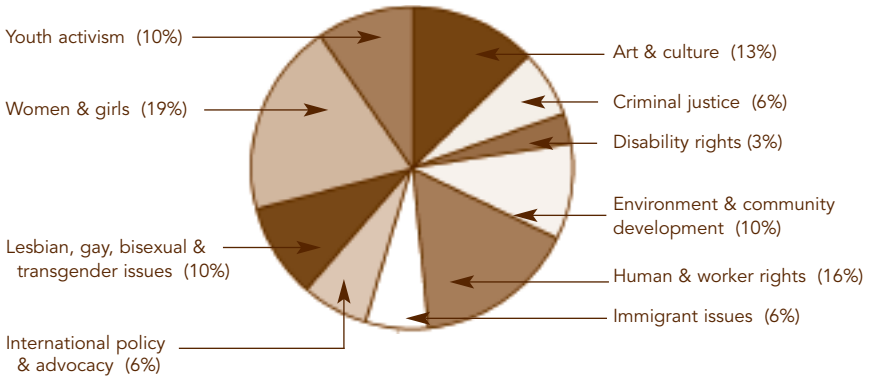
### NON-MILITARY ALTERNATIVES PROJECT (TA, DA-GRAM Fund)

\$2,750 to organize communities to address the growing culture of militarization in Chicago's public schools.

### SOUTHWEST YOUTH COLLABORATIVE (DA-GRAM Fund)

\$5,000 to work with a community-based network youth and community development organizations on the southwest side of Chicago to unleash youth's potential to become successful and actively contributing members of society.

## BREAKDOWN OF ALL GRANTS BY CROSSROADS FUND IN FISCAL YEAR 2005 BY ISSUE CATEGORY



# MAGIC

Metropolitan Area Group for Igniting Civilization (MAGIC) engages Woodlawn youth in efforts to effect change in their community. Their web development program equips the young people with skills to “speak the same language” as youth from other communities. Youth who were involved became indigenous teachers, educating their peers in using the web as a tool. As a result of their increased knowledge of computers, the young adults in this program are involved in trying to get more computers for their neighborhood, addressing the digital divide that increasingly impacts low-income communities.

MAGIC collaborated with Kenwood Oakland Community Organization (KOCO) and other youth organizations in the area to organize a rally to demand more summer employment opportunities in their communities. The rally featured city and state representatives. They conducted research, which revealed that the nearly 40,000 jobs available to youth in the mid 1980s had dwindled to 15,000 jobs in 2004. At the same time, demand for jobs was increasing; nearly 38,000 youth actively sought summer employment. Their study showed a correlation between unemployment, high arrest rates, teenage pregnancy and drug activity.

Through this experience the youth realized their collective potential in addressing issues affecting them. As a follow-up to the rally, young people from MAGIC and KOCO are planning more intensive lobbying through the State of Illinois Black Caucus and to hold a bigger rally in Springfield, to focus State attention on the issue.

*MAGIC actively pursued Crossroads Fund because they are one of the few funders supporting grassroots innovative work that strays from traditional models. Receiving a grant from Crossroad Fund was a momentum builder, enabling us to move forward with our youth empowerment programs. It also showed other funders that we were worthy of serious consideration.*

Joseph Strickland  
Board Member  
MAGIC



# AUDITED FINANCIALS

## Year Ended June 30, 2005

### Statement of Financial Position

**Current assets:**

|                             |                  |
|-----------------------------|------------------|
| Cash                        | \$246,271        |
| Investments                 | 23,831           |
| Receivables                 | 12,230           |
| Prepaid expenses            | 3,826            |
| Deposits                    | 2,647            |
| <b>Total current assets</b> | <b>\$288,805</b> |

Office equipment, net of accumulated depreciation of \$45,188 and \$43,323 in 2005 and 2004 respectively . . . . . \$5,076

**Total assets** . . . . . **\$293,881**

**Liabilities and net assets:**

**Current liabilities:**

|  |        |
|--|--------|
| Accounts payable and accrued liabilities | \$954  |
| Grants Payable                           | 10,000 |

Net assets: . . . . . 282,927

**Total liabilities and net assets** . . . . . **\$293,881**

|                                      |                  |
|--------------------------------------|------------------|
| <b>Change in net assets</b>          | <b>.68,667</b>   |
| <b>Net assets, beginning of year</b> | <b>.214,260</b>  |
| <b>Net assets, end of year</b>       | <b>\$282,927</b> |

### Statement of Activities

**Support and revenue:**

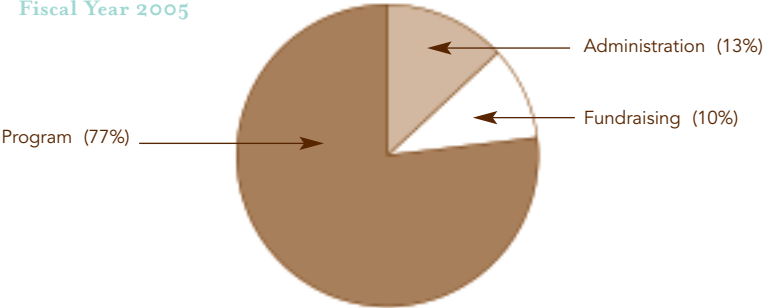
**Contributions**

|                                  |                  |
|----------------------------------|------------------|
| Funding Exchange endowment share | \$50,145         |
| Foundation grants                | 225,375          |
| Individuals                      | 326,193          |
| Investment income                | 4,065            |
| Special events proceeds          | 74,605           |
| Special events expenses          | (13,005)         |
| Other                            | 4,712            |
| <b>Total support and revenue</b> | <b>\$672,090</b> |

**Expenses:**

|                       |                  |
|-----------------------|------------------|
| Program services      | \$466,185        |
| Support services      | 137,238          |
| <b>Total expenses</b> | <b>\$603,423</b> |

**Breakdown of Expenses  
Fiscal Year 2005**





“ I have always been impressed with the way that Crossroads Fund gives seed money to groups working on issues that no one else will fund, such as human rights for prisoners. I can't imagine not giving as a sustainer, because it is so easy – I budget for a monthly gift that really adds up over the year. ”

Sitha Pugh  
Crossroads Fund Supporter





# HONORS

The following individuals and groups were honored and remembered by Crossroads Fund supporters this year with contributions in their names:

8th Day Center for Justice  
on its 30th anniversary  
Access Living,  
by Beyondmedia  
Education  
Dale Asis,  
by Korean American  
Senior Center  
Beyondmedia Education,  
by L. Ashman, A La Carte  
Kay Barrett,  
by Rhoda Rae Gutierrez  
& Jim Clark  
Betty Benson,  
by Wellington Avenue  
Church of Christ  
Alexis Bowlds, in memory,  
by Ronit S. Bezalel  
Consuella Brown,  
by Linda Harlan  
Linda Bubon,  
by Robin Wold  
Rebecca Burwell &  
Chirag Mehta,  
by Laurie A. Baack  
by Sarah Baum  
by Harshal Carter  
by Doug Chien &  
Michele Gurgas  
by A.H. & J.A. Desai  
by Jordan Dziura  
by Joy L. Hopper  
by Todd & Susan Johnson  
by John & Marcella  
Kraybill-Greggo  
by Nancy & Dan Kuhn  
by Lars Negstad

by Genelle Samuelson  
by Harry &  
Kay Sherbondy  
by Aaron & Lyn Wilkins  
by Judith Wittner  
by Nina Xoomsai &  
Coya Paz  
by David Yanover  
by Anna & John Yeatts  
Frere Cattin,  
by Scott Berman  
Elizabeth Chapin,  
by Jocelyn R. Thompson  
Chicago Coalition for the  
Homeless and PART,  
by Beyondmedia  
Education  
Chicago Legal Advocacy  
for Incarcerated Mothers,  
by Beyondmedia  
Education  
Inhe Choi,  
by the staff of  
Crossroads Fund  
by Jeanne Kracher &  
Laura McAlpine  
Kyu Im Choi, in memory,  
by Helen & Ruben Dimas  
Ann Christophersen,  
by Robin Wold  
Andy Cohen, in memory,  
by Lise McKean &  
Didier Marin  
Dr. Mardge Cohen,  
by Dr. David Blatt &  
Dr. David Moore  
by Joan Epstein

by Stacie Geller  
by Paul Ringel &  
Michele Lorand  
Anne Corenzwit,  
by Roslyn & Michael Lieb  
Crossroads Fund,  
by Robin Wold  
LaVida Davis,  
by Susana Vasquez  
Shelley Davis,  
by Linda Harlan  
Day Laborers,  
by Inhe Choi & Guy Ward  
Reshma Desi,  
by Leslie Wallin  
The Empowered Fe Fes,  
by Beyondmedia  
Education  
Denise Forte,  
by Mike &  
Karen Gallagher  
P. Catlin Fullwood,  
by James M. Holmes  
Maggie Gibbs,  
by Gary Kagan &  
Jan Pyrce  
by Roger Zanchetti  
Ida Greathouse, in  
memory,  
by Eileen Martin  
Sapna Gupta,  
by K. Sujata  
Zosi Gutierrez,  
by Pauline Lipman &  
Rico Gutstein  
Deborah Harrington,  
by Linda Harlan

Neena Hemmady,  
by Leslie Wallin  
Neena Hemmady and  
Joy Wright,  
by Alan Amberg &  
Patrick Beyrow  
Jani Hoft,  
by Shelley Bannister &  
Laura Sanders  
Lucious Horton, in memory,  
by Doris Davis  
Stanley Howard,  
by Alice Kim  
by Campaign to End the  
Death Penalty  
Dorris J. Jackson,  
by Neris Gonzalez  
by Jane Saks &  
Lynette Jackson  
Mark Karner,  
by Tom Wilson  
Beth Kelly,  
by Ann Christophersen  
Barbara Kemmis,  
by Leslie &  
Michael Banghart  
Barbara Kemmis &  
Gina Medalle,  
by Daniel Gonzalez  
& Michael Hurt  
Ronald Kitchen,  
by Alice H. Kim  
Jeanne Kracher,  
by Alice Cottingham  
by Leslie Ramyk &  
Michael Conforti  
Raymond Lau,  
by Beyondmedia  
Education  
Lisa Yun Lee,  
by L. Ashman, A La Carte  
by Nour C. Rishmawy

Handy L. Lindsey, Jr.,  
by Field Foundation  
of Illinois  
Conrad McAlpine, in  
memory,  
by Bill Dolnick &  
Rachel Abramson  
Otto McMath, in memory,  
by Julie & Bruce Samuels  
Gerardo Montemayor, in  
memory, by Rob Eisdorfer  
Sheila O'Donnell &  
Nora Gallagher,  
by Sarah Workneh &  
Mel Sabella  
Chuck Olin, in memory,  
by Harriet Hausman  
Catherine Patten, in  
memory,  
by Mary Patten  
Mary Patten,  
by Robert P. Patten &  
Valerie A. Yarashus  
Lisa Marie Pickens,  
by Darchelle Garner  
Queer to the Left,  
by Gabe Rodriguez  
Irene and Calogero  
Sabella,  
by Sarah Workneh &  
Mel Sabella  
Ron Sable, in memory,  
by David Ansell &  
Paula Grabler  
by Carol Perez Segura &  
Robert Segura  
Esther S. Saks,  
by Neris Gonzalez  
Esther & Alan Saks,  
by Jane Saks &  
Lynette Jackson

Sisters Empowering Sisters,  
by Beyondmedia  
Education  
Mairita Smiltars,  
by Alix Reisinger  
Gail Smith,  
by Carleen Schreder &  
Ralph Musicant  
staff, board, interns and  
volunteers of  
Beyondmedia Education,  
by Salome Chasnoff  
Lauren Sugerman,  
by Hedy Ratner  
K. Sujata and Laurie Marks,  
by Sapna Gupta  
Karen Tamley,  
by Clare Golla  
Pamela Thomas,  
by Beyondmedia  
Education  
Fran Tobin,  
by Connie Hall  
Dorothy Tollifson,  
by Douglas Dawson  
by Mary D. Powers  
Sarah Triano,  
by Karen Tamley &  
Kevin Irvine  
Eddie Wasserman, in  
memory,  
by Martha Wright &  
Tina Lee  
Tom Wilson,  
by Michael Brennan  
Board of Directors at  
Women in the Director's  
Chair,  
by Sheila O'Donnell  
Joy Wright,  
by Neena Hemmady





# IN PARTNERSHIP

In 2005, Crossroads Fund was proud to work in partnership with grantees, donors, funders and friends to expand the pool of resources available for groups working for social change in Chicago ... and beyond. It takes more than grants to effectively support grassroots activism for social change. Our work towards achieving greater justice in Chicago includes:



**WORKSHOPS** including two free or low-cost workshops on two topics: *Proposal Writing* and *Cash Management in Tough Times*. *Proposal Writing* coached groups in the basics of preparing a proposal for a foundation, including help in creating a budget and tips on what foundations are looking for. *Cash Management in Tough Times* covered the basics of cash management for emerging social change organizations;



**RESOURCES** to help grantees with their organizational development. All groups who received a grant from Crossroads Fund were also given subscription to the *Grassroots Fundraising Journal*, a publication that offers concrete tools for fundraising and other organizational challenges; and the *Chicago Reporter*, a local magazine that focuses on race and poverty issues;



**ONGOING INFORMAL ASSISTANCE**, working with grantees to identify additional resources and training;

**MAKING CONNECTIONS** between likeminded grassroots groups, and connecting those groups to foundation and other resources;

**PUBLIC PROGRAMS** offering local activists opportunities to engage with each other and the public around the most topical issues of the day. After the election of 2004, Crossroads Fund put together a program called *Make Your Vote Count*. This event brought together people from across communities to engage in a dialogue about how to involve disenfranchised communities in the electoral process — and strategize about how to move forward, given the results of the 2004 election;



**PARTNERSHIPS** with individuals, families, and foundations to strategically support social change. In 2005, we worked with seven donors to create vibrant Donor Advised Funds that are funding social change groups across the spectrum of issues. We participated in the Chicago Community Organizing Capacity Building Initiative (CCBI), a funders collaborative that has identified 16 local organizing groups to receive funding over three years. And, we pooled the resources of thousands of individual donors and many businesses and friends to support our other grantmaking and programmatic efforts;



**GATHERINGS** across the Chicago area connect grantee organizations, progressive activists and Crossroads Fund supporters;

**COLLABORATION** with peers in philanthropy and the wider community through initiatives, affinity groups, conferences, training institutes and more;

**CELEBRATION** of the achievements of local changemakers at our annual benefit, *Seeds of Change*, hailed by many as both “the best event of the year,” and the “most diverse room in the city.” This year *Seeds of Change* was proud to honor grantee group **Beyondmedia Education** and politicians **Illinois Senate President Emil Jones, Jr.**, **Illinois Senator Carol Ronen**, and **Illinois Representative Larry McKeon** with the *Ron Sable Award for Activism* for their strong leadership as allies in the passage of the amendment to include sexual orientation in the Illinois *Human Rights Act*.

**BUILDING** future leaders through strategic grantmaking of new and emerging groups.

**These efforts all contribute  
to our most meaningful task:  
“Change, not Charity.”**



“

*We support Crossroads Fund because we're interested in helping sustain and create community based organizations involved in the difficult work of creating change from the inside out.*

”

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**Thank you Crossroads Fund Visionaries.** These dedicated individuals have included Crossroads Fund in their will or estate plan, ensuring the long-term strength and stability of the Fund and leaving a legacy of their values and vision.

**Bill Barclay & Peg Strobel  
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Money is not the only critical resource that people share with Crossroads Fund. THANK YOU to the following individuals and groups who contributed incredible in-kind gifts, services and time this year:

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*I included Crossroads Fund in my estate plan for the same reasons that I give an annual gift each year – I think the work that they do is interesting, important, and it ought to be done. Remembering Crossroads Fund in my will means that I can help improve the world for those who follow.*

”

Harry Chandler  
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Crossroads Fund supports community organizations working on issues of social and economic justice in the Chicago area. A public foundation, Crossroads Fund pools the resources of individuals, foundations and businesses, building a broad base of support for grassroots organizations for social change.

Crossroads Fund is a member of the Funding Exchange, a national network of locally-based community foundations committed to supporting grassroots groups that address critical issues in their regions. For more information, see [www.fex.org](http://www.fex.org).

## CONTACT INFORMATION

3411 W. Diversey #20, Chicago, IL 60647-1245  
Telephone: 773.227.7676; Fax: 773.227.7790  
[www.crossroadsfund.org](http://www.crossroadsfund.org)  
[info@crossroadsfund.org](mailto:info@crossroadsfund.org)

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