



Grantmaker Resource

Funding Strategies to Support Black Family Systems

What does regional support for Black communities look like? This resource maps regional philanthropic trends using data pulled from Candid's Foundation Directory (January 2025 – June 2026). Use this information to see how your investments intersect to sustain Black family systems.

Regional Trends

Trend 1: General Operating Support as the Primary Funding Mechanism



- **48.4% of** all capital in this dataset is structured as general support
- Multi-hundred-thousand-dollar general operating awards are sustaining the independent baseline infrastructure and long-term advocacy power of Black-led organizations

Trend 2: Deepened Investment in Reproductive Care Infrastructure and Systems Development



- Oakland and San Rafael saw six-figure investments in reproductive care to support maternal health infrastructure
- In Fresno, birth work was funded as “Board development,” “system improvements,” and “DEIJ capacity”
- Some areas are strategically funding foundational organizational maturity while others are focused on scaling

Trend 3: Economic Development Reimagined via the Caregiving Ecosystem

- Multi-generational care is being increasingly framed as an economic justice mechanism
- There is a growing number of projects that are connecting early-care educator modules to economic justice



Investments By Grant Size

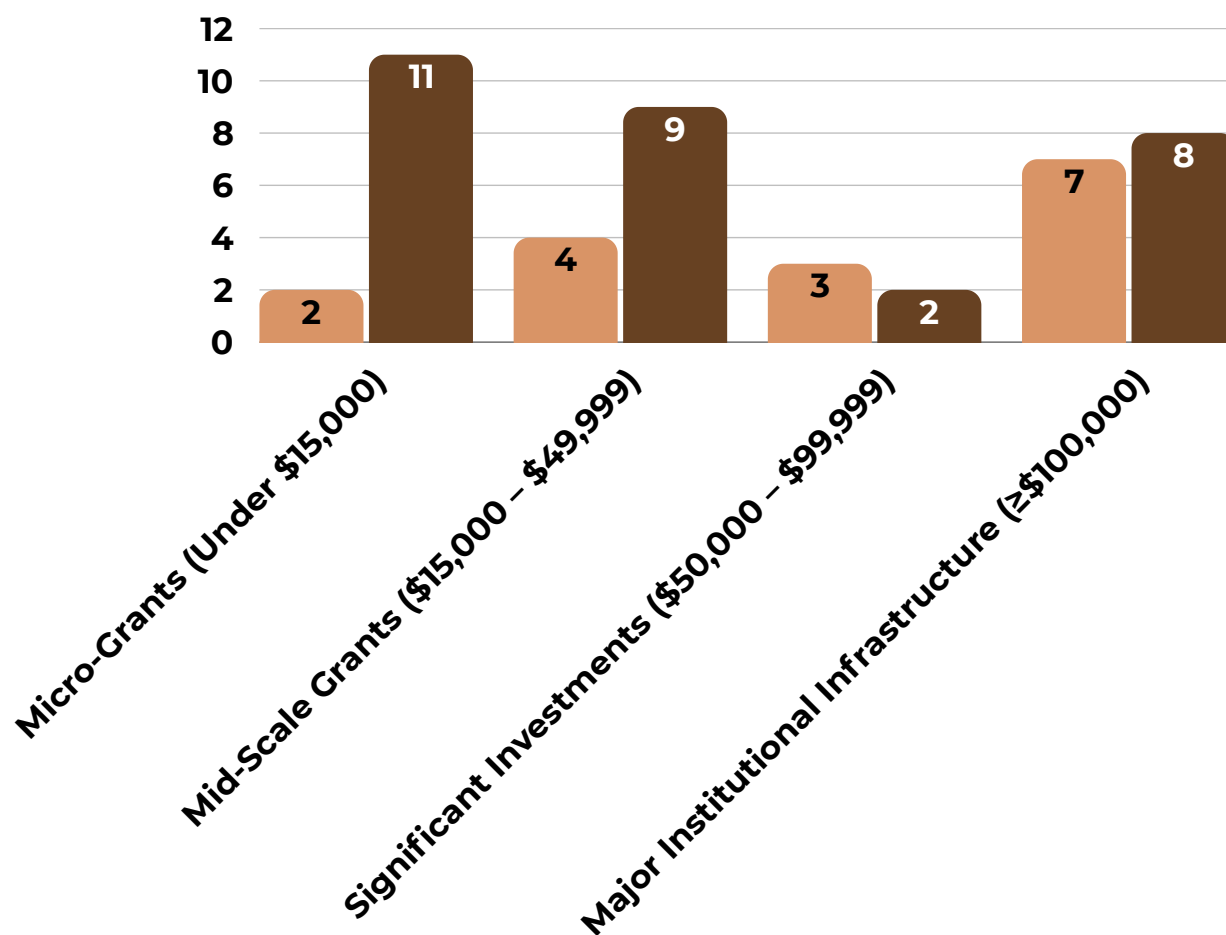
Location	Total Capital Awarded	Number of Mapped Grants
Oakland (Alameda County)	\$ 1,622,264.00	25
Berkeley (Alameda County)	\$5,452	1
Union City (Alameda County)	\$ 150,000.00	1
Pleasant Hill (Contra Costa County)	\$ 275,000.00	1
Richmond (Contra Costa County)	\$ 15,000.00	1
Fresno (Fresno County)	\$ 425,000.00	5
San Rafael (Marin County)	\$ 150,000.00	1
Sacramento (Sacramento County)	\$2,500	1
Elk Grove (Sacramento County)	\$10,000	1
San Francisco (San Francisco County)	\$ 167,500.00	4
Santa Clara (Santa Clara County)	\$ 49,988.00	1
Santa Rosa (Sonoma County)	\$ 190,000.00	2



Mapping Investments By Grant Type

● Number of General Operating Support (GOS) Grants

● Number of Project/Restricted Grants



Support Strategies (Word Cloud)



Funding Areas at a Glance

	Place-Based Approaches	Voice, Power, and Co-Design	Multi-Year and Flexible Funding
Workforce and Economic Development	Concentrating business ecosystem investments in cultural commercial corridors	Investing in self-governing networks that co-design their own market landscapes and professional pipelines	Providing long-term capacity-building for Black community networks, hubs, and cooperatives.
Health and Maternal Health	Establishing maternal health, prenatal/postnatal clinics, and mobile hubs directly in low-income zones	Centering Black families, parent leaders, and early care workers to drive regional health wellness	Supporting the development of trauma and healing infrastructure by integrating community-building, mental health, and family joy models.
Education and Youth Development	Funding hyper-local tech spaces and immersive STEM pathways for neighborhood youth	Centering youth advocacy for systems change while actively bridging family-school engagement	Providing multi-year capital that stabilizes youth ecosystems and honors parent/caregiver leadership
Organizing, Civic Engagement, and Community Voice	Concentrating community organizing resources in target geographies to build regional voice	Funding grassroots advocates who are driving local systemic policy changes through advocacy agendas	Allocating high dollar general operating support to insulate long-term community organizing power from project cycles
Technology, Innovation, and Arts	Funding local anchors: physical spaces, museums, and other community-led systems.	Funding Black arts writing, local archives, and community-led storytelling projects/platforms	Providing unrestricted support to creative incubator spaces



Examples of Integration

Workforce and Economic Development

- Small business support and income stability
- Multigenerational employment strategies, apprenticeship programs, and entrepreneurship

Health and Maternal Health

- Access to care, behavioral health, trauma-informed supports
- Integrated family health models, mental health and healing justice

Education and Youth Development

- Beyond scholarships, including family engagement, k-12 and post-secondary ecosystems
- Resources and programs that support students and caregivers together

Technology, Innovation, and Arts

- Tech access and supporting the creative economy
- Arts as connected to healing, identity, and intergenerational connection

Is your funding focused on job readiness, or building wealth and economic self-determination for Black communities?

Would your organization consider funding midwifery, community birth centers, and culturally rooted mental health support as core parts of community health infrastructure?

Are you funding individual scholarships, or are you scaling ecosystems that support future generations of students and caregivers together?

Have you considered framing investments in arts and technology infrastructure as tools for cultural preservation, economic power, and healing?

