

Together, we can achieve lasting change

Investing in the work that makes
a fair, just society possible

RF Raikes
Foundation

2023 ANNUAL REPORT





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from Executive Director Dennis Quirin

About the Raikes Foundation

The Raikes Foundation partners with leaders committed to building a society where all communities, especially young people, have the opportunity to reach their full potential.

Our core belief: When we work together and center community voices and leadership, we can build a fair and just society for all.

Thoughts from Jeff and Tricia Raikes

2023 marked a pivotal year for the Raikes Foundation, where we sharpened our focus and deepened our work in response to the current moment.

Young people in the United States, particularly youth of color, LGBTQIA+, and gender nonconforming youth, faced unprecedented challenges. From the Supreme Court's reversal on affirmative action and increased censorship in education to growing attacks on LGBTQIA+ rights and the persistent housing crisis, the events of the year underscored a pressing need for us to double down on our mission. Our work to build more integrated systems of support for our young people, including a fair, inclusive public education system; to prevent and end youth homelessness; and to encourage philanthropic support for equity and justice, has the potential to empower communities who have been excluded for far too long.

This year, we've made notable progress, evidenced by the strides in our foundational areas of focus. The introduction of the Resourcing Equity & Democracy portfolio represents our continued effort to extend our impact, driving democratic engagement and expanding access. Our journey this year has been about more than just facing challenges; it's been about seizing opportunities, forging innovative partnerships, and advocating for systemic change. The progress we've made would not be possible without our key partners in the field, in public leadership positions, and in private foundations.

Despite the headwinds against fairness, the resilience and collective action of our community partners and allies reinforce our optimism that a more equitable country is possible. These partnerships highlight the power of collaboration and the importance of diverse voices in crafting sustainable solutions.

We invite you to explore this report with a lens of hopefulness and action. Let it be a call to stand together for a future where every young person has the support and opportunity to flourish.

Together, we can build a more just and inclusive world.

— *Jeff and Tricia Raikes*
Co-founders of the Raikes Foundation

Recognition of our work in 2023

- Received the 2023 [“Changing Course” Impact Award](#) from the National Committee for Responsive Philanthropy
- Named [Education Funder of the Year](#) by Inside Philanthropy
- Tricia Raikes named one of the [50 Most Powerful Women in Philanthropy](#) by Inside Philanthropy

“

Despite the headwinds against fairness, the resilience and collective action of our community partners and allies reinforce our optimism that a more equitable country is possible.

— Jeff and Tricia Raikes

”

KEY HIGHLIGHTS

\$322 M

in catalyzed funding toward building an equitable education system since 2016.

40% reduction

in the number of unaccompanied youth and young adults experiencing homelessness in Washington State from 2016–2022.

**86%
of grant dollars**

The majority of our Impact-Driven Philanthropy grant funding went to organizations led by people of color.



Education

Investing in a public education system that works for all students



K-12 and post-secondary public education is a cornerstone of American democracy. It's the means by which we, as a society, invest in young people and prepare them to lead the way toward the future we will all share.

And yet, recent and intensifying attacks on our public education system are putting our democracy and our future at risk. Book bans, challenges to inclusive curricula and honest history, discrimination against LGBTQIA+ students, and efforts to shift funds away from public schools and universities threaten to fuel division and exclude many of today's young people from tomorrow's opportunities.

Across the country, we're seeing a growing awareness of the dangers posed by these extremist attacks and the distraction they're creating from meeting students' needs. At the Raikes Foundation, we're investing in efforts to transform that awareness into action.

For example, we're supporting parents and students who are speaking out and standing up for the public education all young people deserve. We're investing in local organizers and advocacy organizations that are building diverse coalitions to support inclusive policies and fair funding. And, we're helping educators and administrators develop new approaches to creating educational environments that feel welcoming and supportive to all students.

3,362 instances of book bans

were recorded in US public school classrooms and libraries in the 2022–23 school year, primarily targeting books on race or racism, or featuring characters of color or LGBTQIA+ characters.

Source: [PEN America](#)

Our 2023 Priorities

FIELD BUILDING

Supporting the field to develop a shared vision and agenda for the education system our country and our young people need now; fostering connectivity and knowledge sharing; and sharpening strategies to defend a fair public education system by building power among students and diverse coalitions.

REDESIGNING THE PUBLIC EDUCATION SYSTEM

Supporting K-12 and post-secondary educators and administrators to redesign schools and systems to improve the educational experience and enable success for all students.

STATE AND FEDERAL POLICY

Supporting coalitions that center the power of students and communities in working toward fair funding policies for public schools; enhancing public investment and support for students experiencing homelessness; and increasing federal funding for evidence-based college completion efforts.



\$14 million in pooled funding

Since launching in 2022, the EdFuture Fund has invested in creating a shared agenda and collaborative infrastructure to defend a fair, inclusive education system in the face of intensifying attacks.

550+ schools

Across the country, BELE student experience measures are informing efforts to improve student experience and create learning environments of belonging, purpose, and growth for every student.



of parents oppose book bans

Across the country, we're supporting parents and students standing up for a fair, inclusive public education system and access to accurate, representative curricula.



The next decade will determine whether we have a public, democratically governed, equitable, and inclusive public education system and whether we are transforming it for the next century or dragging it back to the previous one. Supporting young people, families, and educators to stand up and boldly protect and transform our public schools is essential to a thriving future for all our young people, a strong economy, and a functioning democracy.

— Zoë Stemm-Calderon

Raikes Foundation Senior Director of Youth-Serving Systems



Building collaborative approaches and collective power

Protecting and improving public education is an all-hands effort — no single institution or organization can solve this challenge alone. To succeed, the movement to support a fair educational system must be even better aligned and organized than the efforts to attack it. The Raikes Foundation is working to build that alignment in support of fair, inclusive K-12 and higher education in two key ways:

- Building funder collaboratives that can pool and direct funds where they can make the biggest impact.
- Funding a diverse field of organizations with the power to drive change together.

In collaboration with the Raikes Foundation Housing Stability for Youth strategy, we helped establish a new funder collaborative, the Fund for the Education Success of Students Experiencing Homelessness, Child Welfare, and

Juvenile Justice, to support policies and improve outcomes for students at the intersection of public systems and the disruption that can lead to homelessness.

We also partnered with colleagues at the [Alfred P. Sloan Foundation](#) and the [Lumina Foundation](#) to launch a new funder collaborative to build alignment in support of an equitable higher education system. And with [Joyce Foundation](#) and [Carnegie Corporation of New York](#), we launched a pooled fund, HigherEd Forward, that brings together a growing community of funders who recognize the critical role of higher education as a vehicle for a thriving, multiracial democracy, workforce, and economy.

HigherEd Forward is modeled after the K-12 work of the [EdFuture Fund](#) (formerly EdForward), which we launched in 2022 along with a number of partner funders. Between 2022 and 2023, EdFuture directed over \$14 million in support to local and national groups organizing for inclusive public schools.

Some of EdFuture's grant partners include:

- [H.E.A.L. \(Honest Education Action & Leadership Together\)](#)
An initiative that equips students, parents, and educators with funding, tools, and training to fight back against book bans and curriculum censorship.
- [Red Wine & Blue](#)
An organization that helps women in suburban communities organize and take action for inclusive public schools by speaking up at school board meetings, running for school board positions, and influencing fair education policies.
- [Student Action Network for Equity \(SANE\)](#)
A project of [Seek Common Ground](#) that supports intergenerationally and student-led groups working to advance racial justice, education equity, and the promise of a multiracial democracy.



Joining the [Seek Common Ground] SANE network and applying for a grant was what has made our student-led movement in Texas possible, from the start and to this day. SANE's application process is remarkably in tune with the needs of youth – it's straightforward and exceptionally welcoming – leaving us not only with necessary funds but mentorship and a network of partners in this daunting time for students' rights in education.

– Cameron Samuels

Executive Director of [Students Engaged in Advancing Texas](#), a SANE member organization focused on combating racist and homophobic book bans in Katy, Texas, and the Houston Independent School District



Building positive, supportive learning environments for all students

Students who feel included, represented, and supported — like they truly belong — are more successful learners, better able to work through challenges at school, and more likely to complete the education they need to thrive as adults.

Over the past eight years, the Raikes Foundation has supported the [BELE \(Building Equitable Learning Environments\) Network](#) in its work to collaborate with educators and administrators on building knowledge and tools to measure and improve students' experience to create more fair, inclusive educational environments. We have also supported the [Student Experience Project \(SEP\)](#) to pursue similar goals in post-secondary education. A key insight from this work: Measuring students' experiences and using that data to inform improvements makes a real difference in students' experiences, persistence, and academic outcomes.

While previous efforts involved bringing learning practitioners together to collaborate on developing knowledge and tools, in 2023 we focused our support on refining, spreading, scaling, and applying the knowledge and tools to make a meaningful impact for students.

For example:

- More than 550 schools in districts across the country, including large school districts like Chicago and Minneapolis, began using BELE-developed student experience measures to inform district-wide improvements.
- More than 220 schools in more than 50 districts began using the BELE-developed [Elevate](#) tool to document improvement in experiences that BELE research has identified as early indicators of strong and fair academic outcomes.
- We supported efforts to share BELE-developed knowledge, practices, and tools with superintendents, school board members, chief state school officers, and education funders across the country, influencing strategic approaches to program funding, the passage of equity-centered policies, and a shared understanding of best practices to ensure schools serve all students.
- From 2019–2022, over 700 instructors from 18 universities participated in SEP communities of practice and generated empirical evidence on the impact of improving student experience on academic outcomes by prototyping student-centered teaching practices and measurement tools. To date, more than 40 other universities have joined them in using SEP tools and practices to improve the experience of over 500,000 students.
- SEP leaders have been busy presenting at conferences, publishing papers, and forming new partnerships with higher education organizations and university systems. They're sharing what they've learned and supporting institutional and system-level policies to enable implementation at scale.

2023 grant partners

American Association of School Administrators Inc

American Council on Education

American University School of Education

Campaign for Our Shared Future (FS New Venture Fund)

Center on Budget and Policy Priorities

Coalition of Urban Serving Universities (USU)/
Association of Public and Land-Grant Universities

Collaborative For Academic Social and Emotional
Learning

Communities for Just Schools (FS New Venture Fund)

Council of Chief State School Officers

Education Forward Fund (FS Amalgamated
Charitable Foundation)

Education Resource Strategies Inc.

Education Trust Inc.

Funders for Adolescent Science Translation
Collaborative (FS The Seattle Foundation)

Georgetown University Edunomics Lab

Grantmakers For Education

Grantmakers for Thriving Youth Policy
Working Group Collaborative (FS Amalgamated
Charitable Foundation)

Harvard Graduate School of Education

HigherEd Forward Fund (FS Amalgamated
Charitable Foundation)

Kent State University Foundation

Leading Now (FS New Venture Fund)

Learning Policy Institute

National Association of System Heads

National Center for Youth Law

National Equity Project

National Public Education Support Fund

NYU Steinhardt Metropolitan Center for Research
on Equity and the Transformation of Schools

Policy Innovators in Education Network Inc.

Project for Education that Scales (FS Tides Center)

Resource Equity Funders Collaborative (FS
Amalgamated Charitable Foundation)

School Board Partners

Seek Common Ground (FS New Venture Fund)

Southern Education Foundation

The Institute for Higher Education Policy

The Schott Foundation for Public Education

The University of Chicago's Consortium on
School Research

Third Way Institute

FS indicates fiscal sponsor

Looking forward to 2024 and beyond

As young people, families, and educators continue to navigate the challenges that come with rapid technological, climate, economic, and societal change, we will continue to work on strengthening a field of support around a shared vision of a public education system that can rise to those challenges while serving all students fairly. That means focusing on real needs of today, including more equitable funding, honest and representative curricula, and mental health support, and developing practical, sustainable solutions for the future.

Housing Stability for Youth

Building a collaborative
movement to prevent and
end youth homelessness



Stable housing is more than an urgent need for young people today — it's a predictor of their future. Young people without a safe, secure place to live are [at greater risk of experiencing violence](#), dropping out of school, arrest, and experiencing homelessness as an adult. Investing in ending youth homelessness, and specifically in preventing it before it happens, can help ensure more young people have a reliable place to call home and the security they need to grow and thrive.

The Raikes Foundation has been investing in youth homelessness prevention since 2016, supporting innovative models, pilot programs, early intervention, and equitable approaches to ensure all young people have the support and stability they need. We've been strategic and intentional in our work, supporting government agencies, community-based organizations, and educators in creating coordinated, collaborative systems of support.

We're proud that the data on youth homelessness in Washington State and the increase in attention and funding for the issue across the country is showing that our investments, partnerships, and advocacy are having a measurable impact, including a 40% decrease in youth homelessness in the state of Washington and historic investment at the federal level in both prevention and supporting students experiencing homelessness.

more than **1.2 million**

public school students in the US experienced homelessness in the 2020-21 school year.

Source: [National Center for Homeless Education](#)

Our 2023 Priorities

PREVENTION

Preventing youth from experiencing homelessness by building supports within communities, schools, and public systems.

STUDENT HOMELESSNESS

Increasing graduation rates for students who are experiencing or at risk of homelessness and providing them with housing and services.

CRISIS RESPONSE

Quickly ending youth homelessness through data-driven strategies and supports.

FIELD BUILDING AND ADVOCACY

Organizing field leaders to support policy development and adequate funding for proven solutions and the scaling of successful coordinated community systems.



↑ **37%**

**increase in graduation
rate since 2014**

Four-year graduation rates for students experiencing homelessness in Washington State continue to improve.

↓ **40%** **reduction
in homelessness among
youth and young adults**

Since Washington State began taking a focused approach to youth homelessness, the number of young people experiencing homelessness has dropped dramatically.

\$23 million

A small Raikes Foundation investment in advocacy helped catalyze 82x that amount in ongoing public funding for youth homelessness prevention programs.



In 2023, we started to see undeniable proof that our collective strategy, coordinating efforts, and working together with all of our partners is making a real difference in the individual lives of a lot of young people. To other funders who want to invest in something that's impactful and showing real results, this is the moment.

— Casey Trupin

Raikes Foundation Director of Housing Stability for Youth



Strategic investments deliver promising results

After eight years of investing in youth homelessness prevention efforts in partnership with other funders, elected officials, service providers, community-based organizations, and young people themselves, the results we're seeing point to a powerful conclusion: Ending youth homelessness is possible, and prevention is the key.

While we've supported crisis response to help young people currently experiencing homelessness, we've also invested strategically in efforts designed to reduce youth homelessness by supporting young people before they lose stable housing.

Here are a few ways our strategy is making an impact:

- A new [landscape scan](#) report shows that youth homelessness in Washington State decreased by 40% between 2016 and 2022.
- A [report card](#) from the Washington Office of Superintendent of Public Instruction shows that the rate of graduation among students experiencing homelessness in Washington State has risen steadily, from 46% in 2013–14 to 63.2% in 2022–23.
- A report from the Washington State Department of Social and Health Services shows a 29% decrease in the number of young people ages 12–24 who exit state systems of care such as hospitalization, foster care, or the youth legal system and go on to experience homelessness.
- State and local officials are recognizing the value of our collaborative strategy aimed at prevention. Several programs initially funded by the Raikes Foundation and other private philanthropy organizations are now publicly funded, including:
 - [The Homelessness Prevention & Diversion Fund](#)
 - [The Youth Diversion Infrastructure Project](#)
 - [Housing Stability for Youth in Courts \(H-SYNC\)](#)
 - [The Prevention Youth Engagement Team](#)

Support from the Raikes Foundation and other philanthropic partners is imperative in bridging the gap in equitable service delivery and program development for youth and young adults experiencing barriers related to homelessness. Funding from the Raikes Foundation has enabled our agency to serve young people who get lost in the gaps of bureaucracy and move toward more preventative approaches in combating youth homelessness.

– Shaun Frazier

Y Social Impact Center
Senior Director of Community
Housing and Homeless Services

Breaking the link between public systems of care and homelessness

Too often, when young people age out of the foster care system, complete inpatient treatment, or exit the youth legal system, there's no safety net to support them. That can lead to unsafe situations, repeat arrests, and in many cases, homelessness.

The moment young people exit public systems of care is a crucial point for intervention to ensure they have the stability they need to build the life they want and thrive in their communities.

In partnership with local and federal government, other private funders, and community-based organizations, the Raikes Foundation is working to break the link between public systems of care and youth homelessness.

For example, based on work we helped support, the Washington State Senate passed SB 6560, which created

a partnership between the Department of Children, Youth, and Families and the Office of Homeless Youth (which we also helped establish) to ensure that young people are immediately connected with housing when they leave public systems of care. We also partner with organizations like [Treehouse](#) on efforts to end the [foster care-to-prison pipeline](#) and help change the trajectory for the 20% of young people who encounter the legal system within a year of aging out of foster care in Washington State.

At the national level, and in partnership with our National Education Strategy team, we're co-leading a philanthropic partnership with funders, including the [Stuart Foundation](#) and the [Walter S. Johnson Foundation](#), pooling funds to better understand how youth homelessness intersects with the education, youth legal, and foster care systems and how to design policy efforts that can make a difference.

2023 grant partners

A Way Home America (FS Third Sector New England Inc.)
A Way Home Washington (FS Third Sector New England Inc.)
Allies for Healthier Systems for Health & Abundance
in Youth (FS Tubman Center for Health & Freedom)
American Bar Association Fund for Justice and Education
Building Changes
Chapin Hall Center for Children
Children & Youth Justice Center
Coalition For Juvenile Justice
Community Passageways
Covenant House International
Eileen & Callie's Place
Kind County Fellowships (9 Individuals)
Foster Forward
Fostering Media Connections

Friends Of Youth
Fund for the Education Success of Students
Experiencing Homelessness, Child Welfare and
Juvenile Justice (FS Amalgamated Charitable
Foundation)
Funders Together To End Homelessness Inc
Garage A Teen Cafe
Kennesaw State University Foundation (KSUF)
King County Regional Homelessness Authority
Legal Counsel for Youth and Children
Mockingbird Society
MultiCare Behavioral Health Foundation
National Conference of State Legislatures
National Homelessness Law Center
National Network for Youth Inc.
Northstar Advocates

Panorama Global
Point Source Youth Inc.
Pro Se Potential
Project Be Free
RVC Seattle
SchoolHouse Connection
TeamChild
The Seattle Foundation
Think of Us
Treehouse
United Way Of King County
We Are In (FS Building Changes)
We Are In (FS Panorama Global)
YMCA of Greater Seattle
Youth Collaboratory, Inc.

FS indicates fiscal sponsor

HOUSING STABILITY FOR YOUTH

Looking forward to 2024 and beyond

As we look to build on and scale the positive impact we've seen to date, we'll be focusing on the same core issues: prevention, student homelessness, crisis response, field building, and advocacy with an emphasis on:

- Further advancing efforts to prevent youth homelessness in Washington State.
- Working to make youth homelessness systems more equitable by focusing on early prevention in communities disproportionately represented among the population of youth experiencing homelessness, including young people of color and LGBTQIA+ youth.
- Supporting education policy that ensures schools and school systems are better resourced and designed to support students experiencing homelessness.
- Sharing information and best practices so that the strategies that have made an impact in Washington State can inform youth homelessness prevention strategies across the country.



Impact-Driven Philanthropy

Mobilizing donor support
for equity and justice



The Impact-Driven Philanthropy Initiative was established to support high-capacity donors to give in ways more likely to make a difference by building the field of donor support in service of equity and justice. Over the past six years, the initiative has focused on “changing the water that donors swim in” to center equity, effectiveness, and systems change. Progress in these areas has a ripple effect on everything from education to the economy to our democracy itself.

A core tenet of our efforts involves shifting more dollars to work that has the potential to change entire systems for the better, and work that is led by women and people of color. We believe informed giving from impact-driven donors can help eliminate the structural barriers that have historically resulted in a lack of resources for community-led change and help bring more people to the table in our collective effort to create a more fair, just future.

To do this, we work to connect the ecosystem of donors and donor support through information, events, and direct interactions with leaders and movements. The coordination and collaboration that results has the power to not just address challenges that have long hindered our democracy, but also create new possibilities for it to evolve and thrive.

97%
**of Black-led and
Black-serving
nonprofits**

are in need of funding for
general operating support.

Source: [Giving Gap](#)

Core tenets of our work

EQUITY

Helping donors understand the racial and historical context of the issues they fund so they have a deep understanding of who is least-well served and see how they can help achieve more equitable outcomes with and for underserved communities.

EFFECTIVENESS

Educating and encouraging donors to embrace impact-driven philanthropy best practices and deepen their understanding of what works and what doesn't.

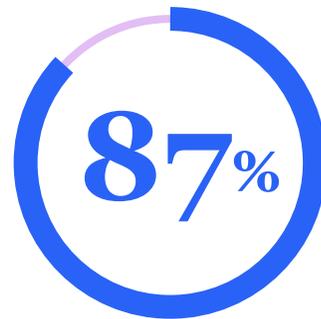
SYSTEMS CHANGE

Influencing donors to focus resources on addressing root causes of social justice issues and changing systems that perpetuate them.



19,000
users connected

Beyond providing information, Giving Compass connects interested donors with issue funds and nonprofits focused on advancing social justice and racial equity.



of Impact-Driven Collaborative members

Most members of the Impact-Driven Collaborative say the network has led to building deep and trusting relationships that have helped advance their work.

45+
groups

Donor education and organizing groups who participate in the Destination Impact community of practice joined an in-person convening in November 2023.



Philanthropy is an important part of civil society. Historically, only two strategies have been successful in sustaining democracies in the face of threats: an actively engaged public and support from the people who control wealth and power. Exposing philanthropic donors to new ideas and the impact they can have in supporting democracy is crucial.

— Stephanie Fuerstner Gillis

Raikes Foundation Director of Impact-Driven Philanthropy



Giving Compass evolves for a new era of philanthropy

[Giving Compass](#), a platform for impact-driven philanthropy education and resources for donors, was originally created to address a challenge that our trustees, Jeff and Tricia Raikes, experienced: They knew they wanted their giving to make an impact, but needed targeted resources that could help them align their giving with their values and ensure their philanthropy would actually drive change.

Since its creation in 2017, the platform has grown, evolved, and become its own independent 501(c)(3) organization, with funding from the Raikes Foundation and other partners. It's become an indispensable resource for philanthropists who want credible, evidence-based information about issues and connections to community-led solutions they can support.

The platform currently curates articles, case studies, and best-practice resources from over 40 content partners, with 1.5 million views in 2023 alone. Now, it's evolving to keep pace with changes in the field of philanthropy and the information landscape. For example, Giving Compass is developing tools that use artificial intelligence to help donors find the information they need and connect them to grant partners that fit their philanthropic goals.

New offerings currently in development include:

- A personalized stream of learning content to make it easier for donors to find relevant information and move from building interest to making an impact.
- Interactive tools to help users explore and plan how they engage with causes, with the capability to integrate with other platforms and technologies.
- Reports and applications that deliver a blend of data-driven insights and personalized content to simplify evaluation and advocacy.



Opportunities such as Ignite and Destination Impact allow us to work more deeply with [other] groups and networks at a more intentional level of thinking about how we provide service and ways we can support each other in advancing equity and justice at multiple levels.

– Destination Impact participant



Forging connections between donor networks and changemakers

Building an informed, engaged ecosystem of philanthropy requires bringing people together — donors, donor support organizations, and movement leaders — to share insights, align on common values, and guide action. The Raikes Foundation established the Impact-Driven Philanthropy Collaborative in 2017 to do just that. Together, we're developing a deep understanding of all of the different actors and actions involved in making systems change happen, and uncovering ways to coordinate our efforts toward common goals.

Along with virtual and in-person events, and an active listserv to share information, the Destination Impact event, held in Puerto Rico, was a centerpiece of the collaborative's work in 2023.

Destination Impact brought nearly 60 leaders from over 45 organizations in the donor education and donor organizing field together to:

- Deepen shared knowledge of the donor education and organizing ecosystem
- Better understand collective challenges and opportunities for shared action
- Build relationships and connections to facilitate new partnerships
- Learn about the social and political dynamics in Puerto Rico through a democracy lens, and explore how they can connect to and inform members' work

Feedback from the event was overwhelmingly positive, and the connections forged there sparked a number of new collaborations.

In 2023, the collaborative also began planning the IGNITE 2024 event, designed to give donors a direct connection to movement leaders and the work they do. The 2024 event will focus on democracy through a feminist and gender lens, engaging donor networks focused on women and girls alongside movement leaders with the goal of unlocking new ways to collaborate and activating more coordinated support from women in philanthropy

2023 grant partners

Camelback Ventures Inc.

Center for Effective Philanthropy

Center for Transforming Philanthropy
(FS Thousand Currents)

Community Centric Fundraising
(FS Panorama Global)

Donors of Color Network Inc.

Freedom School for Healing & Justice
in Philanthropy (FS Possibility Labs)

Giving Compass Network

Giving Gap (FS Philanthropic
Ventures Foundation)

Giving Project Network
(FS North Star Fund)

Hispanics in Philanthropy

Impact Driven Philanthropy
Collaborative (FS Proteus Fund)

National Committee for Responsive
Philanthropy

Social Justice Fund Northwest

Social Venture Partners International

Solidaire Network

The Seattle Foundation

Trustees of Indiana University

FS indicates fiscal sponsor

| IMPACT-DRIVEN PHILANTHROPY

Looking forward to 2024 and beyond

In 2024, the Impact-Driven Philanthropy Initiative will not be making new grants, but will work closely with our colleagues across the Raikes Foundation to leverage strategic partnerships and support the growth and grantmaking efforts of the new Resourcing Equity & Democracy strategy.

Other priorities include:

- Supporting our current grant partners
- Ongoing organizational development support for Giving Compass
- Continued development of the Impact-Driven Philanthropy Collaborative, including:
 - Advancing a donor development tool to uncover insights into donor behavior
 - Designing and producing a successful IGNITE 2024 event



Resourcing Equity & Democracy

Organizing for a healthier,
more inclusive democracy



In May of 2023, the Raikes Foundation officially launched our new Resourcing Equity & Democracy (RED) portfolio, designed to provide support for and build connections among funders and grant partners working toward a thriving, multiracial democracy.

This is a major milestone for the Raikes Foundation, and one that weaves together the threads of all of our work to date. Whether it's in redesigning the public education system to work for every student, ensuring all young people have the stable housing they need to thrive, or influencing private philanthropy to direct funding where it can make the biggest impact — our work has always been about breaking down barriers and building power so that everyone has the opportunity to help shape a fair, just society.

And the stakes are high. From national politics to local school board meetings, we're seeing how increasing divisiveness, misinformation, and disinformation are further marginalizing already vulnerable communities. The erosion of trust in our public institutions is threatening any progress we've made toward a just society and systems that work for everyone. By investing in the people and organizations working to change that, we believe we can help make a thriving, multiracial democracy possible.

25 learning grants

Our initial grants are helping us develop relationships with other funders and national organizing groups as we build the RED portfolio.

64%
**of Americans agree
that democracy is in
crisis and at risk of
failing.**

Source: [NPR/Ipsos](#)

Our 2023 Priorities

LISTENING

We met with other funders, funding collaboratives, and organizations focused on strengthening democracy to understand how the field is working together today and where any gaps or pain points exist.

LEARNING

We've been building our knowledge about the issues and concerns at the very heart of protecting our democracy. Our partners are working on the frontlines of democracy in efforts to protect our public education system, defend reproductive rights and bodily autonomy, support access to gender affirming care, expand access to voting, and more.

LEVERAGING

The RED team is collaborating with our colleagues across the Raikes Foundation to learn how we can leverage our leadership, relationships, and track record as we build out our new portfolio and encourage other funders to join the effort.





Advancing a thriving, multiracial democracy requires persistence, perseverance, and patience. What we're hearing in the field is that groups doing the work of strengthening democracy need funding and other supports that are resilient enough to weather the ups and downs of change work. We are committed to supporting an ecosystem of leaders and organizations working to create long-term, durable systems change.

— Maria De La Cruz

Raikes Foundation Senior Director of Resourcing Equity & Democracy



Amplifying impact through funding collaboratives

As part of our work to lay the groundwork for the Resourcing Equity & Democracy grantmaking strategy, we began exploring the potential of funder collaboratives as a way to have a greater impact in the field. We've been working to learn from and build connections with a range of funder collaboratives within the democracy ecosystem to understand how they're working together, what they're accomplishing, and where the Raikes Foundation can fit into the picture.

A few of the collaboratives we've explored include:

- [Amplify Fund at Neighborhood Funders Group](#)
- [Piper Fund at Proteus Fund](#)
- [The Funders Collaborative on Youth Organizing](#)

We've also partnered with [People's Action Institute](#), a national network of 40 organizations across 29 states working to advance the racial, social, and gender justice a thriving democracy requires. The network's [Organizing Revival](#) initiative has been particularly influential, as it seeks to defend democracy by establishing a strong foundation in relational, power-based community organizing.

Learning about the work that's happening today to organize efforts and build power among communities who have historically been excluded from it will help shape our work moving forward and ensure we're contributing to the field in a meaningful way.



The organizing and advocacy work to address systemic racism has become more holistic in its approach. Groups focused on climate justice, housing justice, health equity, and other issues see how these connect with each other and with a broader framework of racial justice and an inclusive democracy.



– Vina Kay
Piper Fund Director

2023 grant partners

22nd Century Initiative (FS Tides Center)

Alliance for A Just Society

Capacity Shop

Center for Popular Democracy

Democracy Alliance Pooled Fund
(FS Amalgamated Charitable Foundation)

Equality Federation Institute

Faith in Action Network

Funder's Collaborative on Youth Organizing
(FS Bend the Arc: A Jewish Partnership for Justice)

Funders' Committee for Civic Participation
(FS NEO Philanthropy)

Galvanize USA (FS Hopewell Fund)

Grassroots Power Project

Heartland Fund's Rural Democracy
Initiative (FS Windward Fund)

Johns Hopkins University SNF Agora
Institute P3 Labs

Local Progress Policy Institute

Narrative Initiative (FS New Venture Fund)

National Center for Family Philanthropy

Neighborhood Funders Group

People's Action Institute

Piper Fund (FS Proteus Fund)

Political Research Associates

Race Forward

ReFrame (FS Proteus Fund)

Reimagining Capacity and Capital
for Communities (RC3) Initiative
(FS Amalgamated Charitable Foundation)

State Power Fund

The Philanthropy Workshop Inc.

The Roosevelt Institute

Way To Rise

Whitman-Walker Foundation

Women Donors Network

FS indicates fiscal sponsor

RESOURCING EQUITY & DEMOCRACY

Looking forward to 2024 and beyond

In 2024 and the years to come, we'll apply what we've learned to a grantmaking strategy with the potential to have a transformative impact. We'll help identify opportunities for collaboration in the field, use our influence and experience to catalyze more funding for democracy work, and help build the capacity of grant partners to align efforts, create a robust movement, and achieve the thriving, multiracial democracy we are all working toward.



Additional grant partners

COMMUNITY GIVING

Asian Americans/Pacific Islanders
in Philanthropy

Association of Black Foundation
Executives Inc.

Georgia Budget and Policy Institute, Inc.

Grantmakers For Education

Grantmakers For Effective Organizations

Hispanics in Philanthropy

ISAI AH

Johns Hopkins University

Learning Policy Institute

Legal Counsel for Youth and Children

Mockingbird Society

National Center for Family Philanthropy

National Center for State Courts

Neighborhood Funders Group

Northwest African American Museum Inc

NW Children's Foundation

OneAmerica

Philanthropy Northwest

Red Wine and Blue Education Fund

Social Venture Partners (Seattle)

Solidaire Network

Somos Mujeres Latinas Washington

Southern Education Foundation

Turnaround for Children, Inc.

Urban League of Metropolitan Seattle

SPECIAL INITIATIVES AND OTHER OUTSIDE-OF-STRATEGY GRANTS

Ashland Greenwood Public Schools
Foundation

Bishop Blanchet High School

Borealis Philanthropy

Bowie State University Foundation, Inc.

Cascade Public Media

Center for Community Change

Central Washington Justice For
Our Neighbors

Children & Youth Justice Center

College Success Foundation

Computer History Museum

Farestart

Hawaii Community Foundation

Holy Names Academy

Independent Sector

KUOW Puget Sound Public Radio

Leland Stanford Junior University
Graduate School of Education

Leland Stanford Junior University
President's Fund

Leland Stanford Junior University
Sandford Buck/Cardinal Club

Northshore School District:
Kenmore Elementary School

NPR Foundation

Nyaka Inc

Ouray Ice Park Inc.

Partners Asia

Plymouth Housing Group

PolicyLink

Recovery Cafe

Refugee Protection International

Seattle Girls School

Soulumination

Susan Sandler Leadership Fellowship
(FS Amalgamated Charitable Foundation)

TeamMates Mentoring Program

The Seattle Academy of Arts
And Sciences

The Tri-Faith Initiative of Omaha

Treehouse

UNF Charitable Fund

United Negro College Fund Inc.
(Seattle Chapter)

University Child Development School

University Of Nebraska Foundation

U-Power

Washington Women's Foundation

Welcoming America Inc

YMCA of Greater Seattle

2023 by the numbers

TOTAL EXPENDITURE

Direct charitable expenses	\$2,104,523
Operations and program administration	\$5,410,260
Grants and donor-advised fund awards	\$22,546,728
Total expenditure*	\$30,061,511

GRANTMAKING BY STRATEGY

Youth-Serving Systems	\$625,000
Education	\$9,410,272
Housing Stability for Youth	\$3,822,572
Regional Homelessness	\$750,000
Impact-Driven Philanthropy and Giving Compass	\$4,080,000
Resourcing Equity & Democracy	\$1,589,500
Special initiatives	\$665,465
Community giving	\$253,705
Employee matching gifts	\$46,664
Total grants paid	\$21,243,178

* Total expenditure includes \$1,304,954 in FY23 accrued grant expense.

STATEMENT OF FINANCIAL POSITION

Assets	
Cash and savings	\$866,023
Current assets	\$188,603
Investments	\$89,349,599
Total assets	\$90,404,225
Liabilities and net assets	
Current liabilities	\$39,151
Grants payable	\$8,142,049
Net assets, without donor restrictions	\$82,223,025
Total liabilities and net assets	\$90,404,225

Thank you, from Executive Director Dennis Quirin

In October 2023, at an event during [Change Philanthropy's](#) Unity Summit, I looked around the room and found myself thinking about why that idea of “unity” is so important to our work.

Everywhere I looked, I saw people mingling and sharing ideas with people they may not have known before that day. It was such a welcoming space, buzzing with the energy of new connections and potential new collaborations. In many ways, it was a snapshot of the field we at the Raikes Foundation are trying to help build. Different people from a range of different organizations, each with their own purpose, approach, and goals, and all working toward a unified vision of a more fair, inclusive society and a brighter future.

As we examined our work and explored new possibilities in 2023, we thought hard about not just the vision we want to achieve, but also

what it will take to get there. We dug deeper into understanding what causes barriers to equity and how we can influence system-level change. Our new Resourcing Equity & Democracy portfolio is a manifestation of that reflection — an acknowledgment that each of our goals depends on and also plays a role in creating a well-functioning democracy.

It's also a chance to build on the progress we've seen after more than 20 years of working to improve the lives of young people. In Washington State, where we've focused our Housing Stability for Youth work, we're seeing what's possible when the philanthropic sector, public agencies, community-based organizations, and advocates work together toward a common goal. Youth homelessness is down 40%, and an infrastructure is in place to advance policies and programs to reduce it even further.

In the world of philanthropy, there's no shortage of people, ideas, or even funding. What we need is alignment, collaboration, and unity. No single entity can solve the problems our society faces. It's going to take all of us, working together, to create the future our young people deserve.

As we move forward into 2024 and beyond, we'll be looking for new ways to build that unity across our internal teams, with our fellow funders, public agencies, and grant partners. Everyone has a role to play, and we hope you'll join us in the effort.

Thank you,

— *Dennis Quirin*
Raikes Foundation Executive Director

“

In the world of philanthropy, there's no shortage of people, ideas, or even funding. What we need is alignment, collaboration, and unity.

— Dennis Quirin
Raikes Foundation Executive Director

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