



Citi Foundation Announces Recipients of National \$20 Million Community Progress Makers Fund

Grants will support 40 nonprofit organizations in six U.S. cities to deploy innovative solutions that tackle inequality and promote economic progress

Original article [here](#).

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NEW YORK--(BUSINESS WIRE)--The Citi Foundation announced today that 40 nonprofit organizations have been selected as recipients of the 2018 [Community Progress Makers Fund](#). The \$20 million grant initiative supports visionary nonprofit organizations to help them roll out new approaches to long-standing urban economic challenges in six U.S. cities – Chicago, Los Angeles, Miami, New York City, San Francisco Bay Area and Washington, D.C. Each Community Progress Maker will receive \$500,000 in core operating support and access to technical assistance and a learning community.

“We launched this program in 2015 as our version of ‘venture philanthropy’ – a chance to invest in the vision and mission of these organizations who are helping positively transform their communities,” said **Brandee McHale, President of the Citi Foundation**. “We’re pleased with the results from our inaugural Community Progress Makers and are looking forward to implementing the lessons we’ve learned with this next, impressive group of community leaders as they scale, innovate and drive impact.”

In 2016-2017, the inaugural cohort of Community Progress Makers helped more than 14,700 low-income people secure financial assets; built over 10,500 affordable housing units; strengthened more than 1,100 small businesses; and connected 1,800 young people to jobs in their communities.

“It will take all of us working together – across sectors and levels of government – to expand access to prosperity,” said **Washington, D.C. Mayor Muriel Bowser**. “Through the Community Progress Makers Fund, the Citi Foundation is deepening the capacity of community-based organizations to give more residents and neighborhoods in Washington, D.C. and across the nation a fair shot.”

“We are honored to have been selected as a Community Progress Maker and to join leading organizations working to increase economic opportunity for low-income residents,” said **Davon Russell, President of WHEDco** in New York City. “This core operating support from the Citi Foundation is exceptional because it provides us the flexibility to really deepen our work; it

demonstrates trust in our leadership and our knowledge of the people we serve. I believe it will be transformative for WHEDco.”

“As a returning Community Progress Maker, I can speak firsthand about the value of being in a cohort of nonprofits interested in innovation and community impact. The Citi Foundation’s support makes this possible while also giving us the opportunity to pilot new approaches and invest in the capacity of our staff,” said **Anne Evens, Chief Executive Officer of Elevate Energy** in Chicago. “We look forward to building on our impactful first two years and are so grateful to be selected again.”

As part of the Community Progress Makers Fund, WHEDco will expand support of small businesses and low-income residents in the South Bronx. Elevate Energy will be piloting five different community solar project models over the next two years that will increase energy efficiency benefits for 2,500 families in Chicago. Organizations were selected through a competitive open Request for Applications (RFA) process. Over 400 nonprofit organizations applied.

Below is a full list of Community Progress Makers:

Chicago

Cara
Chicago Commons
Elevate Energy
Greater Southwest Development Corporation
North Lawndale Employment Network

Los Angeles

East LA Community Corporation
Homeboy Industries
Koreatown Youth & Community Center
LISC Los Angeles
Los Angeles County Economic Development Corporation
Los Angeles LGBT Center
United Way of Greater Los Angeles

Miami

Catalyst Miami
Hispanic Unity of Florida (HUF)
The Miami Foundation
United Way of Miami-Dade
Urban League of Broward County

New York City

Brooklyn Workforce Innovations
Center for NYC Neighborhoods

Cypress Hills Local Development Corporation
Green City Force
Hot Bread Kitchen
LISC NYC
Low Income Investment Fund (LIIF)
Neighborhood Trust Financial Partners
Start Small Think Big
The HOPE Program
The POINT Community Development Corporation
WHEDco

San Francisco Bay Area

Enterprise Community Partners Northern CA
Jewish Vocational Service
Main Street Launch
Pacific Community Ventures
San Francisco Housing Development Corporation (SFHDC)
Social Finance

Washington, D.C.

Building Bridges Across the River
Byte Back
Groundswell
Latino Economic Development Center-LEDC
Mary's Center

About the Citi Foundation

The **Citi Foundation** works to promote economic progress and improve the lives of people in low-income communities around the world. We invest in efforts that increase financial inclusion, catalyze job opportunities for youth, and reimagine approaches to building economically vibrant cities. The Citi Foundation's "More than Philanthropy" approach leverages the enormous expertise of Citi and its people to fulfill our mission and drive thought leadership and innovation. For more information, visit www.citifoundation.com.

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