

OUR REGION, OUR GIVING

Washington Regional Association of Grantmakers

2022

Featuring:

- 2020 Regional Giving
- 2021 Regional Giving
- COVID-19 Giving & Impact
- Racial Equity/Justice Giving & Implications



About WRAG

WRAG organizes, equips, invests in, and activates its members, partners, communities, and other stakeholders for a more racially just and equitable Greater Washington region. Our contribution to this vision includes:

- *Shifting the practices* of the local philanthropic sector to be anchored by racial equity;
- *Creating spaces and opportunities for philanthropy* to collectively learn, teach, plan, invest, and act pursuant to a racially just and equitable region; and
- *Attracting and allocating more investments* from all sectors to support the leadership of organizations in the Greater Washington region to advance racially just and equitable strategies and outcomes.

Thank you to our report sponsors

We are grateful for the support of Truist, the Greater Washington Community Foundation, the Eugene and Agnes E. Meyer Foundation, The Morris and Gwendolyn Cafritz Foundation, Washington Gas, and Wells Fargo whose contributions to the Annual Meeting has made this report possible.

TRUIST 



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Humanity**



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FARGO**



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Letter from the President & CEO

Dear WRAG Community,

We hope you feel heard! In my initial member listening sessions, so many of you expressed an interest in WRAG maintaining the annual Our Region, Our Giving Report. To that end, you partnered with WRAG staff to deliver two years of useful data about how we as a funder community are evolving and the areas in which we will continue to grow together. We even added new questions and a special breakout section this year on COVID's implications in our work. Here are some key takeaways from 2020 & 2021:

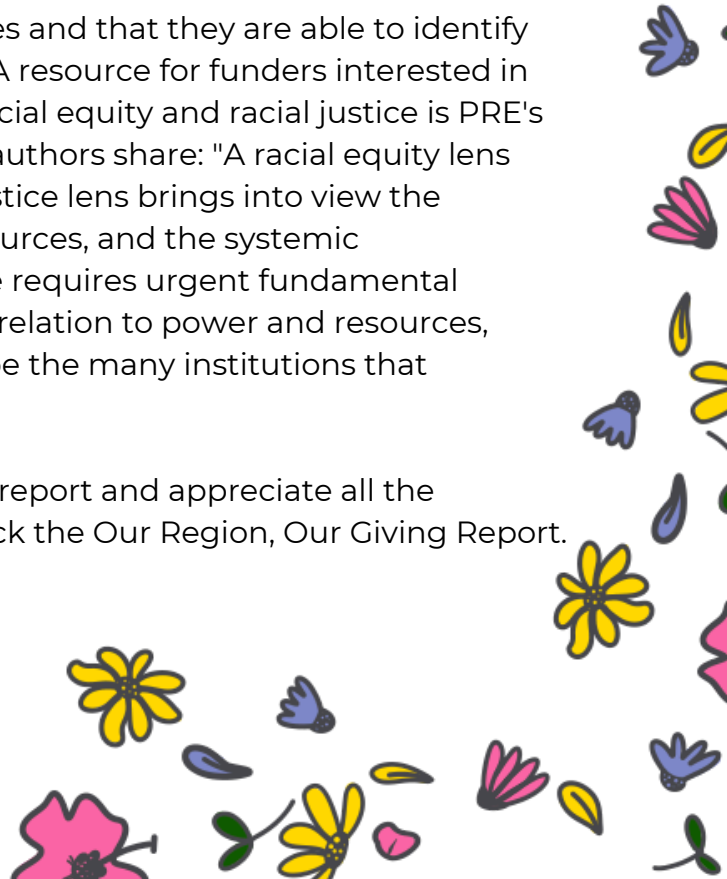
- MANY FUNDERS ARE GIVING GENERAL OPERATING SUPPORT & MULTI-YEAR GRANTS.** Over three-quarters of funders responding to the survey for both 2020 and 2021 gave general operating support dollars to grantees. In 2020, 43% of funders were giving multi-year grants, which increased to 52% in 2021. This increase is aligned with responsiveness to the COVID-19 pandemic, during which funders have given more general operating support and multi-year grants.
- FUNDERS ARE REDUCING THE BURDEN FOR GRANTEES.** With trust, equity, and transparency becoming more centralized in grantmaking, many funders have been evaluating how their practices align with these principles. As a result of deeper integration of racial justice practices and in response to the COVID-19 pandemic, funders have been simplifying grant processes and reducing or eliminating reporting requirements.
- THERE'S A GROWING FOCUS ON RACIAL JUSTICE IN PHILANTHROPY.** Many funders have been deeply immersed in racial equity work, but some are starting to shift to grantmaking with a racial justice lens. It is important funders are educated on the difference between equity and justice approaches and that they are able to identify clear ways to implement changes to their work. A resource for funders interested in learning more about the distinctions between racial equity and racial justice is PRE's [*Grantmaking with a Racial Justice Lens*](#). As the authors share: "A racial equity lens separates symptoms from causes, but a racial justice lens brings into view the confrontation of power, the redistribution of resources, and the systemic transformation necessary for real change. Justice requires urgent fundamental changes that reposition communities of color in relation to power and resources, which includes being able to challenge and shape the many institutions that determine a community's conditions."

This is just a snippet, but I hope you will dig into the report and appreciate all the contributions we made as a community to bring back the Our Region, Our Giving Report.



In service & solidarity,

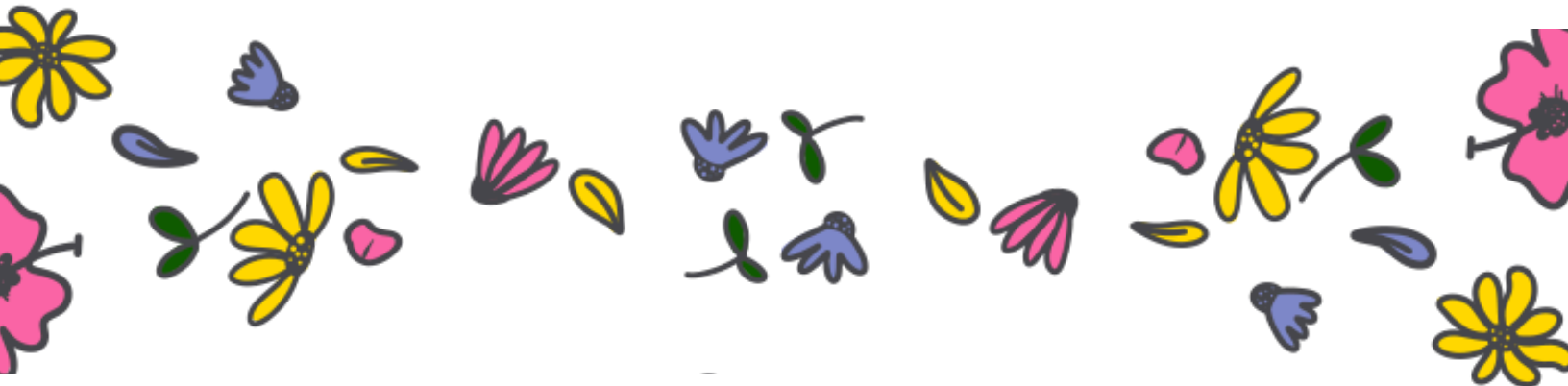
Ruth LaToison Ifill
President and CEO



2022 Our Region, Our Giving Report

Our Region, Our Giving is a snapshot of 2020 & 2021 giving by members & non-members of the Washington Regional Association of Grantmakers in the Greater Washington Region.

The Greater Washington Region consists of the District of Columbia, suburban Maryland, and Northern Virginia.



Thank you to the following organizations for participating in the survey.

- A. James & Alice B. Clark Foundation
- ACT for Alexandria
- Arlington Community Federal Credit Union
- Arlington Community Foundation
- Capital One
- City of Alexandria - Office of Housing
- Commission on Arts & Humanities
- Community Foundation for Loudoun and Northern Fauquier Counties
- Community Foundation for Northern Virginia
- DC Bar Foundation
- Diane & Norman Bernstein Foundation
- Diverse City Fund
- England Family Foundation
- Goyen Foundation
- Greater Washington Community Foundation
- Hattie M. Strong Foundation
- Healthcare Initiative Foundaton
- Howard and Geraldine Polinger Family Foundation
- if, A Foundation for Radical Possibility
- The J. Willard and Alice S. Marriott Foundation
- Jack and Jill Foundation
- Jack Kent Cooke Foundation
- Kaiser Permanente
- The Mayor's Office on Volunteerism and Partnerships- Serve DC
- Meyer Foundation
- The Morris and Gwendolyn Cafritz Foundation
- The Munson Foundation
- Office of the Arts/City of Alexandria
- Open Horizon
- PNC
- Potomac Health Foundation
- Prince Charitable Trusts
- ProMedica Foundation
- Share Fund
- United Way of the National Capital Area
- Variety - the Children's Charity, National Capital Region
- Washington Area Women's Foundation
- Washington Gas
- Webber Family Foundation
- Weissberg Foundation
- William J. and Dorothy K. O'Neill Foundation

Our Giving, Our Region

At A Glance

Organization Types

Organization Type	% of respondents
Community Foundation	12%
Corporate Foundation or Corporate Giving Program	14%
Donor Advised Fund	2%
Family Foundation	30%
Government Grantmaker	9%
Grantmaking Public Charity	5%
Independent Foundation	19%
Other	9%

Number of Paid Employees

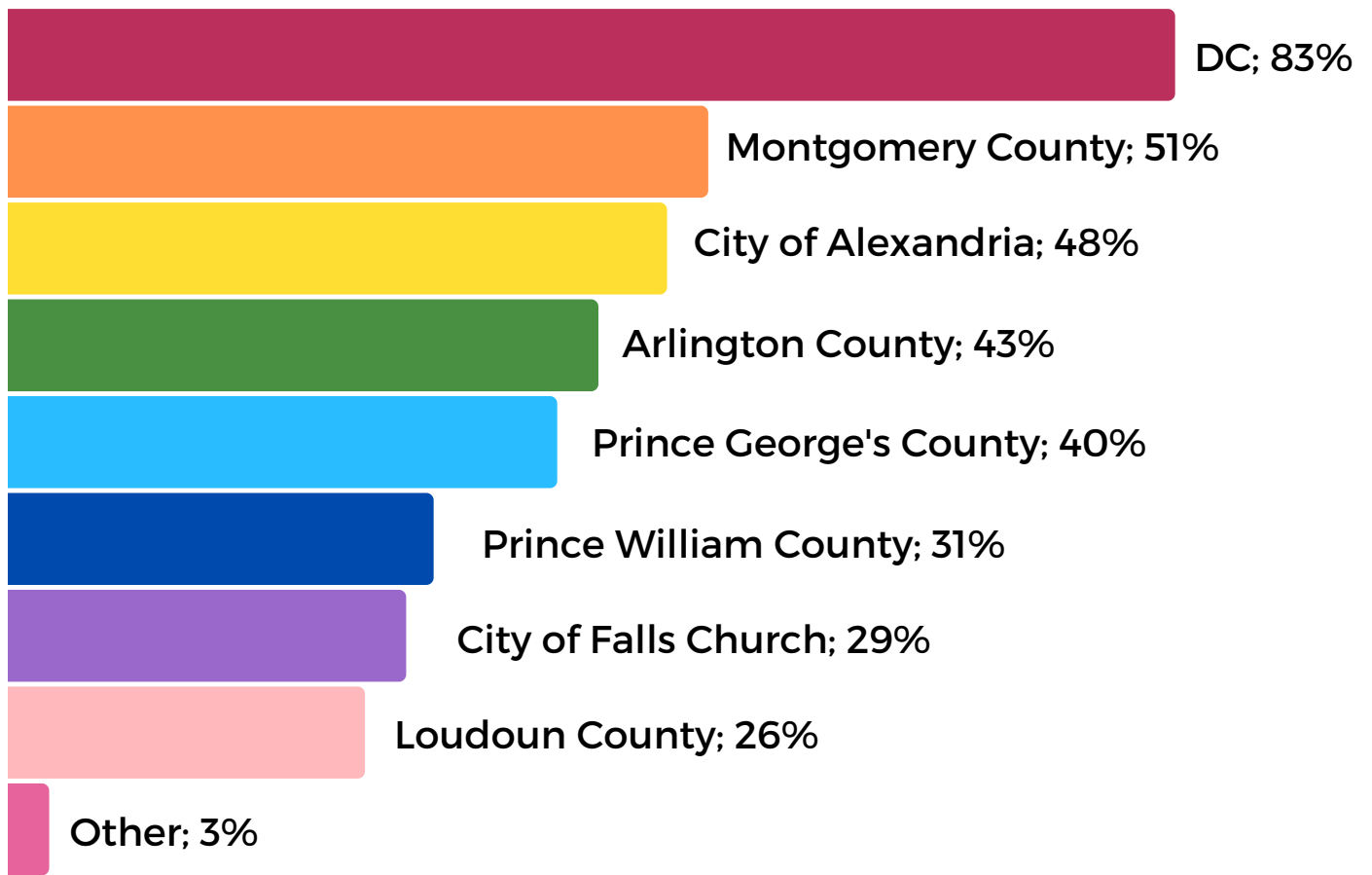
Number of Paid Employees	% of respondents
0-5	46%
5-10	16%
10-20	12%
20-30	5%
30-40	5%
50+	16%



2020 Insights

In 2020, giving across all organizations in the region ranged from about \$10,000 to just under \$115,000,000.

Giving by local jurisdiction*

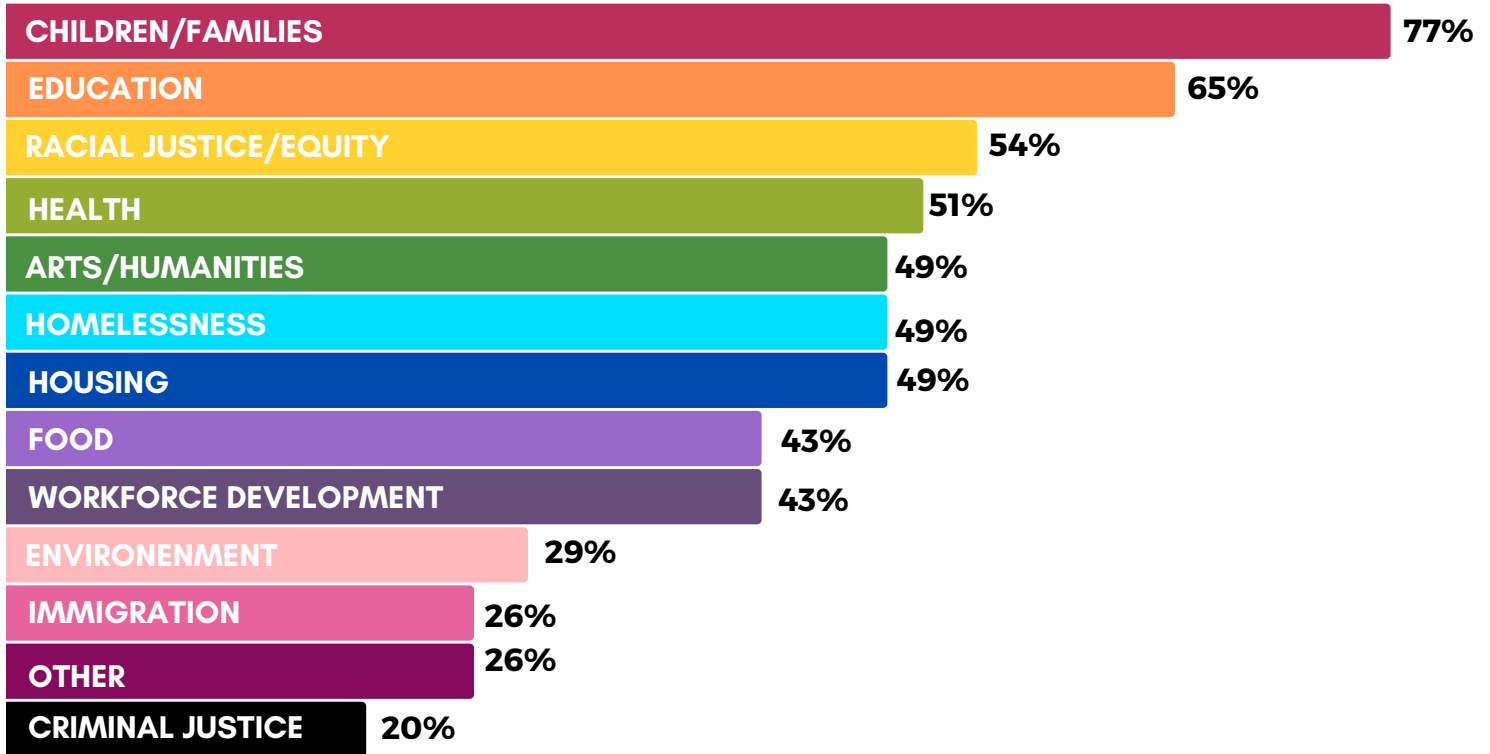


*Fairfax County was unintentionally left out of the survey responses. While some respondents added Fairfax County as an "other" option, the data does not fully reflect giving in Fairfax County.



2020 Insights

Giving by issue area



Some additional issue areas included COVID-19 emergency relief (see page 12), economic liberation, healing, immigrant rights, veterans, legal aid, DC statehood, and mutual aid.

Financial & Other Support

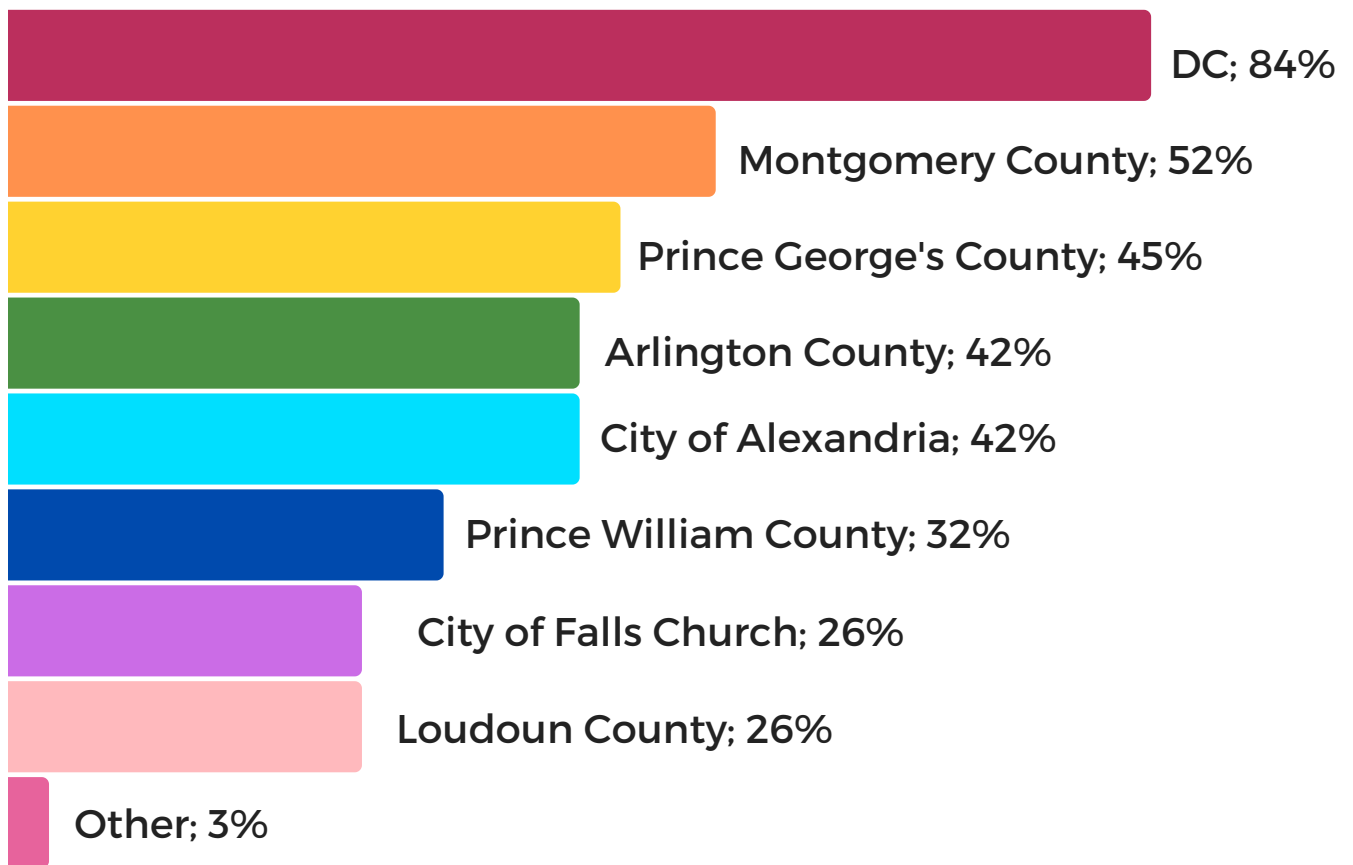
An overwhelming number of funders gave general operating support (77%) to grantees, as well as project/program-specific grants (71%). Another 54% of funders gave capacity building grants, while under half of funders gave multi-year grants (43%) and scholarships (40%). Only a small portion of funders gave advocacy grants (23%), contributed to capital campaigns (23%), supported healing justice or wellness (17%), and gave assistance for evaluation (11%).

Other support strategies included technical assistance (56%), in-kind support (40%), financial support (40%), convening space (36%), in-direct cost support (28%), employee volunteer programs (16%), legal and/or HR support (16%), and pro-bono services (16%).

2021 Insights

In 2020, giving across all organizations in the region ranged from about \$10,000 to just over \$72,000,000.

Giving by local jurisdiction*

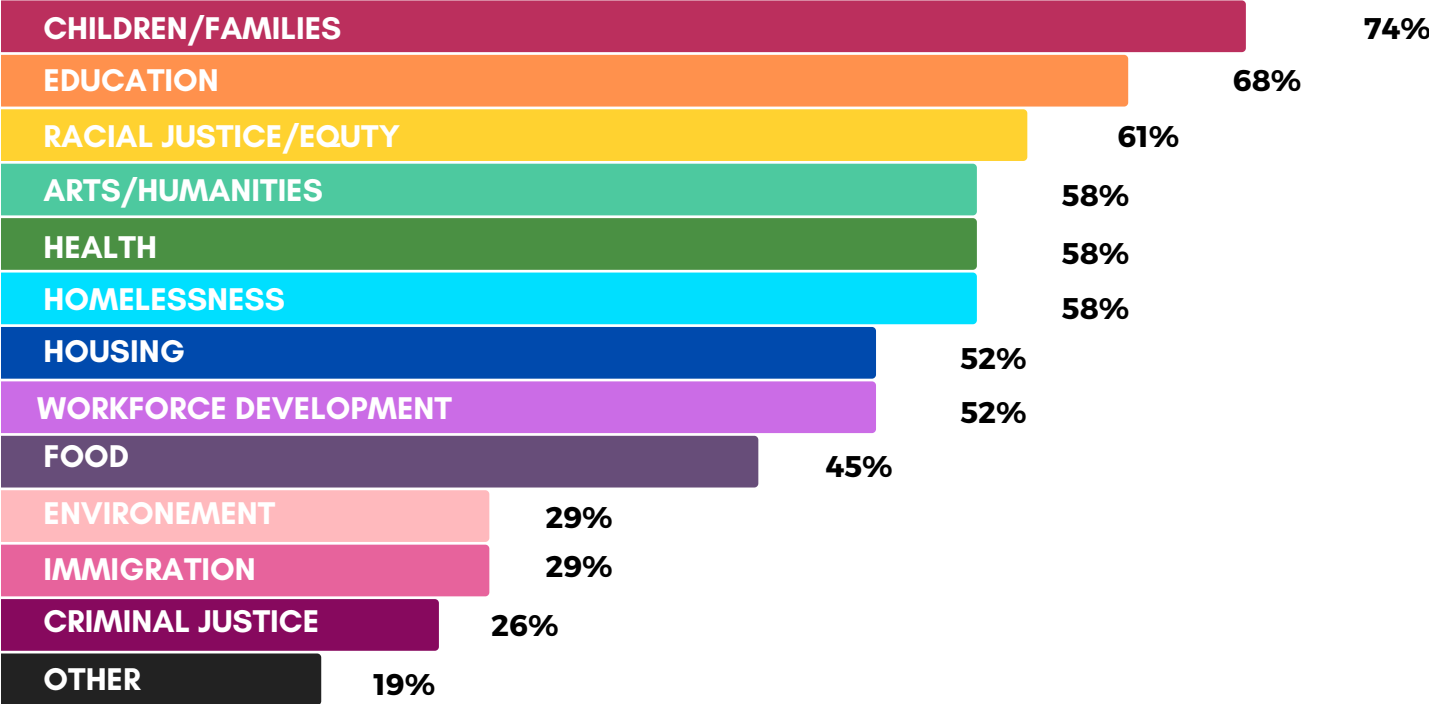


*Fairfax County was unintentionally left out of the survey responses. While some respondents added Fairfax County as an "other" option, the data does not fully reflect giving in Fairfax County.



2021 Insights

Giving by issue area



Some additional issue areas included COVID-19 emergency relief (see page 12), economic liberation, healing, immigrant rights, veterans, legal aid, DC statehood, and mutual aid.

Financial & Other Support

The majority of funders supported grantees through project/program-specific grants (84%) and general operating support (77%). Just about half of funders gave multi-year grants (52%) and capacity building grants (48%). Over a quarter of funders gave scholarships (35%), contributed to capital campaigns (32%), and gave advocacy grants (26%). Less than a quarter of funders supported healing justice or wellness (23%) and gave assistance for evaluation (13%).

Other support strategies included technical assistance (59%), in-kind support (36%), financial support (36%), convening space (32%), in-direct cost support (27%), legal and/or HR support (13%), employee volunteer programs (9%), and pro- bono services (9%).

COVID-19 Giving

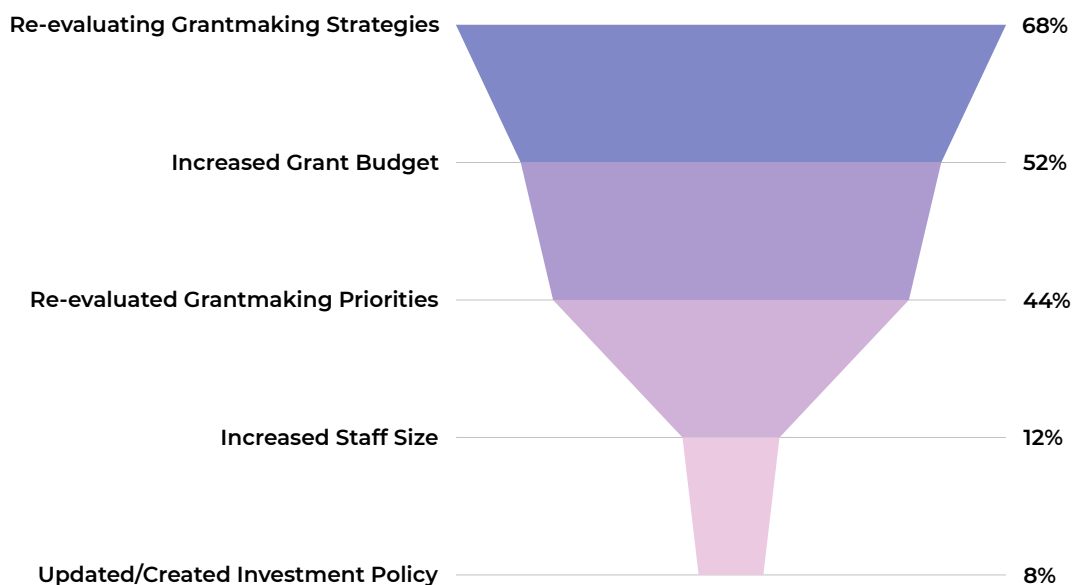
2020 In 2020, 93% percent of funders gave grants specific to COVID-19. Seventy-one percent of funders gave more than in 2019 than at the start of the pandemic. COVID-19 support ranged from over \$10,000 to over \$13,000,000.

2021 In 2021, 66% percent of funders gave grants specific to COVID-19. Thirty percent of funders gave more than 2020 during the continued pandemic. COVID-19 support ranged from over \$14,000 to \$13,000,000.

Organizational shifts in 2020 and 2021

In response to the Covid-19 pandemic, organizations also included long-lasting changes to their organizations including:

- Provided rapid response funding and/or responsive grantmaking
- Offered flexibility with applications and reports
- Simplified grants processes
- Increased general operating and multi-year grants
- Eased reporting requirements
- Offered ACH or other electronic payment options



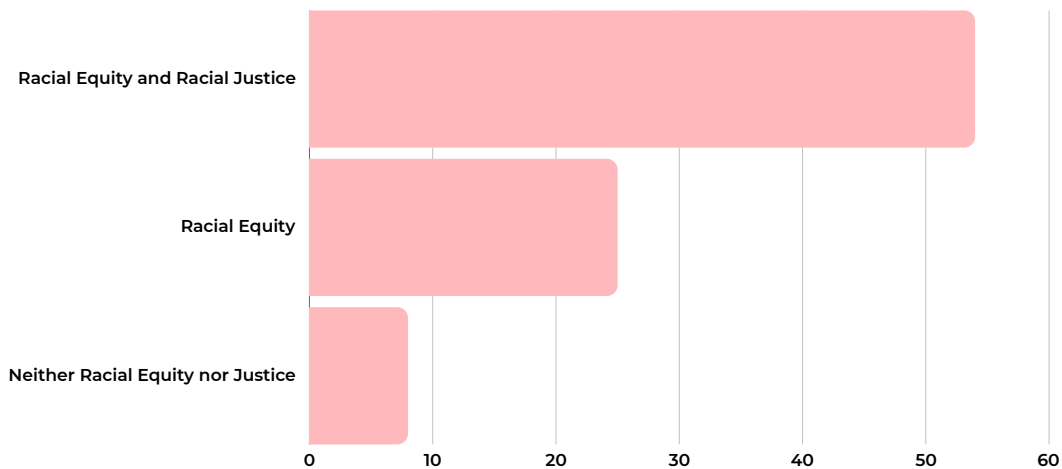
Racial Equity & Justice

For the purposes of the survey, WRAG did not distinguish the difference between racial equity and racial justice practices' funders self-classified grantmaking under these terms.

Fifty-six percent of funders have discussed the differences between racial equity strategies and racial justice strategies.

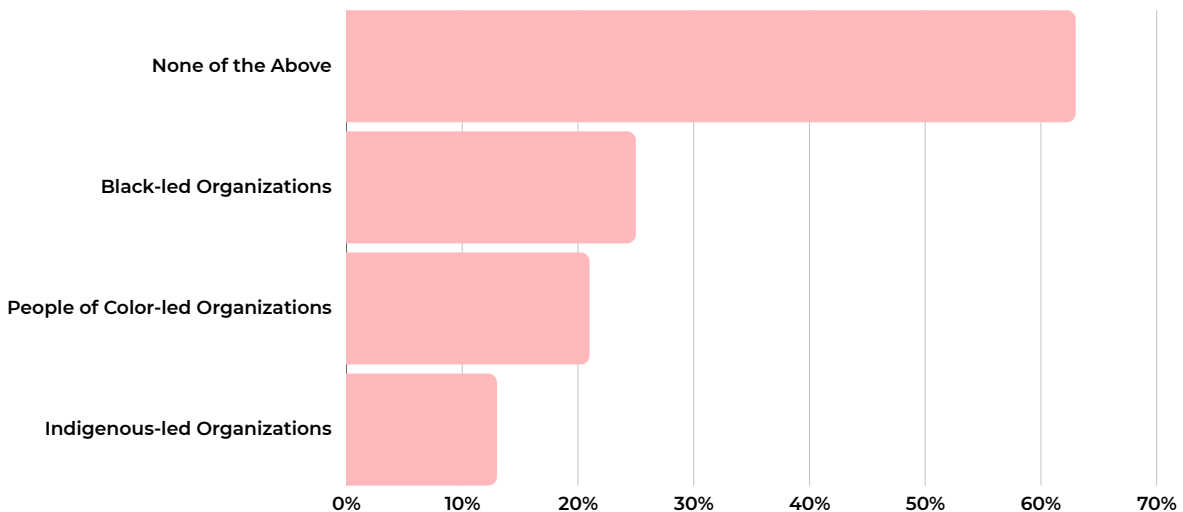
Racial Equity/Justice Funding

Fifty-four percent of funders fund racial equity and/or racial justice initiatives, while 25% of funders fund only racial equity. Eight percent of funders do not support racial equity or racial justice.



Identity Based Grant Funding

Sixty-three percent of funders do not have a fund or grant program specific to people of color. Of those funding in this space, 25% support Black-led organizations, 21% support people of color-led organizations, and 13% support Indigenous-led organizations.





Identity Based Grant Funding, Continued

In 2020 and 2021, of those who supported Black, Indigenous, and people of color-led organizations, funding tracking looked differently across organizations. Some funders reported overall percentages of grantmaking, while others reported specific dollar amounts. Others indicated that they do not collect this data or are working on developing tracking systems. Therefore, it is difficult to give a clear range of funding that was provided specifically towards Black, Indigenous, or people of color-led organizations.

However, 58% percent of funders have a commitment to racial equity/racial justice, while 21% has a commitment to racial equity only.

Racial Equity/Justice Training

Twenty-nine percent of funders reported receiving training around racial equity, while 24% of funders receive training around racial justice. Again, racial equity versus racial justice were not defined for funders in this survey. Therefore, WRAG would like to investigate where funders perceive there to be differences between these types of trainings.

Additionally, funders received varying levels of training around racial equity and/or justice in 2020 and 2021. Specifically, the frequency of trainings was noted by some funders - many had received previous training around racial equity and/or racial justice but did not routinely seek out additional training, while some organizations were committed to more regular engagement around this work. WRAG would like to better understand the frequency of these trainings going forward.

Racial Equity/Justice Practices

In both 2020 and 2021, the majority of funders reduced the burden of their application process (63%, 58%), reduced reporting requirements (58%, 58%), supported collaborations as grantee partners (67%, 71%), and provided post-grant feedback (67%, 75%).

While WRAG categorized these practices as racial equity/justice practices, we recognize not all funders may be using this lens in how they approach their work. Therefore, WRAG will more deeply investigate the framing of grantmaking practices.

