

resource
organizing
project

Annual Report 2025



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Dear ROP Community,

Resource Organizing Project turns five this month, and without you—partners, donors, funders, and friends—we wouldn't be arriving in 2026 with this story to tell.

Together we're building a new pillar of movement infrastructure: a fundraising project that strengthens frontline movement groups in New England so they can advance the struggle for a just society with the resources they need. We're also keenly aware that our growth has coincided with five years of worsening conditions for working families, a brutal escalation of violence against our most vulnerable communities, and a terrifying rise in far right power.

That's why we're doubling down with the following clarity: If we hope to change the course of our country's fascist turn, we need multi-racial, working-class movement-building across our region.

It starts with fighting tooth and nail for New England to be a place where everyone has food, housing, opportunity, and dignity. It will take major resources and a shift in how those resources are gathered, governed, and deployed.

A lot has moved in five short years. We invite you to keep moving with us and to imagine where we might be in another five years, when local movements for social, racial, economic, gender, and environmental justice are rooted in strong ecosystems and fully-resourced.

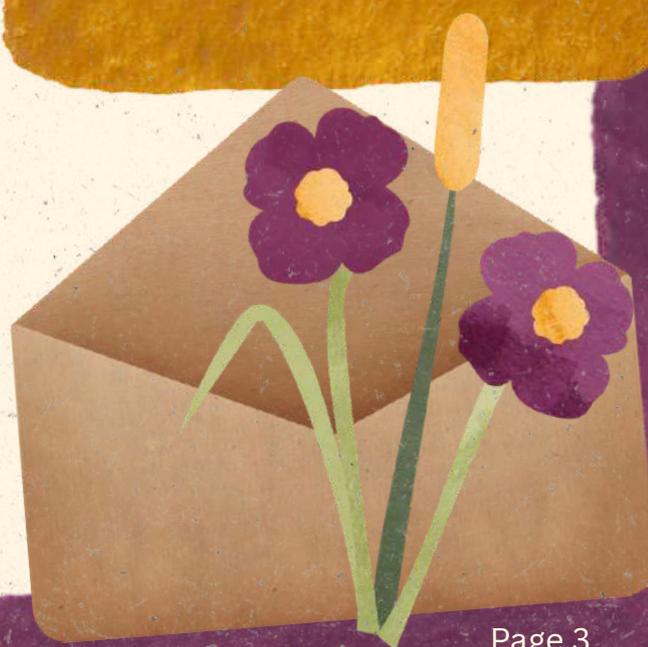
Yours in struggle,

David Jenkins

David Jenkins, Executive Director
Resource Organizing Project

This report caps our fifth year. Here are some highlights from 2025:

- 1** We added new partners in each region, with dozens of groups completing ROP training cohorts.
- 2** We experimented with our strategy to expand the pie of movement resources, seeding new collaborative fundraising projects in Rhode Island and Maine.
- 3** We advanced our core political frame: a **Just Transition in Fundraising**, inspired by the [Just Transition Framework](#).
- 4** Internally, we grew from four to six staff and continued collaborating with ten brilliant facilitators.





Community of movement fundraisers

ROP believes that large scale social movements are needed to address the deep rooted injustices in our region and to enact a vision of a just society. We focus on the notorious challenge of funding this work.

We bring together over **80 network partners**— organizations led by and for historically targeted communities of color, queer and trans, poor and working class communities in New England.

How do frontline movement organizations raise resources when their work opposes wealth hoarding and oppressive power?

Our partners build membership bases and coalitions to win concrete victories for our people in the local, state, corporate, and government arenas.



Movement work in 2025:

Trump 2.0 immediately shifted the political landscape. Some partners found themselves under attack, and some funders who had recently pledged support for social justice work pulled back out of fear of federal backlash. Despite this dual crisis, frontline movement groups in New England have stepped up to the challenge.

Explore our
interactive
network map!



Here's a peak at some of our partners' work in 2025:

1 Resisting deportations: Our partners launched immigrant defense networks, hotlines, resource hubs, direct aid funds, and direct action strategies in all six New England states.

2 Housing justice: Our Massachusetts (MA) partners launched a referendum campaign for rent control, while partners in Rhode Island (RI) advanced similar work through the legislature.

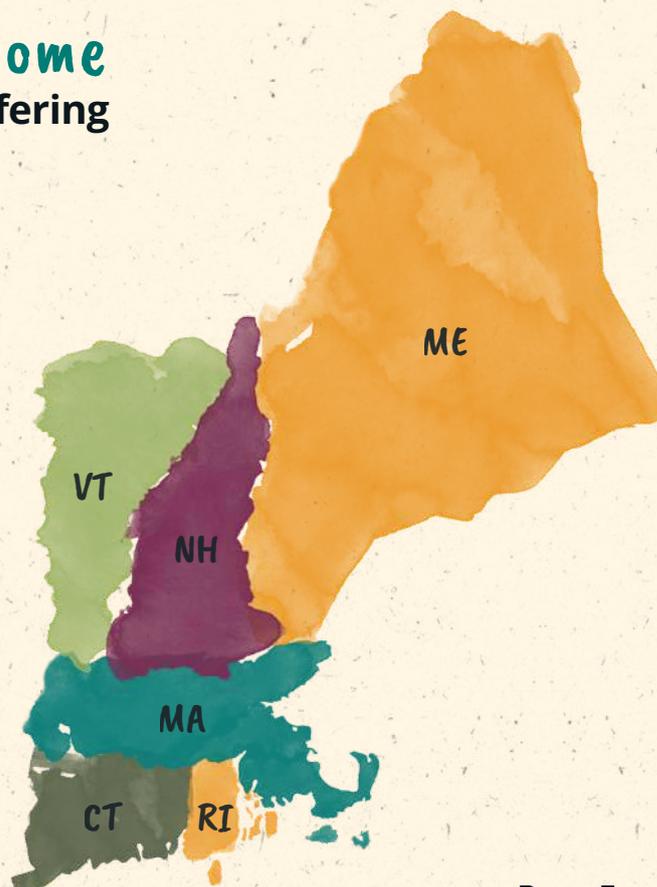
3 Trans defense: Partners in MA, Maine (ME), and New Hampshire (NH) led massive efforts to defeat anti-Trans attacks from legislatures to school boards.

4 Movement-building infrastructure: Partners in Connecticut (CT), RI, and ME envisioned stronger local movement ecosystems and designed interventions including mass training initiatives and movement-controlled funds.

And this only scratches the surface. You can check out a full list of ROP network partners, with an interactive map, on our new website!

We want to share a **warm welcome** to groups who joined their first offering with ROP in 2025:

- Migrant Justice (VT)
- Vermont Workers Center (VT)
- Maine Youth Power (ME)
- Merrimack Valley Project (MA)
- Massachusetts Bail Fund (MA)
- Mujeres Victoriosas (MA)
- Heal the Hood (MA)
- Willow PREC (MA)
- People's Port Authority (RI)
- Citywide Youth Coalition (CT)
- Vivan Las Autonomas (CT)
- PT Partners (CT)
- Stop Solitary (CT)
- CT Tenants Union (CT)
- Black and Brown Student Union (CT)



Highlights 2025:



In-person partner gatherings: ROP hosted convenings in Portland ME, Dover NH, and Hartford CT to foster collaboration over competition.



CT Move Money Summit: Connecticut movement leaders dug into the history and challenges of the local philanthropy sector.



The Money Tea Tree: ROP hosted a gathering where our partners share insights about foundations in their region and made plans to support each other in forming new connections.

Keep an eye out in 2026

This year's network building plans include:

- Collaborative assessments of movement building in each New England region to identify emerging frontline groups for ROP's network.
- Quarterly network meetings advancing the *Just Transition in Fundraising* framework, with topics like sustainable fundraising through crisis and design of collective fundraising approaches.
- Gatherings with our partners in each New England state.
- Expanded investment in fundraising through local power building coalitions in ME, RI, and Western MA.

Constellation of Offerings



When frontline movement groups have stable funding, they're better positioned to lead campaigns, defend our communities, and win material gains for racial, economic, gender, and environmental justice.

In 2025, ROP offered eight distinct offerings to build the pipeline of movement fundraisers and strengthen the core fundraising practices of our partners.



“The facilitators were amazing, very well prepared, made it interactive, fun and enjoyable, it didn't feel like work, but in reality we were working.”

- Participant from Women Encouraging Empowerment

Expansion of ROP's Constellation of Offerings

2025 was a year of experimentation as we launched and **piloted three new offerings**. This milestone followed two years of listening to the needs of movement fundraisers, collaborative design processes, and experimentation with new material.

- In partnership with facilitator Kelly Baker, we piloted a **Budget and Fundraising Fellowship**, designed to support organizations to develop budgeting fundamentals, make revenue projections, and fundraising plans. It included learning sessions, one-on-one coaching, and templates for new practices.
- With facilitators Kelsey Grunstra and Michél Legendre, we solidified **Sustainer Learning Circle 2.0** as an offering for the **60+ partners** who have already completed the Sustainer Learning Circle. Participants hold a sustainer recruitment drive, build their approach to donor engagement, and map new donors in their network.
- We piloted **Offering for Movement Grantwriters 2.0**, a grant-writers' retreat, with facilitators Nicole Manganelli and Precious Price, for groups who have already completed the OMG training series. The retreat integrated time for writing, feedback on grant proposals, political education about philanthropy, and community care. You can read more in the [OMG 2.0 Report](#).

Constellation of Offerings

Milestones for ROP's Core Offerings in 2025



- Five groups participated in the **Sustainer Learning Circle** (SLC), facilitated by Nicole Manganelli and Ro Romero Sigle, and established their own monthly donor program.
- Five groups who completed **SLC** in the last two years ran a second sustainer drive and received their full matching fund this year.
- **Over 60 movement groups** have now built monthly donor programs with ROP, connecting thousands of donors to movement organizations and **adding an estimated \$400,000 per year** of renewing movement resources.
- The **New Fundraisers Cohort** held a fourth annual cohort with facilitators Kelly Baker and Jax Gil. **38 movement fundraisers** have now been trained through this offering building foundational fundraising skills.
- ROP holds the **Offering for Movement Grantwriters** with facilitators Precious Price and Nicole Manganelli twice a year due to its popularity. This year, movement fundraisers from 16 ROP partners participated in this eight-part training series. **Over 60 participants** have now completed this offering, learning about the political economy of the philanthropy sector, building their organization's narrative, and utilizing templates for grant applications.

“ We were excited to meet and then exceed our SLC goal on the last day of the drive”

- Participant from Providence Student Union

“ It’s changed how I think about grant writing and my place, my power in the grantee-funder relationship”

- Jackie at Portland Empowered

Constellation of Offerings



★ THE PATH FORWARD ★

Keep an eye out in 2026

We will offer all eight offerings in 2026. In addition, we plan to:

- Redesign the Black Movement Fundraisers Affinity Group
- Partner with MA Jobs With Justice to offer a workshop on digital fundraising within their IMPACT Digital Organizing Fellowship
- Continue developing and testing content for our political education core series on a “Just Transition in Fundraising”

After five years of strengthening movement groups' approach to fundraising, the collective baseline has risen, empowering ROP to lean toward new types of offerings that focus on collective fundraising and other new approaches to movement fundraising.



Resource Mobilization



We envision a New England region where frontline movement groups collaborate on shared fundraising strategies and collectively control movement resources.

We're laying the groundwork for:

- An expanded pie of movement resources in our region
- Thousands of cross-class donors connected to movement organizations
- Movement leaders shaping how resources are raised and deployed

We strengthened our long running collective fundraising projects and laid the groundwork for new experiments. When movement groups extend their collaboration beyond the coalition table and into a shared fundraising effort, they fight off scarcity and competition, making their movement ecosystem stronger.

Here are some of ROP's current experiments to move us toward that vision...

12TH ANNUAL

CELEBRATION
OF GRASSROOTS
ORGANIZING IN BOSTON

Join us in
Dorchester
on Saturday,
June 27, 2026

ROP hosted the 12th annual Celebration of Grassroots Organizing with 15 partner organizations, event coordinator Neha Rayamajhi, and event co-chair Khalida Smalls. Hundreds of organizers, activists, donors, and community members came together in Dorchester to bask in the joy of collective work. This was our biggest picnic yet, **raising over \$250,000** for organizing groups working on the frontlines of Boston's movements. The event served as a powerful platform for interdependence, connection, joy, and integrity in action. Read more and see the partner list in our [2025 Event Report](#).



Resource Mobilization



Shared Fund for Youth Organizing in NH

In 2025, the fund's second year, we **raised \$230,000** and brought together youth organizers from the four anchor groups to move resources where they're most needed through an intergenerational, consensus-based decision-making process. Funds went toward emerging youth organizing groups and collaborative projects like training and mutual aid for youth leaders. See the partners involved and projects funded in our year two report, [Growing Youth Power](#).

This fund launched in 2023 when leading youth organizers identified a lack of resources as the biggest barrier to growing the field across the state.

Liberation Games

During a blizzard, ROP's Liberation Games event warmed the night and **raised \$17,000** for our movements! The event highlighted four movement efforts that would define the organizing landscape in MA during the first year of Trump 2.0: the Rent Control ballot initiative, Louder for Lan anti-deportation campaign, the Ella Baker Fellowship for emerging organizers, and the Re-imagining Communities alternative to funding incarceration. One hundred members of our community came together to play games and mobilize resources. Read more in our [2025 Event Report](#).



Resource Mobilization

New Experiments

In 2025 we seeded the ground for growing our resource mobilization strategy with several experiments in collective fundraising.

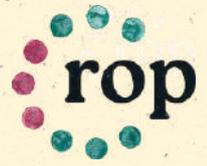
1 Initiated by our partner The City School, the **Block and Build** fundraiser brought together four organizations fighting fascism and growing alternatives in MA and RI. Seventy-five cross-class donors attended a virtual and in-person house party in West Roxbury and **raised \$62,000** to propel our movements through these tough political times.

2 ROP answered the call of our partners working on immigrant defense and joined an ad hoc collaborative of funders mobilizing resources into the LUCE Immigrant Justice Network of MA. The effort **moved \$800,000** to organizations leading the work. For ROP, it was an experiment in organizing institutional funders and wealth holders to flank movements during times of crisis.

3 We laid groundwork for collective fundraising vehicles in RI and ME, working in design teams with frontline movement partners, institutional funders, and wealth holders to envision new ways of resourcing local movements and shifting power.



Resource Mobilization



Keep an eye out in 2026

In 2025 ROP created two new staff positions to support resource mobilization: **Associate Director for Resource Mobilization** and **Donor Organizer**. The expanded capacity positions us to build out movement-led collective fundraising projects, funder organizing, and donor organizing in the coming years.

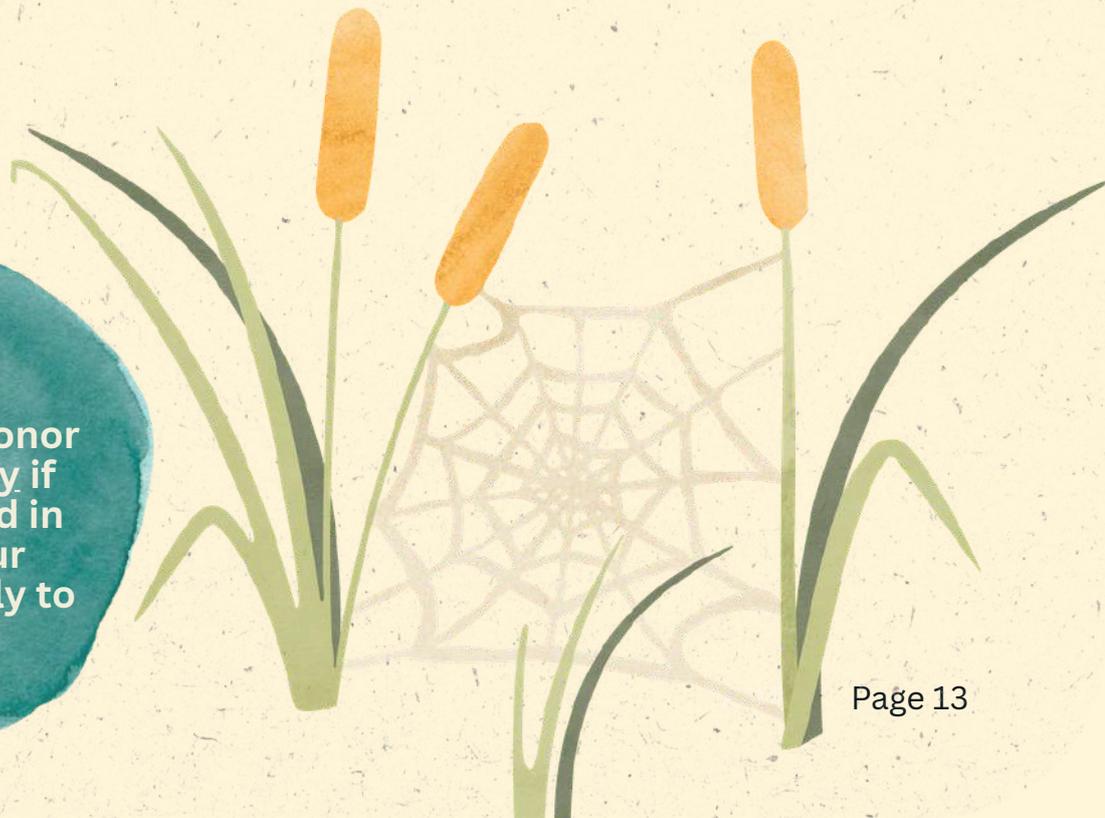
New things you can expect in 2026 include:

- A Seed Sustainer Drive in honor of ROP's 5th anniversary, building to 200 monthly donors ready to engage in organizing their networks.
- Fundraising focused on movement infrastructure in each New England region, directed by our partners.
- The growth of movement-directed collective funding vehicles in ME and RI, while seeding the ground for this work in CT and Western MA.
- Additional ROP Propagation Parties, a strategy to expand the number of sustaining donors contributing to our frontline movement partner organizations. Just as a plant cutting can give new life, each sustaining donor helps to propagate our movements.



Action Item:

Contact ROP's Donor Organizer Kelsey if you're interested in organizing your friends and family to donate



Seed Sustainers

Sustaining (monthly) donors are critical supports for a movement organization's independence and survival.

We believe that donors across class are key players in movements for justice and liberation, alongside volunteers and organizational members.

ROP's Seed Sustainer program, with over **150 donors giving** monthly to ROP in 2025, continues to be core to our own sustainable funding and to our vision for donor organizing. In 2025, Seed Sustainers joined ROP for briefings and recruited their communities to support our frontline movement partners.



Action:
Sign up to be an
ROP Seed
Sustainer!



Closing Invitation

ROP's role, put simply, is to make it easier
to raise money for this crucial work.

Building the movements we
need will take all of us.

Donate to ROP and
our partners by
visiting our [new website](#).



**We look forward to
building with you in 2026!**

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