



Threshold Foundation

ANNUAL REPORT

2003

*Threshold is a
progressive foundation
and a community of
individuals united through
wealth, mobilizing money, people
and power to create a more just,
joyful and sustainable world.*

Our Mission

To be a powerful and visible model of conscious, effective philanthropy.

To create fertile training grounds that supports the full and authentic expression of our passions and purpose.

To be a dynamic forum for learning about social issues and the people working to address them.

To cultivate and continually renew the heart and soul of our community.

To be a vibrant, growing membership organization.

About Threshold

Threshold is a community of individuals united through wealth, and a progressive foundation mobilizing money, people and power to create a more just, joyful and sustainable world.

Threshold provides a place where people with significant financial resources, a commitment to social change and an interest in their own emotional, psychological, and spiritual development can come together to scheme, dream, learn, work, play and see what happens. We have observed that social change flows from personal growth so we work on our inner lives and social responsibility simultaneously.

Threshold meetings are an ongoing experiment — an evolving form designed to encourage members to discover their most meaningful work and purpose, and engage in the world from that place.

Threshold Foundation serves the social change movement through collaborating with and funding innovative national and international nonprofit organizations and individuals working towards social justice, environmental sustainability, humane economic systems and peaceful coexistence.

Member volunteers administer the foundation with the assistance of Tides Foundation which is located in San Francisco. Granted funds are raised annually with almost all donations coming from the membership.

New members join Threshold Foundation primarily through a personal relationship with an existing member or by referral from a membership committee.

Letter from the President

Threshold, like so many other progressive foundations in the US, spent 2005 buffeted by storms, natural and otherwise. We worked hard to navigate funding strategies and movement-building opportunities, ever mindful of the darkening sky of global events. During a year that began with the South Asian Tsunami disaster, and ended with Hurricane Katrina and the continuing devastation in Iraq, we have watched as our own progressive issues, worst fears and dire warnings have become epic, real-time tragedies beamed worldwide, 24/7.

The wild weather of 2005 also ushered in a year of unmistakable opportunity for progressive philanthropy, as the right wing spin machine juggernaut stalled, making audible once again voices demanding a living wage, sane foreign policy, electoral reform, accessible health care, fair education, environmental protections, and a national strategy to address entrenched racism, poverty and injustice in our society.

Threshold joined this chorus, through its own grantmaking, as well as through the work of the hundreds of member-donors and the family foundations they oversee. Support in 2005 was directed to a myriad of programs and projects that comprise a mosaic of positive alternatives, workable solutions and replicable models. With a strong interest in small- to mid-size grassroots organizations that push the innovative leading edges of social change, Threshold's four grantmaking committees – Coexistence and Community, Policy and Systemic Change, New Visions for Culture and Society and our Special Initiative on Strategic Media – funded national and international projects in such critical issue areas as: prison reform, sustainable ecology, community organizing, visionary art and culture, peacemaking, LGBT rights, international sustainable development and social justice programs, and a portfolio of alternative media and media reform projects.

Threshold is also proud of its collaboration with other groups of progressive donors to create the first-ever *Momentum* conference, which, in February of 2005, brought donors and activists of all stripes together to mobilize resources toward positive progressive movement building. In the wake of an election that swept George Bush into office for a second term, progressives responded to their wake-up call in droves, and the conference was a quick sell-out and an excellent beginning to a re-visioning of a progressive democratic movement in the United States. To paraphrase Winston Churchill, however, it was just the "beginning of the beginning." We have a long way to go.

Together with Tides Foundation, Resource Generation, Funding Exchange, Third Wave Foundation, Changemakers and Women Donors Network, Threshold will co-sponsor a second *Momentum* conference in the spring

of 2006. We believe it is time to see beyond our own organizations and their interest "silos" to build an effective alliance, to amplify our individual work through greater coordination and unity. *Momentum* partners and the constituencies they represent will come together in Berkeley, CA in April to investigate community-based, democratic movement building strategies, to enhance our power to govern, to build a more effective and inclusive message, to discover new opportunities to address the racial and economic divides in America, and to deal in some meaningful way with today's pressing environmental concerns.

Threshold has sought to remain consistent in its funding of new efforts, small groups and projects that strive for radical innovation and excellence. Some important philanthropic allies seek a progressive consensus through the funding of think tanks and broad member organizations, a laudable effort to meet the neo-conservatives' richly funded and formidable "message machine" on its own terms. But Threshold finds its most valuable niche in maintaining the fertility of the grassroots, the health of community organizing, the freedom of dissent, the diversity and inclusion of the progressive debate, and the transparency and democracy of the grantmaking process itself.

Threshold is always evolving. We have been reaching out to younger donors and the face of our organization is increasingly transformed by innovative and energetic young members. We have moved to a web-based open Letter of Inquiry (LOI) process, to field a greater number of grantee inquiries in a more transparent manner. In an effort to enhance our responsiveness to our non-profit allies and the grantee community, Threshold is undergoing other important changes in our grant committees. Look for new committee identities next year.

Threshold turns twenty-five in 2006. For a quarter century we have strived to create both a community and a foundation that reflect and elevate the best alternatives for our human future and the fragile planet we inhabit. Ironically, as we celebrate this significant birthday milestone, we are less nostalgic than we are forward looking, enjoying finding ourselves once again at the beginning of the beginning.

Suzanne Gollin
December, 2005

Threshold Foundation 2005 Grants List

Threshold currently has four grantmaking committees, three of which focus on the strategy an organization uses to implement its social change mission. These Committees are: Coexistence and Community, New Visions for Culture and Society, and Policy and Systemic Change. The fourth committee, the Special Initiative Committee, focuses on a special issue for two years at a time. In 2005 and 2006, the issue is Strategic Media.

For more information about current committee guidelines and funding criteria, please visit the Threshold Foundation website at www.thresholdfoundation.org

Coexistence and Community Committee

2005 grants — \$193,014

Mission

The Coexistence and Community Committee supports organizations that foster tolerance, promote peace, and work toward social and economic justice. Specifically, this committee is interested in funding organizations that:

- Strengthen community building and coexistence across lines of race, ethnicity, religion, class, gender and sexual orientation;
- Seek to overcome oppression and violence, alleviate root causes of poverty, injustice and discrimination;
- Effectively build individual and group capacity for civic participation and leadership; and
- Demonstrate innovation and are proactive, grassroots and replicable.

Centro de Derechos Económicos y Sociales

Works to promote social and environmental justice through human rights. CDES believes that human rights have a critical role to play in sustainable human development, and that local actors and social movements must be the driving forces. Threshold supported capacity building workshops and regional advocacy campaigns planned by the Amazon school's graduates upon their return to their communities and organizations.

\$37,000 — Amazon School for Human Rights and the Environment
Quito, Ecuador • www.cdes.org.ec

Community Alliance for a Sustainable Economy

Works on issues affecting working people and their families in the Monterey Bay region. Current efforts focus on expanding living wage ordinances, supporting the local movement for affordable health care and housing; and providing support for progressive innovations in local unions and community organizations.

\$20,000 — Citizenship Project
Castroville, CA • www.mbclc.org

Earthways Foundation / Just Vision

Highlights grassroots Israeli and Palestinian efforts to build a base for peace in the Middle East. Through educational curricula, documentary film and innovative online and face-to-face encounters, Just Vision aims to increase awareness of these peace workers, and to act as a hub where they can gain access to one another as well as to audiences abroad.

\$22,000 — General Support
Brooklyn, NY • www.justvision.org

Farmworker Association of Florida

Empowers farmworker and rural poor communities to respond to and gain control over the social, political, economic, workplace, health, and environmental justice issues affecting their lives. Activities include grassroots leadership development; pesticide safety and health education; immigrants' and workers' rights advocacy; HIV/AIDS education; vocational rehabilitation and job training/referral; education for pregnant women.

\$18,500 — Farmworker Political Action Project
Apopka, FL • www.thefarmworkerassociationofflorida.org

Karuna Center for Peacebuilding

Offers international training programs in conflict transformation, intercommunal dialogue, and reconciliation. The core of Karuna Center's work takes place in post-conflict regions of the world at the request of local partners.

\$15,000 — General Support
Amherst, MA • www.karunacenter.org

Permaculture America Latina/ Permaculture Institute of El Salvador

Aims to provide sustainable living alternatives for the poor in El Salvador's rural, marginal communities. IPES supports the grassroots Farmer to Farmer movement with agro-ecology and leadership training and introduces farmers to permaculture methods as a tool for tackling the complex inter-relationship between poverty, injustice and environmental degradation.

\$27,000 — General Support
San Salvador, El Salvador •
www.permacultura.org/elsalvador.html

Sylvia Rivera Law Project

Works to guarantee that all people are free to self-determine their gender identity and expression, regardless of income or race, without facing discrimination or violence. SRLP believes that gender self-determination is inextricably intertwined with racial, social and economic justice.

\$20,000 — General Support
New York, NY • www.srlp.org

Teaching for Change

Provides teachers and parents the tools to transform schools into socially equitable centers of learning where students become architects of a better future. Threshold supported its Tellin' Stories project, which engages immigrant and African American parents in DC schools in forming alliances to address equity issues; provides opportunities for parents to strengthen their leadership skills and advocate for systemic change; and documents its approach using story to overcome barriers to collaboration.

\$15,000 — Tellin' Stories Project
Washington, DC • www.teachingforchange.org

Training For Change

Works to build a global pool of progressive activists and organizations. It uses and propagates a set of educational tools which in themselves embody the values of justice, equality, and empowerment. Threshold supported TFC's Global South Training Project for Third-Party Nonviolent Intervention.

\$12,000 — Global South Training Project
Philadelphia, PA • www.TrainingforChange.org

Triangle Speakers

Works to create a safe and healthy community for GLBT people in Santa Cruz County, CA. Threshold supported its Latino/a Outreach Project.

\$6,514 — Latino Outreach Project
Santa Cruz, CA • www.trianglespeakers.org

New Visions for Culture and Society Committee

2005 grants — \$178,000

Mission

The New Visions for Culture and Society Committee supports prophets, artists, activists, scientists and other visionaries in bringing forth diverse projects that heal and transform our relationship to one another and the planet. Specifically, this committee funds organizations that:

- Challenge the status quo and shift consciousness;
- Offer replicable models that are collaborative in nature;
- Address systemic causes rather than treating symptoms;
- Celebrate diversity and shift paradigms;
- Require incubation support and/or are less than three years old;
- Are radical in nature yet have tangible results;
- Have a budget of less than \$500k; and
- Are supported by a larger community of interest.

In 2005, New Visions announced a special focus on *The Extinction Crisis and Society*, awarding \$100,000 to projects that proactively address societal awareness of mass extinction and our responsibility in creating and reversing it.

The \$10 Club

The \$10 Club empowers people to assist in the alleviation of global poverty and the conditions that create such dire situations for the neediest among us. Members contribute ten dollars each month, which is bundled together and used to fund a project in a developing country.

\$7,000 — Capacity Building

Washington, DC • www.thetendollarclub.org

Buckminster Fuller Institute

Serves a global network of Design Science Innovators, inspired by the pioneering legacy of R. Buckminster Fuller. BFI acts as a catalyst, facilitator and resource for networking, learning, and pioneering whole systems design. Threshold supported the first phase build-out of a gaming engine prototype for *Spaceship Earth: The Game*.

\$20,000 — Spaceship Earth: The Game

Brooklyn, NY • www.bfi.org

California Institute of Integral Studies

A group of students, faculty, and associates of the California Institute of Integral Studies (CIIS) community focused on the crisis of the 6th Extinction of the Species. Threshold supported the production of a digital broadcast-quality video documentary. The DVD and website will become the core of CIIS's high school science curriculum program and will also be used to seek funding for a feature film.

\$25,000 — 6X Multi-tiered Media Project

San Francisco, CA • www.6-x.org; www.ciis.edu

Foundation for the Chapel of Sacred Mirrors

Founded by a group of people who believe that art can assist in the transformation of individuals and the world. CoSM is the newly opened exhibition space for the Sacred Mirrors by Alex Grey and other works of contemporary sacred art.

\$14,000 — Capital Campaign

New York City, NY • www.cosm.org

Harvard Medical School / Center for Health and the Global Environment

Promotes an understanding of the human health consequences of environmental change so that policy-makers, physicians, and the general public become informed and effective advocates for environmental protection. The Center reaches people in concrete, personal terms, making the strongest case that human beings cannot damage the environment without damaging ourselves.

\$50,000 — Biodiversity and Human Health Internet Awareness Campaign
Boston, MA • www.med.harvard.edu/chge

Natural World Museum / Planet Art

Planet Art program is a collaboration of artists, educators and technologists in partnership with the Natural World Museum, dedicated to creativity and conservation of the natural world, and Dr. Jane Goodall's Roots and Shoots, a global youth environmental education program with a model of service learning for community knowledge, compassion and action.

\$12,000 — Council of Species Global Theatre
San Francisco, CA • www.naturalworldmuseum.org

Praxis Peace Institute

Dedicated to radical inquiry, deep dialogue, creative problem solving, and informed action. Praxis initiates in-depth inquiries and promotes peace through conflict transformation, respect, and responsible civic participation. Praxis integrates spiritual vision with active citizenship.

\$12,000 — Praxis Think Tank
Sonoma, CA • www.praxispeace.org

Wildlands Project

Believes that conservation efforts must expand to link core protected areas with wildlife movements and healthy human communities. Threshold supported its work with the American Zoo and Aquarium Association (AZA) to educate and inform a broad cross section of the public on the global extinction crisis.

\$25,000 — Getting the Word Out Project
Richmond, VT • www.wildlandsproject.org

Sustainable Nations Development Project

An Indigenous peoples-led and -run organization that works to "promote the sovereignty, environmental health, and cultural health of Indigenous Nations through community-based appropriate technology development work." It does business development and training in the areas of renewable energy systems, sustainable building with an emphasis on straw bale construction, and alternative wastewater treatment techniques.

\$13,000 — General Support
Trinidad, CA • www.sustainablenations.org

Policy and Systemic Change Committee

2005 grants – \$174,000

Mission

The Policy and Systemic Change Committee seeks to create a just, sustainable, democratic and peaceful world by supporting projects that work for systemic policy change by addressing the root causes of harmful and unjust conditions, or by protecting and strengthening democratic institutions. Specifically, this committee is interested in funding organizations that:

- Build broad coalitions or networks including non-traditional allies;
- Identify leverage points in the flow of money, power and influence;
- Ensure access to government processes, information and decision-making;
- Educate consumers to create market pressures for greater corporate responsibility;
- Advocate in corporate or public policy arenas;
- Promote philanthropic support of systemic change projects; and,
- Create new strategies for policy and systemic change.

Appalachian Center for the Economy and the Environment

A regional environmental law and policy organization dedicated to protecting the Appalachian environment and to promoting positive alternatives to the resource-extraction-driven economy there. Working with individual and community partners it promotes systemic change in the implementation of environmental laws and advocates for a sustainable economy. Threshold supported the Center's efforts to defeat specific challenges to the Clean Water Act and the Surface Mining Act that threaten the region.

\$10,000 – Coal Mining Accountability Project
Lewisburg, WV • www.appalachian-center.org

Bill of Rights Defense Committee

Formed in 2001 to channel people's fears about the effects of the USA PATRIOT Act and other post-9/11 assaults on civil liberties, BORDC provides tools, strategies, and assistance to its network

of organizations. It works to hold government accountable for ensuring civil liberties for all, and for guaranteeing that legislation complies with the US Constitution and Bill of Rights.

\$15,000 – General Support
Northampton, MA • www.bordc.org

Center for Media and Democracy

The only US organization dedicated to investigating and exposing deceptive public relations and propaganda campaigns and strengthening public interest reporting. The Center works to strengthen democracy by promoting media that are "of, by and for the people" and by removing the barriers and distortions of the modern information environment that stem from government- or corporate-dominated media.

\$15,000 – Disinfopedia Project
Madison, WI • www.prwatch.org

Ella Baker Center for Human Rights

Exposes and challenges the abuses of the US punishment industry and promotes community-based solutions that lead to safe and healthy communities. Threshold supported the community education, media advocacy, grassroots organizing and policy advocacy efforts of the Books Not Bars Alternatives for Youth campaign.

\$11,000 — Books Not Bars
Oakland, CA • www.ellabakercenter.org

Families United for Racial and Economic Equality

A membership organization organizing to build power so that low-income families can change policy to win permanent exits from poverty. Threshold supported FUREE's organizing work to build a base of low-income women of color to lead successful campaigns.

\$20,000 — General Support
Brooklyn, NY • www.furee.org

Global Justice Ecology Project

Advances global justice and ecological awareness by identifying issues, creating strategies, organizing campaigns, building alliances and disseminating photographic images that demonstrate the interconnections between the social and the ecological, and promote a crucial holistic analysis that unifies and strengthens movements.

\$20,000 — Genetically Engineered Trees Campaign
Hinesburg, VT • www.globaljusticeecology.org

Grassroots Policy Project

Works with organizations to help develop a coherent progressive movement or infrastructure with a shared worldview and strategic goals. Threshold supported GPP's Health Care, Taxes, and the Role of Government project.

\$15,000 — Health Care, Taxes and the Role of Government Project
Washington, DC • www.grassrootspolicy.org

Healthcare for the Homeless / Maryland Justice Coalition

A statewide coalition of individuals and organizations who use education, organizing and advocacy to systemically reform Maryland's criminal justice system. Threshold supported MJC's Treat Not Jail campaign to reform Maryland's parole and probation practices and greatly reduce the number of people being sent back to prison for technical parole violations.

\$15,000 — Campaign for Treatment Not Incarceration
Baltimore, MD • www.mdjusticecoalition.org/mjc

Stop Prisoner Rape

Stop Prisoner Rape (SPR) seeks to end sexual violence against men, women, and youth in all forms of detention. SPR aims to push for policies that ensure institutional accountability; to change society's attitudes toward prisoner rape; and to promote access to resources for survivors of sexual assault behind bars. Threshold supported SPR's Federal Systemic Change Campaign.

\$18,000 — Federal Systemic Change Project
Los Angeles, CA • www.spr.org

Tides Center / Asia Pacific Environmental Exchange

Devoted to promoting ecosystem health and ecological economics and halting the globalization of unsustainable economic policies. Focusing on the vital areas of toxics, forests, fisheries and global trade policy, APEX uses organizing, education and advocacy to further its goals.

\$20,000 — Basel Action Network
Seattle, WA • www.ban.org; www.a-p-e-x.org

Western Land Exchange Project

Advocates for federal land exchange policy reform to uphold public interest and environmental laws and stop the expropriation of public resources by corporate interests. It helps local groups protect their ecosystems and involve themselves in decisions regarding public lands.

\$15,000 — General Support
Seattle, WA • www.westlx.org

Special Initiative Committee: Strategic Media

2005 grants – \$195,000

Mission

In 2004-5 and 2005-6, this committee will make grants to strategic media reform projects. This focus reflects the Threshold community's concern that the current corporate-controlled commercial media structure presents a crisis for democracy. The Strategic Media committee will fund creative approaches to building a more diverse and democratic media structure. It considers organizing and advocacy around media reform and new alliances and formations to support independent voices.

Independent Media Institute / AlterNet

Believes democracy is enhanced and public debate broadened when more voices are heard and more points of view are made available. Threshold supported IMI's Echo Chamber project, designed to address the need to create a sustained, progressive echoing machine to communicate effectively, advocate social change and promote progressive values.

\$20,000 — Echo Chamber Project
San Francisco, CA • www.alternet.org

Media Access Project

A public interest law firm dedicated to providing a voice for the public interest in media and telecommunications policy. Threshold supported MAP's work to reform media ownership to prevent further consolidation; promote diversity of ownership and diversity of content; promote community wireless networks and other forms of direct citizen access to the public airwaves; require open access to broadband internet platforms; and create new opportunities for low-power FM radio applications.

\$50,000 — General Support
Washington, DC • www.mediaaccess.org

Media Tank

Media Tank works to provide communities with tools to understand and participate in critical decisions about the nation's media system and culture. Its community education and national organizing bring together media arts, education and activism to broaden the movement for media justice as a key strategy for social change.

\$20,000 — Capacity Building
Philadelphia, PA • www.mediatank.org

Media Alliance / Prometheus Radio Project

Founded to create a more democratic radio dial by providing a new means for groups to express concerns within their communities. It brought about the low power radio service by motivating thousands of potential listeners and programmers to contact the FCC. Since then it has helped hundreds of stations take to the air, and continues to build and support networks of community stations across the US.

\$40,000 — Low Power Radio Networking Project
Philadelphia, PA • www.prometheusradio.org

Rudolf Steiner Foundation / Media Venture Collective

A new approach to financial mobilization, comparable to a community foundation that thinks like a venture fund. A fund of the Rudolf Steiner Foundation, MVC is focused on aggregating tax-deductible donations and grants, small and large, into "program-related investments" in high-impact, public-interest media enterprises.

\$15,000 — Internet Fundraising Collective
Mill Valley, CA • www.mediaventure.org

Urbana-Champaign Independent Media Center / Champaign-Urbana Community Wireless Network

Works to connect more people to Internet and broadband services; develop open-source hardware and software for use by wireless projects world-wide; build and support community-owned, not-for-profit broadband networks in cities and towns around the globe. Threshold supported CUWiN to develop the infrastructure for a prototype community wireless intranet.

\$50,000 — Demonstration Mesh Wireless Network
Urbana, IL • www.cuwireless.net

Informal Funding

2005 grants — \$89,381

Informal Funding occurs at Threshold meetings and raises funds for organizations presented by members to members. These are closed funding cycles and as such do not accept unsolicited letters of inquiry.

DreamCatchers / Brave New Foundation

\$6,010 — *Walmart: The High Cost of Low Price*
Culver City, CA • www.bravenewfilms.org

Free Press

\$9,136 — General Support
Northampton, MA • www.freepress.net

Hartley Film Foundation / Laughing Willow Company, Inc.

\$5,207 — *For the Next 7 Generations: The Grandmothers Speak*
New York, NY • www.forthenext7generations.com

Instituto ALLPA / Defensay Conservación Ecológica de Intag

\$8,310 — Work to prevent coal mining in Intag
Otavalo, ECUADOR • www.decoin.org

Neighborhood Network Research Center / Amagansett Springs Aquifer Protection

\$5,060 — General Support
Amagansett, NY

Peace Alliance Foundation

\$1,958 — U.S. Department of Peace
Palo Alto, CA • www.thepeacealliance.org

Pendulum Project

\$5,677 — General Support
Cambridge, MA • www.pendulumproject.org

Proyecto ADAMES

\$7,710 — General Support
Florence, MA • www.proyectoadames.org

SACCA Foundation

\$3,357 — *Meditation: A Road Map for the Inner Journey*
San Anselmo, CA

Seventh Generation Fund / Sustainable Nations Development Project

\$5,560 — Native American Sustainable
Technology Training
Trinidad, CA • www.sustainablenations.org

Students for a Free Tibet

\$5,657 — General Support
New York, NY • www.studentsforafreetibet.org

Sunrise Center /
Sharon House Garden Project

\$4,877 — General Support
Waterbury, CT

Tides Center / Asia Pacific
Environmental Exchange

\$6,257 — Basel Action Network
Seattle, WA • www.a-p-e-x.org

United Eco-Action Fund

\$3,457 — *Truth is Power*
Scotts Valley, CA • www.uneco.org

World Family Foundation

\$9,190 — Tsunami relief efforts in Colombo,
Sri Lanka
Honolulu, HI • www.wfamily.com

World Institute On Disability

\$1,958 — New Opportunities Campaign
Oakland, CA • www.wid.org

005 Circle Discretionary Funds

The Circle (Board of Directors) of Threshold Foundation provides support for and/or membership in like-minded progressive organizations as a complement to its social change grantmaking and socially responsible investments.

Environmental Grantmakers Association

Exists to help member organizations become more effective environmental grantmakers through information sharing, collaboration and networking. EGA's vision is one of an informed, diverse, collaborative network of effective grantmakers who are supporting work toward a sustainable world.

\$600 — General Membership Support
New York, NY • www.ega.org

National Committee for Responsive Philanthropy

An advocacy organization promoting increased philanthropic giving and increased philanthropic access for disadvantaged and disenfranchised populations and constituencies, including racial/ethnic minorities, gay/lesbian/bisexual/transgendered persons, environmental justice and civil rights groups, and social change advocates.

\$1,000 — General Support
Washington, DC • www.ncrpf.org

National Network of Grantmakers

An organization of individual grantmakers committed to working for social, political, economic, and environmental justice. The network promotes individuals, projects, and organizations working for systemic change in the US and abroad.

\$1,250 — General Support
Minneapolis, MN • www.nng.org

Resource Generation / Third Sector New England

Works with young people with financial wealth who are supporting and challenging each other to effect progressive social change through creative, responsible use of their financial and other resources.

\$1,000 — Money Talks, So Can We
\$1,500 — Making Money Make Change Conference
Cambridge, MA • www.resourcegeneration.org

Agape Foundation

Agape Foundation is a nonprofit public foundation that raises and distributes funds to groups working for nonviolent change. Its mission is based on a vision of nonviolent social change in which individuals confront patterns of violence and also build alternative models for peace.

\$31,090 — General Support
San Francisco, CA • www.agapefn.org

Information for Grantsseekers

Grants Process

The annual grant cycle begins in October with the submission of Letters of Inquiry (LOI) by organizations interested in seeking grants from Threshold Foundation. Threshold members may sponsor organizations with a letter of recommendation or organizations may submit an unsolicited LOI. Threshold Foundation does not match organizations with Threshold members for sponsorship into the grantmaking process, but all LOIs are given an initial review. From the LOIs the grant committees select a limited number of organizations to which are sent a Request for Proposal (RFP). After reviewing the proposals, the grant committees select a subset of organizations for a site-visit and evaluation. Once the site-visit and evaluations are complete evaluations are reviewed and grant committees finalize their grant recommendations to the Circle (Board of Directors) in June. Grant agreement and funds are disbursed at the end of July.

Grant Types and Sizes

Threshold Foundation provides grants for general operating expenses as well as special projects. Grants are primarily single year though it makes a limited number of two and three year grants. It does not give emergency or discretionary grants outside of the annual grant cycle.

Grant amounts typically range from \$5,000 to \$25,000, except for the Special Initiative Committee, which typically makes grants between \$20,000 and \$50,000.

Organizations seeking grants must have 501(c)(3) tax-exempt status or 501(c)(4) lobbying status from the IRS or must be exclusively organized for charitable or educational purposes.

Applying for a Grant

The first step in applying to the annual grant cycle is to submit an online Letter of Inquiry through our website at www.thresholdfoundation.org. Note that guidelines for applying to the annual grant cycle often change, as we are continually trying to improve our process based on feedback from grantees and committee members. Therefore, we recommend that grantseekers visit the Threshold Foundation's website in September for the most up-to-date information regarding the deadline and application process for the following year's cycle.

Endowment Investment Report

The endowment investment principles of Threshold Foundation complement its philanthropic goals. The entire portfolio has a social investment focus with positive and negative screens: seventy percent is in socially screened stock, bonds, and cash, with Trillium Asset Management, Boston Common Asset Management, Calvert Funds, and Domini Social Index; twenty percent is in Program Related Investments, primarily Community Development Loan Funds that are listed here; the remaining ten percent has been designated for high growth, venture-type investments, currently in the Rockefeller and Co. Odyssey Fund.

<u>Program Related Investment</u>	<u>Loan Amount</u>
ACCION International Boston, MA www.accion.org	\$55,000
Cascadia Revolving Fund Seattle, WA www.cascadiafund.org	\$50,000
Chicago Community Loan Fund Chicago, IL www.cclfchicago.org	\$25,000
Community Bank of the Bay Oakland, CA www.communitybankbay.com	\$25,000
Cooperative Fund of New England Wilmington, NC www.cooperativefund.org	\$20,000
E&Co Bloomfield, NJ www.energyhouse.com	\$50,000
EcoLogic Finance Cambridge, MA www.ecologicfinance.org	\$20,000
Enterprise Corporation of the Delta Jackson, MS www.ecd.org	\$35,000

Human/Economic Appalachian Development Corporation Berea, KY www.headcorp.com	\$20,000
Institute for Community Economics Springfield, MA www.icelt.org	\$50,000
National Community Capital Association Philadelphia, PA www.opportunityfinance.net	\$100,000
National Federation of Community Development Credit Unions New York, NY www.natfed.org	\$50,000
New Mexico Community Development Loan Fund Albuquerque, NM www.nmcdlf.org	\$30,000
Opportunity International Oak Brook, IL www.opportunity.org	\$25,000
Self Help Enterprises Visalia, CA www.selfhelpenterprises.com	\$45,000
Self-Help Credit Union Durham, NC www.self-help.org	\$25,000
Shared Interest New York, NY www.sharedinterest.org	\$35,000
ShoreBank Pacific Ilwaco, WA www.eco-bank.com	\$50,000

Endowment Gifts

You can make an endowment gift to Threshold Foundation through a charitable trust, real estate gift, or by means of a bequest in your will. Because grantee organizations, grantee needs and other conditions change over the years, it will often avoid legal complications if simple unrestricted language like the following is used in wills:

"I hereby give and bequest _____ to Threshold Foundation, a not-for-profit tax-exempt public charity founded under the laws of the State of New York, having as its principal address PO Box 29903, San Francisco, California 94129-0903, for the general purposes of Threshold Foundation."

If you want to discuss the language of your bequest or if you want more information on planned giving possibilities (including real estate gifts), the staff or Circle (Board of Directors) would be happy to meet with you. To schedule a meeting contact the Foundation Manager at 415-561-6400.

Independent Auditor's Report

We have audited the accompanying statement of financial position of Threshold Foundation ("the Foundation") as of December 31, 2004, and the related statements of activities and cash flows for the year then ended. These financial statements are the responsibility of the Foundation's management. Our responsibility is to express an opinion on these financial statements based on our audit. We previously audited and reported on the financial statements of the Foundation as of and for the year ended December 31, 2003, totals of which are presented for comparative purposes. In our report dated August 27, 2004, we expressed an unqualified opinion on those statements.

We conducted our audit in accordance with auditing standards generally accepted in the United States of America. Those standards require that we plan and perform the audit to obtain reasonable assurance about whether the financial statements are free of material misstatement. An audit includes examining, on a test basis, evidence supporting the amounts and disclosures in the financial statements. An audit also includes assessing the accounting principles used and significant estimates made by management, as well as evaluating the overall financial presentation. We believe that our audit provides a reasonable basis for our opinion.

In our opinion, the financial statements referred to above present fairly, in all material respects, the financial position of Threshold Foundation as of December 31, 2004, and the changes in net assets and its cash flows for the year then ended, in conformity with accounting principles generally accepted in the United States of America.

Signed

Fontanello, Duffield & Otake, LLP

Certified Public Accountants

44 Montgomery Street, Suite 2029

San Francisco, CA 94104

Balance Sheet

Statements of Financial Position

YEARS ENDED DECEMBER 31, 2004 AND 2003

	2004	2003
Assets		
Cash and cash equivalents	\$ 294,880	\$ 358,733
Pledges receivable	9,890	10,121
Deposits	58,000	43,465
Other current assets	7,579	5,549
Total current assets	370,349	417,868
Program related investments	610,000	610,000
Investments	2,514,123	2,436,872
Total investments	3,124,123	3,046,872
Total assets	3,494,472	3,464,740
Liabilities		
Grants payable	\$15,000	\$95,000
Accounts payable	28,696	20,169
Refundable deposits	35,475	86,635
Total liabilities	79,171	201,804
Net Assets		
Unrestricted net assets		
General operations	265,847	156,545
Designated for grantmaking pool	377,753	283,511
Designated for endowment purposes	2,720,763	2,748,320
Total unrestricted net assets	3,364,363	3,188,376
Temporarily restricted net assets	50,938	74,560
Total net assets	3,415,301	3,262,936
Total liabilities and net assets	\$ 3,494,472	\$ 3,464,740

Income and Expense

Statements of Activities

YEARS ENDED DECEMBER 31, 2004 AND 2003

	Unrestricted	Temporarily Restricted	2004 Total	2003 Total
Support and Revenue				
Grants and contributions	\$ 1,196,412	\$ 50,938	\$ 1,247,350	\$ 1,271,151
Conference revenues	220,190		220,190	56,464
Investment income	82,846		82,846	276,576
	1,499,448	50,938	1,550,386	1,604,191
Net assets released from restriction	74,560	(74,560)	—	—
Total support and revenue	1,574,008	(23,622)	1,550,386	1,604,191

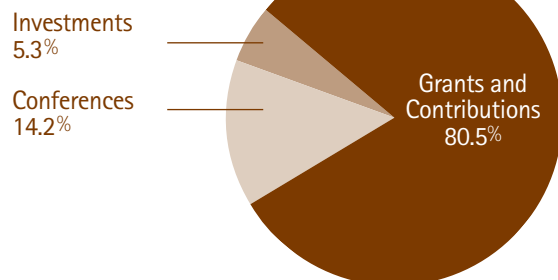
Expenses

Program services				
Grants	986,739		986,739	915,683
Conference expenses	149,164		149,164	31,094
Network communications	83,193		83,193	100,670
Total program services	1,219,096	—	1,219,096	1,047,447
Supporting services				
Grantmaking support	95,233		95,233	116,800
Board/corporate support	83,692		83,692	112,267
Total supporting services	178,925	—	178,925	229,067
Total expenses	1,398,021	—	1,398,021	1,276,514

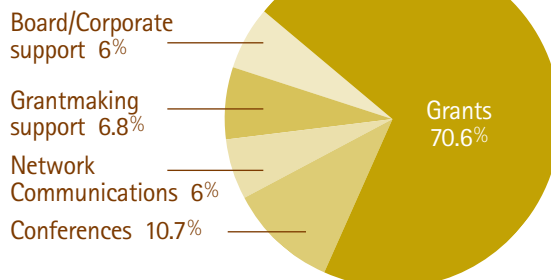
Net Assets

Net assets at beginning of 2004	3,188,376	74,560	3,262,936	2,935,259
Net assets at end of 2004	3,364,363	50,938	3,415,301	3,262,936
Change in Net Assets in 2004	\$ 175,987	\$ (23,622)	\$ 152,365	327,677

2004 REVENUE



2004 EXPENSE





2005 Board of Directors

Suzanne Gollin, President
Gita Drury, Vice President and Secretary
Sophia Bowart, Treasurer
Gay Dillingham, Grants Co-Director
James D. Gollin, Grants Co-Director
Rick Paine, Grants Co-Director
Jack Lampl, Director
Marian Moore, Director
Carol Newell, Director
Drummond Pike, Director
Marsha Rosenbaum, Director
Mary Calder Rower, Director

2005 Staff

Liza Siegler, Foundation Manager
David Falzone, Membership Coordinator
Maria Bernasconi, Foundation Accountant
Brian Ryu, Foundation Assistant
Amber Guillory, Foundation Assistant
And other staff of Tides Foundation

Design
Ison Design

Photography
Sophia Bowart pages 2-3, 7, 11, 13, 14-15
Harold Davis page 8
Tim Jones pages 16-17, inside cover
SW Productions page 5
Jim Wehtje cover

Printing
Inkworks

Paper
Fraser Papers Synergy 100PCW

This annual report is printed with vegetable-based ink on Fraser Synergy 100PCW paper. The paper is made from 100% post-consumer waste, is 100% elemental chlorine-free, acid-free, lignin-free and archival.

Threshold Foundation's use of tree-free and recycled paper is one manifestation of our belief that we all must adapt our personal lifestyles and our consumption habits to walk more lightly on the earth.

