



THE COOPERATIVE ECONOMICS ALLIANCE OF NEW YORK CITY

SOLIDARITY ECONOMY GIVING PROJECT 2018 ANNUAL REPORT

The Solidarity Economy Giving Project (SEGP) closes the resource gap faced by New York City's solidarity economy organizations run by people of color and low-income, immigrant, women and LGBTQIA+ communities. These democratic organizations meet neighborhood needs in every area of the economy, from

***Solidarity,
not charity***

food to finance, housing to culture. Most do not fit the requirements for traditional philanthropy, face systemic discrimination from traditional financial institutions, and receive limited or no government support. This lack of resources stymies growth, creates scarcity and competition, and undercuts economic self-determination.

Enter Solidarity Economy Giving Project, the only philanthropic initiative solely dedicated to supporting the solidarity economy in New York City. It is a program of the Cooperative Economics Alliance of New York City (CEANYC), which is the democratically-managed membership organization for NYC's co-ops and community gardens committed to social and racial justice.

Total raised for
2018 grantmaking: **\$52,000**

Total grant
amount awarded: **\$47,000**

Total grant
amount requested: **\$94,300**

SEGP
Program costs: **\$11,000**

Organizations
awarded: **22**

Organizations
applied: **26**

HOW IT WORKS

SEGP raises funds through a Giving Circle and annual May Day party that are then granted out in amounts between \$500—\$5000 to worker co-ops, food co-ops, community development credit unions, community gardens, affordable housing co-ops, community land trusts, and co-op incubators in the five boroughs.

"Participating in SEGP was a powerful experience in both building community with other young people committed to social and economic justice in our city and in forging relationships with bold grassroots groups that are laying the groundwork for a just, sustainable, and democratic local economy."

Mike Sandmel

Founded on the premise of solidarity and mutual aid, of giving rather than charity, SEGP's fundraising and grantmaking breaks with philanthropic mechanisms for control and accumulation by the wealthy. Donors form a community that builds relationships to the solidarity economy while also deepening their understanding of the ways race, class, gender, and systemic oppression face who benefits and who is left out of the benefits of capitalism. They also release control of the grantmaking to the community being served,

with the understanding those doing the work and most impacted by the issues best understand how to move resources and make decisions. This is an act of trust and solidarity, a financial and spiritual investment in the capacity of New York City's marginalized communities to do for themselves rather than being done for.

Grants are determined by the elected CEANYC Board of Directors on a rolling basis, and both application and reporting requirements are streamlined to move money quickly each month and without wasting unnecessary time and energy from folks on the ground. The CEANYC network is both deep and relational, and folks applying for grants understand that the SEGP is a shared resource. Folks apply for only what they need, then leave room for others, practicing cooperation that releases abundance rather than the competition which creates scarcity.

SEGP launched in fall 2017 and began its grantmaking in January 2018. This is the story of the first year.



2018 GRANTEES

WORKER CO-OPS

A Bookkeeping Cooperative

\$2000 for conflict resolution training

Black Conference

\$1200 for the Falconworks Theatre Company's production centered around Jessica Gordon-Nembhard's book "Collective Courage"

Brooklyn Packers

\$3000 to hire staff to subsidize low income CSA work in Central Brooklyn

Khao'na Kitchen

\$3300 to expand operations and source emergency kitchen space

Third Root

Community Health Center

\$4000 for staff support and facilitation as part of a crowdfunding campaign

Woke Foods

\$2500 to cover costs of project management and growth of staff

FOOD CO-OPS

Bushwick Food Co-op

\$3000 for accounting services with A Bookkeeping Cooperative

Central Brooklyn Food Coop

\$4600 for inaugural meeting, party, and crowdfunding campaign matches

Lefferts Community Food Co-op

\$2500 to expand inventory and store hours, and to cover the cost of insurance

COMMUNITY GARDENS

The People's Garden

\$2500 to support immigration and housing justice organizing in Bushwick

Loisaida United

Neighborhood Gardens (LUNGS)

\$2500 towards youth programming for Lower East Side garden organizers

HOUSING CO-OPS

224 Lefferts Avenue HDFC

\$4000 to cover the costs of essential repairs to get an affordable housing rental on the market.

COMMUNITY-BASED ORGS

BK Rot

\$2500 toward an e-cargo trike to haul more food waste in a larger zone

TRAININGS

Northwest Bronx

Community Clergy Coalition

\$1500 to provide economic democracy training for Bronx residents

Cooperative Leadership Intensive

\$7,900 towards participation in CEANYC's CLI for 9 women in NYC's solidarity economy:

- Ashleigh Eubanks, CBO
- Jennifer Alise Flanders, worker co-op
- Sarah Lopez, worker co-op
- Catherine Murcek, worker co-op
- Magali Regis, gardens
- Natalia Sucre, gardens
- Maggy Ureña, worker co-op
- Alison Conforti, CSA
- Qiana Mickie, CSA



Woke Foods



Lefferts Community Food Co-op



BK Rot

OUR GRANTEES SAY

In a world where companies like Amazon and Google throw millions of dollars at startups with nefarious social impacts, it has been inspiring to see a cooperative economic system start to take root in New York City, funded not only by the city but by individuals who are willing to part with their hard-earned money in order to take a chance on a mélange of beautiful alternatives.

*Michael Loew
Lefferts Community Food Co-op*

The existence and survival of the Solidarity Economy Giving Project is important because it provided help to cooperatives that do not have access to funding from other sources to focus on the projects or tasks -- like administrative support.

*Ysanet Batisa
Woke Foods*

Your support helped fill the cavernous gaps in support of Black-led economic democracy and social justice work. Please sing it from the mountain tops.

*Mark Winston-Griffith
Central Brooklyn Food Co-op*

CEANYC's support filled a funding gap for our organization to provide trainings around economic democracy for our staff. These trainings provided important analysis around the creation of shared wealth and ownership and collective governance and the space for us to explore and strategize about how we might integrate these principles more directly in our organizing work in 2019.

*Sandra Lobo
Northwest Bronx Community and Clergy Coalition*



HOW TO CONTRIBUTE

Join The Solidarity Economy Giving Project Giving Circle!

- Meet 6 times September-May
- Make a gift of at least \$2,000
- Get to know solidarity economy work in NYC with a network of peers
- Help plan and host the annual May Day Giving Party

Support SEGP's annual May Day Party!

- Be a sponsor
- Donate a raffle prize
- Come dance with us!

Email organize@gocoopnyc.com for details on how to contribute in either way!