



# **How RSF's Racial Justice Collaborative Fund Makes a Difference**

## Our Mission

---

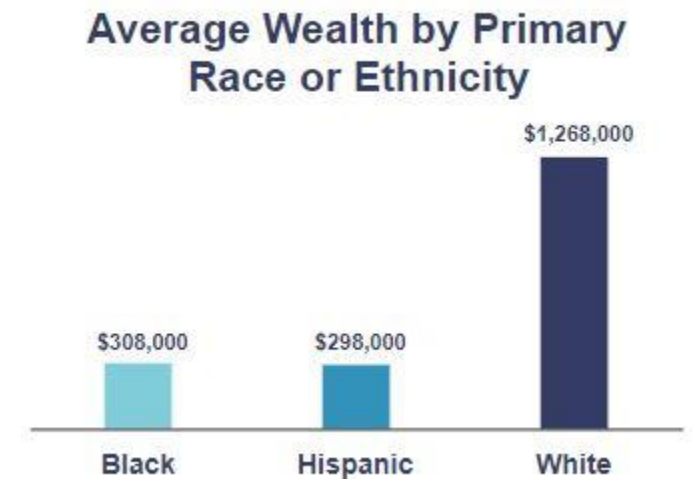
**To catalyze transformation by circulating capital to social enterprises for a more just, regenerative, and compassionate world.**

# The Problem

**Entrepreneurship can be key to narrowing the racial wealth gap.** However, many businesses and organizations led by people of color struggle to raise adequate, flexible, and patient capital that enables them to take risks, pilot new ideas, and grow.

Studies have shown that **Black entrepreneurs are more likely to be denied loans and face higher interest rates compared to their White counterparts, deepening economic inequality.**

Systemic racism in the finance sector is a key driver of the racial wealth gap.



Sources: *Distributional Financial Accounts* and *Institute for Economic Equity* calculations.  
[Federal Reserve Bank of St. Louis](#); First Quarter of 2023

WHAT WE ARE DOING

# Narrowing the Racial Wealth Gap

The Racial Justice Collaborative Fund provides access to adequate, flexible, and patient capital to **help entrepreneurs of color grow their businesses.**

By combining funds from a range of philanthropic actors, **the Fund is a force multiplier capable of directing a much larger pool of philanthropic capital** towards narrowing the racial wealth gap than individual donors may be able to do on their own.

**Through your generosity,** the Fund will facilitate **technical assistance grants, recoverable grants** (that will circulate capital back to other organizations as funds are returned), and **credit enhancements**; and **support networking opportunities** among social entrepreneurs of color.

# Benefits

The Racial Justice Collaborative Fund is rooted in RSF Social Finance's mission to empower communities to leverage their financial and creative resources for the greater good.

OUR WORK RESULTS IN:

## **Economic Growth and Job Creation**

Contributing to more resilient local economies, improved quality of life, and increased opportunities

## **Community Development**

Generating tax revenue can increase investments in community development projects, infrastructure, and social programs

## **Diversity of Ideas and Innovation**

Working with a wide range of perspectives, backgrounds, and experiences to make decisions and solve problems

## **Networking Opportunities**

Leading to collaborations, partnerships, and shared knowledge that contributes to a richer, more vibrant community of entrepreneurs

## **Reduced Bias**

Leading to an equitable distribution of resources to mitigate the funding gap that disproportionately affects people of color

## **Long-Term Support for Success**

Extending beyond financial backing and including mentorship, guidance, and other resources for growth

# The Architects

**We Take the Approach that  
the Whole is Greater than  
the Sum of its Parts.**



**Laina Raveendran Greene**

Angels of Impact  
Founder and Chief Executive Officer,  
WE In The World Senior Fellow  
[Laina@angelsofimpact.com](mailto:Laina@angelsofimpact.com)



**Derek Peebles**

American Sustainable Business Network  
Senior Director Public Policy & Advocacy,  
Inclusive Economy  
[Derek@asbnetwork.org](mailto:Derek@asbnetwork.org)



**Najaah Yasmine Daniels**

Twice As Good, LLC  
Founder and Chief Executive Officer  
[Najaah@twiceasgood.com](mailto:Najaah@twiceasgood.com)



**Somava Saha**

WE In The World  
Founder and Executive Lead  
[Somava.Saha@weintheworld.org](mailto:Somava.Saha@weintheworld.org)



**Erika Danina Williams**

RSF Social Finance  
Vice President, Integrated Capital  
[Erika.Williams@rsfsocialfinance.org](mailto:Erika.Williams@rsfsocialfinance.org)

# Our Fund Partners

The Collaborative Fund's partners — **Black-, Brown-, and Indigenous-led capital innovators** — deploy the capital raised by the Fund to entrepreneurs of color through recoverable grants, credit enhancements, and technical assistance.

Capital innovators are **longtime, trusted partners** with deep ties to and relationships with the communities they serve.

ROANHORSE  
CONSULTING



POTLIKKER  
CAPITAL



HIGHER<sup>®</sup>  
PURPOSE<sub>g</sub>



COMMONFUTURE.



# How It Works

The Racial Justice Collaborative Fund is building a network and pooling resources to give entrepreneurs of color access to capital and technical assistance.

1

**You give**  
a tax-deductible gift to the Racial Justice Collaborative Fund.

2

3

4

**90% of your  
tax-deductible  
gift goes to  
help social  
entrepreneurs  
of color.**

# How It Works

The Racial Justice Collaborative Fund is building a network and pooling resources to give entrepreneurs of color access to capital and technical assistance.

1

**You give**  
a tax-deductible gift to the Racial Justice Collaborative Fund.

2

**The Fund combines your gift** with capital from individuals, family offices, foundations, governmental agencies, and CDFIs and turns it over to partners.

3

4

**90% of your tax-deductible gift goes to help social entrepreneurs of color.**

# How It Works

The Racial Justice Collaborative Fund is building a network and pooling resources to give entrepreneurs of color access to capital and technical assistance.

1

**You give** a tax-deductible gift to the Racial Justice Collaborative Fund.

2

**The Fund combines your gift** with capital from individuals, family offices, foundations, governmental agencies, and CDFIs and turns it over to partners.

3

Using a **Participatory Grant-making Process** to determine how funds are distributed, Fund partners **deploy grants, resources, and technical assistance** to entrepreneurs of color.

4

**90% of your tax-deductible gift goes to help social entrepreneurs of color.**

# How It Works

The Racial Justice Collaborative Fund is building a network and pooling resources to give entrepreneurs of color access to capital and technical assistance.

1

**You give** a tax-deductible gift to the Racial Justice Collaborative Fund.

2

**The Collab Fund combines your gift** with capital from individuals, family offices, foundations, governmental agencies, and CDFIs.

3

Using a **Participatory Grant-making Process** to determine how funds are distributed, Fund partners **deploy grants, resources, and technical assistance** to entrepreneurs of color.

4

**Social entrepreneurs of color are able to access needed capital and / or technical assistance** to support the growth and development of their business.

**90% of your tax-deductible gift goes to help social entrepreneurs of color.**

They're also better positioned to unlock additional sources of capital through RSF's Social Enterprise Loan program alongside more conventional sources of funding.

# How It Works

The Racial Justice Collaborative Fund is building a network and pooling resources to give entrepreneurs of color access to capital and technical assistance.

**50% of capital is reinvested**

**1**

**You give** a tax-deductible gift to the Racial Justice Collaborative Fund

**2**

**The Collab Fund combines your gift** with capital from individuals, family offices, foundations, governmental agencies, and CDFIs.

**3**

Using a **Participatory Grant-making Process** to determine how funds are distributed, Fund partners **deploy grants, resources, and technical assistance** to entrepreneurs of color.

**4**

**Social entrepreneurs of color are able to access needed capital and / or technical assistance** to support the growth and development of their business.

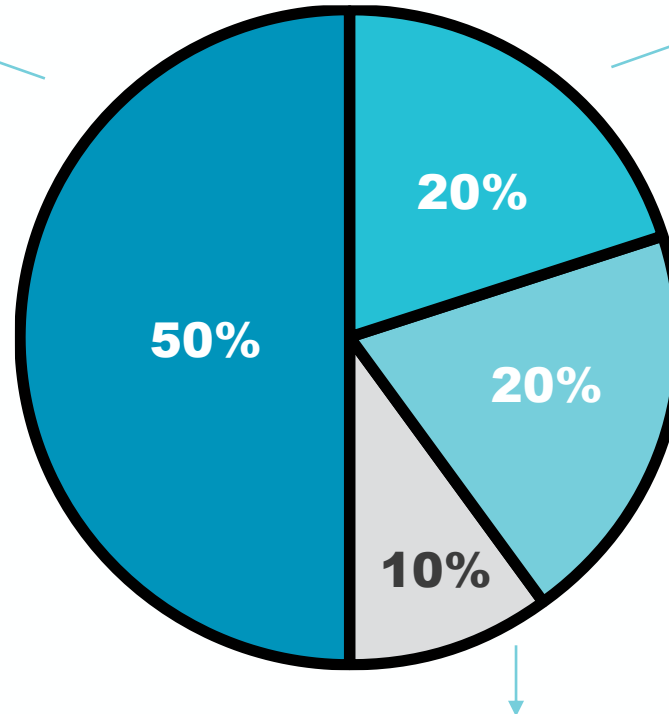
**90% of your tax-deductible gift goes to help social entrepreneurs of color.**

They're also better positioned to unlock additional sources of capital through RSF's Social Enterprise Loan program alongside more conventional sources of funding.

# The Power of Your Gift

## 50% of dollars for recoverable grants

- Multiplies the impact of the work with the ability to circulate capital to other organizations as funds are returned
- Provides immediate, flexible, and high-impact funding
- This form of capital can be used for capacity building, bridge financing, or equipment purchases



## 20% of dollars for technical assistance grants:

- A coalition of technical assistance providers share knowledge and resources
- Host strategic sessions to promote awareness about restorative/non-extractive capital

## 20% of dollars for credit enhancements

- Scale to success within RSF's Social Enterprise Loan Program
- Access to wider networks and resources
- Continued mission-alignment and support

**10% of dollars for fund management,**  
including fundraising, networking opportunities,  
impact assessment, and reporting

WHY GIVE TO THE  
RACIAL JUSTICE  
COLLABORATIVE FUND?

# The Network Effect

The collaborative fund **leverages its philanthropic connections and relationships** to raise and deliver more capital to partners than any one donor can give on their own, creating a force multiplier effect in pooled donations.

Using a **participatory grantmaking process**, collaborative fund partners determine how funding should be allocated across their organizations. This process shifts power and decision-making into the hands of those who work most closely with the communities served.

WHY GIVE TO THE  
RACIAL JUSTICE  
COLLABORATIVE FUND?

# The Network Effect



The RSF team raises philanthropic capital from diverse funders such as individuals, foundations, and government agencies. Collectively, these funds are pooled and passed through to RSF's partners.



Collaborative Fund partners—not RSF—jointly determine how funding is allocated to *each partner*, to support the communities in which they work. RSF has pioneered this kind of participatory grantmaking model.



Once funding has been allocated to Collaborative Fund partners, they then provide grants, resources, and technical assistance to entrepreneurs of color.



Enlightened funders who understand the **complexities of overcoming systemic racial bias** struggle to find community-based organizations innovating change. And these organizations, in turn, struggle to find enlightened funders.

Especially given recent events, there is **an urgent need to channel funds to BIPOC-led organizations leading the way for true systems change**, which benefits us all.

The Racial Justice Collaborative Fund does just that.



**Laina Greene**

CEO and Founder, Angels of Impact  
Senior Fellow, WE in the World  
RSF Partner and Capital Innovator



RSF is a good example of an institution that has invested in a Black-owned business and gone outside the normal practices in order to make sure that they are being good partners and good citizens in the **fight for social justice and equity.**



**Yve-Car Momperousse**  
Founder of Kreyòl Essence  
Collaborative Fund Grant Recipient



When it comes to closing the wealth gap, RSF has demonstrated excellent leadership in building solutions that **directly address the inequities and systemic barriers** that have led us to where we are today.

We are proud to partner with RSF on this initiative to make non-extractive funding and thoughtful technical resources available to entrepreneurs of color to help close the wealth gap.



**Havell Rodrigues**

CEO/Co-Founder of New Majority Capital  
RSF Partner and Capital Innovator

# Our Goals

RAISE OR DEPLOY

 **\$5 Million**  
by December 2023

 **\$100 Million**  
by December 2028

## IMPACT AREAS



### Agriculture

Food Security  
Smallholder Agriculture  
Sustainable Agriculture



### Air

Clean Air



### Biodiversity & Ecosystems

Biodiversity & Ecosystem Conservation



### Climate

Climate Change Mitigation  
Climate Resilience and Adaptation



### Diversity & Inclusion

Gender Lens  
Racial Equity



### Education

Access to Quality Education



### Employment

Quality Jobs



### Energy

Clean Energy  
Energy Access  
Energy Efficiency



### Financial Services

Financial Inclusion



### Health

Access to Quality Health Care  
Nutrition



### Infrastructure

Resilient Infrastructure



### Land

Natural Resources Conservation  
Sustainable Land Management  
Sustainable Forestry



### Oceans and Coastal Zones

Marine Resources Conservation & Management



### Pollution

Pollution Prevention



### Real Estate

Affordable Quality Housing  
Green Buildings



### Waste

Waste Management



### Water

Sustainable Water Management  
Water, Sanitation, and Hygiene (WASH)

# How We Measure Impact

Demonstrating the value of the RSF - donor - partner - entrepreneur coalition to all stakeholders is key to ongoing support and the ultimate success of the Racial Justice Collaborative Fund.

Our goal is to demonstrate what works—and fix what doesn't—in flowing capital for systemic change.

## Measurable Results

The number of loans, recoverable grants, technical assistance programs made; number of communities served

## Outcomes

Increased access to capital; improving earnings and wealth through employment and entrepreneurship; mentorship; community development

## Impact

The quality of project implementation; empowerment; changing mindsets and behaviors; wellbeing

## Case Study

# Building a Black Community Wealth Hub in the Mississippi Delta

Black-led **Higher Purpose Co** (HPC) is building community wealth with Black residents in Mississippi by promoting ownership of financial, cultural and political power.

RSF supported the organization with a **\$100,000 loan guaranty** in 2020 to enable more loans to Black women entrepreneurs. The **\$50,000 grant from the Racial Justice Collaborative** contributes to HPC's \$1 million capital campaign for phase one of its new headquarters, designed to serve as a hub for Black entrepreneurs, farmers and artists in the Delta.



## Case Study

# Preserving One of the Last Black Areas of Los Angeles

Black-led Downtown Crenshaw Rising, a nonprofit community corporation and activist group, is leading the work to **purchase and redevelop a 40-acre mall in Crenshaw into a 21st century urban village built with community wealth building principles.**

The Racial Justice Collaborative is supporting the project with a **\$50,000 grant.**



Case Study

# Funding Relief Grants for CA BIPOC Farmers and Land Stewards

The CA BIPOC Farmer & Land Steward Relief Fund Collaborative distributed **\$835,000 in pandemic relief grants to 80 BIPOC farmers and land stewards in California during 2020**. In the second round of grants, the group brought the community into decision-making, allowing grants to go quickly to those most in need.

RSF's **grant funding of \$50,000** from two of its collaboratives will help the group build on this momentum to **create a foundation for resilient local economies and food systems**.



# Give Now to Narrow Racial Wealth Gap

Join us in reshaping the  
future.

Your **tax-deductible gift** to the Racial Justice Collaborative Fund **challenges systemic racism, bridges economic disparities, and fosters inclusive growth**. Your support will fuel economic empowerment, uplift communities of color, and pave the way for a more equitable and vibrant society.

Together, we can build a world where financial systems serve the well-being of all, not just a few.

