

IMMIGRANT PROTECTION RAPID RESPONSE FUND

The Groundwork Immigrant Protection Rapid Response Fund is a time-sensitive mini-grant vehicle designed to provide rapid, flexible resources to grassroots organizations **in current Groundwork states (AL, MS, OK, WV + MA)** responding to urgent threats facing immigrant communities and all communities facing violent, militaristic immigration enforcement tactics.

The Immigrant Protection Rapid Response Fund complements Groundwork's existing investments by rapidly moving mini-grants up to \$2000 to organizations in our states that are organizing around immigrant protection, nonviolent ICE protest and accountability, mutual aid, and more. The fund is not intended to replace general operating support; rather, it is designed to unlock short-term, targeted resources that help to strengthen immigrant protection efforts, organize against abusive immigration enforcement efforts and connect immediate response to long-term organizing and civic power-building.

What the Immigrant Protection Rapid Response Fund Supports:

The Immigrant Protection Rapid Response Fund provides small, rapid-response grants for urgent, short-term needs that support immigrant protection and organizing, including but not limited to:

Immigrant Protection & NonViolent Community Defense

- Community safety planning and coordination
- Know-your-rights campaigns and materials
- Legal observation, documentation, and monitoring efforts
- Rapid response to ICE activity or enforcement events
- Legal Aid

Organizing & Mobilization

- Emergency organizing campaigns or actions, such as nonviolent protests, vigils, days of action, etc.
- Community meetings, trainings, and convenings
- Coalition-building among immigrant-serving groups

Operational & Capacity Needs

- Technology, tools, translation, and digital security
- Organizer stipends or surge staffing
- Safety and wellness supports that are tied to sustained organizing capacity

Narrative & Communications

- Counter-disinformation campaigns
- Community storytelling and media interventions
- Multilingual communication infrastructure

Mutual Aid with Organizing Linkages

- Emergency support tied to organizing strategies (e.g., food, transportation, shelter, childcare connected to organizing or response efforts)

How Funding is Prioritized:

The Immigrant Protection Rapid Response Fund decisions* will prioritize:

- Urgency and immediacy of community need
- Leadership by directly impacted communities
- Feasibility and security awareness
- Diversity of grantees and project types
- Geographic equity across Groundwork's partner states
- Strong connection between response activities and organizing strategy

NOTE:

This Fund is open to organizations operating in Groundwork's existing national focus states -- Alabama, Mississippi, Oklahoma and West Virginia -- as well as organizations in Massachusetts, where we operate Groundwork's hometown entity, Groundwork MA.

Application & Review Process:

To balance speed, equity, and security, the Immigrant Protection Rapid Response Fund will operate through a streamlined process:

- Applications accepted on a rolling basis
- Decisions are made within an accelerated timeframe whenever possible
- Rapid review by a small internal team
- Multiple application pathways may be available to accommodate security concerns, including low-visibility submission options.

Organizations may apply multiple times, but funded applicants must wait 90 days between awards unless exceptional circumstances warrant expedited reconsideration. In that case, please reach out directly to our team.

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Security & Communication Considerations

Recognizing that many immigrant protection efforts operate in sensitive environments, the Immigrant Protection Rapid Response Fund will adopt flexible communication and vetting practices, including:

- Minimal public-facing documentation requirements.
- Alternative verification pathways for groups with limited online presence.
- Discretion in public external communications.
- Optional secure communication channels for applicants.
- Password-protected application
- Communication via a secure platform, i.e., Signal, and encrypted emails

Groundwork is committed to protecting the safety of organizers and communities while maintaining accountability and responsible stewardship of funds.

Reporting & Accountability

Recipients will submit a brief post-grant summary within three months of funding, describing:

- How the funds were used
- Impact on immigrant protection and organizing capacity.
- Activities completed

***NOTE:** Reporting will be designed to be lightweight and security-conscious.

Apply to the Immigrant Protection Rapid Response Fund:

When you apply for a grant through the Immigrant Protection Rapid Response Fund, you'll go through the following process:

- 1 Submit Application
- 2 Groundwork Team internal review
- 3 Notification on decision
- 4 If approved, grant disbursed
- 5 Submit review form

APPLY HERE