



PROGRAM AREA: **BLACK LED POWER BUILDING**

The Black Led Power Building (BLPB) initiative started in 2020 in response to the murder of George Floyd. Staff initiated and led efforts to provide general operating support to BLPB groups. Then, the Grove Foundation Board approved five years of funding for Black-led organizations doing advocacy work that focuses specifically on Black people, with an emphasis on civic engagement and liberation. This US-based initiative focuses on the South, including the states of Louisiana, Georgia, and Alabama.



WE BELIEVE

- The South is where social change begins and has a deep history of effective organizing.
- It is key to support ongoing work versus new initiatives because there is great insight and understanding in work already in progress that is led by people who are deeply experienced and committed to this work.
- Flexible and multi-year funding is fundamental to creating long-term impact.
- Black liberation is good for everyone.
- An intersectional lens that prioritizes Black-led groups that serve women, queer, and trans folks is essential.



OUR APPROACH

- Organizing training. These are peer-learning efforts that build on the strengths of movement leaders and provide space for professional development, shared learning, insights, and healthy collaboration.
- Voter engagement. Ensuring Black people may engage with and influence the systems and policies that impact their daily lives.



WHAT WE LOOK FOR

- Consistency with Grove values; no work that's in conflict with our other program areas (i.e. Immigration, Safety Net, Reproductive Health, Rights and Justice).
- Focus on power-building and/or civic engagement, groups on the ground who are trying to shift power through advocacy, organizing, base-building and local work, mobilizing people to action.
- Groups led by Black women and/or non-binary people.
- Organizations based in the U.S. South, or other key regions for the Grove Foundation.

APPLYING FOR A GRANT

The Grove Foundation does not accept unsolicited proposals but welcomes exploratory meetings with organizations who share common goals.