



GROUNDSWELL
FUND



URGENT FUNDING FOR URGENT FIGHTS

Rapid Response Fund
2022 Report



Image Courtesy of The Mahogany Project

GROUNDSWELL'S RAPID RESPONSE FUND

Established in 2016, Groundswell's **Rapid Response Fund** provides timely, flexible grants to grassroots organizations waging critical, unexpected fights to protect or advance reproductive and social justice. This multi-issue fund supports groups on the frontlines who are led by women of color, transgender people of color, and poor and working class women and trans people. By prioritizing states and communities where this work is historically under-resourced, we are defending our most vulnerable communities against further attacks.

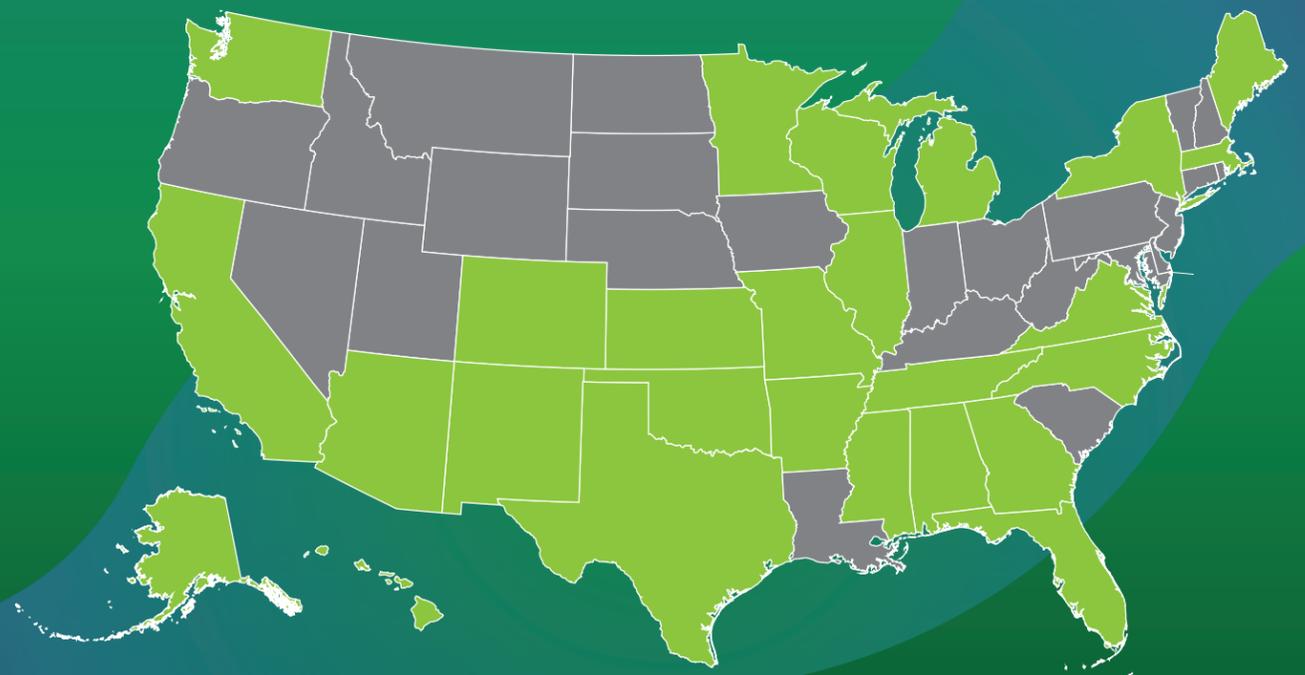
Our highest purpose is to **unlock resources for organizations doing the most liberatory work**, moving money quickly and flexibly to the field.

BY THE NUMBERS

The Rapid Response Fund supports both national and state-level organizations.



States with 2022 Rapid Response Fund Grantees



- | | | | | |
|------------|----------|---------------|----------------|------------|
| Alabama | Colorado | Kansas | Missouri | Texas |
| Alaska | Florida | Maine | New Mexico | Virginia |
| Arizona | Georgia | Massachusetts | New York | Washington |
| Arkansas | Hawaii | Michigan | North Carolina | Wisconsin |
| California | Illinois | Minnesota | Oklahoma | |
| | | Mississippi | Tennessee | |

If/When/How's Repro Legal Defense Fund



Image Courtesy of The New Georgia Project

SUPPORT.
ORGANIZE.
DEFEND.
REPEAT.

OUR PLAYBOOK UNTIL LIBERATION IS SUSTAINED



Legal defense funds are in higher demand as medical care for abortion declines after fall of Roe

UPDATE

FIVE-YEAR GOAL WITHIN REACH EARLY

In 2020, as part of Groundswell's five-year strategic Blueprint, the Rapid Response Fund set the ambitious goal of distributing **\$500,000-\$600,000 annually by 2025**. Here's a peek at our progress after passing the midway point last year. **As you can see, thanks to the generosity of our supporters, we have surpassed our goal!**

2019 \$250,000

2022 **\$790,000**

2025 GOAL \$500,000-\$600,000

Thank you for making this possible!

IF/WHEN/HOW'S REPRO LEGAL DEFENSE FUND

is all too aware of how many people have been living in a post-Roe reality even before the *Dobbs* decision in 2022. And after the ruling, they began scaling up in preparation for even more calls for assistance. The reversal of Roe means **greater numbers of people won't have access to clinic-based or provider-directed abortions**. And many will likely self-manage their own care.

The legal defense fund provides financial support to those criminalized for ending their pregnancy and to anyone who directly helps them. This includes helping with the cost of bail, attorney's fees, expert witnesses, and more. And the fund is working to amass the resources needed to help as many people as possible.

If/When/How believes the **right to abortion is vital to exercising bodily autonomy** and seeks to stop the criminalization of people's bodies. Until that vision is realized, they will support anyone the legal system targets for ending a pregnancy. 🌐

MISSION: The Repro Legal Defense Fund covers bail and funds strong defenses for people unjustly targeted by police or prosecutors for their pregnancy outcomes. This can mean abortion, pregnancy loss, or substance abuse allegations.

We invite you to learn more about their work at reprolegaldefensefund.org

“Criminalization of our bodies is linked to the criminalization of refugees, immigrants, trans and queer folks; the lack of protection for or the erasure of sex workers, disabled bodies, incarcerated folks and neurodivergent peoples—when the frame is reproductive justice, it all fits the picture.

– IF/WHEN/HOW'S REPRO LEGAL DEFENSE FUND



In wake of bans, activists reveal truths about unequal impact of abortion restrictions and launch new supports

AVOW TEXAS is dedicated to **unapologetic abortion advocacy in a state facing an anti-abortion government and extremist policies** at every level. After the fall of Roe, they joined with the Repro Power Dallas Coalition to organize an abortion liberation rally in Dallas.

Part advocacy and part community healing, the event brought together a diverse range of voices to share their stories of abortion. Representing intersecting identities across immigration status, race, gender, and age, these powerful storytellers emphasized that **abortion restrictions do not impact all Texans equally**.

Since the *Dobbs* decision, **Avow** also did a comprehensive survey and inventory of the national legal resources available to help Texans facing civil or criminal liability due to abortion bans. Through

this effort, they created a **robust legal support network and a national resource directory**.

In all their work, **Avow Texas** continues to center abortion resources for Black, Indigenous, people of color, disabled folks, trans people, minors, and low-income communities. Because these populations are most impacted by restrictions on care and access. [G](#)

MISSION: **Avow** works to create a better Texas: where every person is trusted, thriving, and free to pursue the life they want. Through community-building, education, and political advocacy, **Avow** is securing unrestricted abortion care and reproductive rights for every Texan.

We invite you to learn more about their work at avowtexas.org

“*Abortion advocates in red states are resilient; we’re committed to fighting back. Most importantly, we need solidarity from other movements – if past decisions have shown us anything, it is that abortion is a testing ground for the kind of rogue and cruel legislation [anti-reproductive justice legislators] intend to pass on other issues.* – **AVOW TEXAS**



Image Courtesy of Freehearts

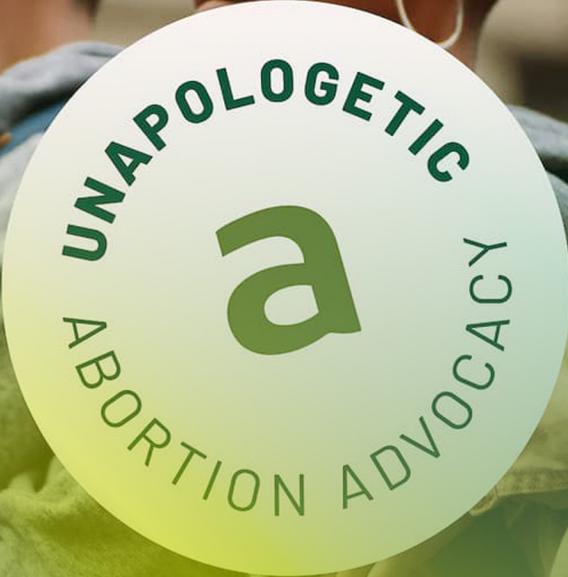
ABOUT GROUNDSWELL OUR GIVING LOOKS DIFFERENT

Groundswell’s model of philanthropy is different because of who we are—a foundation run by women of color and transgender people of color who come out of grassroots organizing. **We know where to invest for transformative change and how best to fuel today’s most revolutionary movements for reproductive and social justice.**

Groundswell Fund aims to strengthen our movements for social change by resourcing organizations that center the leadership of women of color—particularly those who are Black, Indigenous, and transgender.

The immense generosity of our community of supporters has enabled Groundswell Fund and our sibling 501(c)(4) organization, Groundswell Action Fund, to move nearly \$180 million to the field. This makes Groundswell **one of the largest funders of both the reproductive justice movement and women of color-led organizing in the United States.**

To learn more, please visit groundswellfund.org and groundswellactionfund.org.



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GROUNDSWELL FUND



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