



GROUNDSWELL
FUND



DELIVERING JUSTICE

Birth Justice Fund
2022 Report



Image Courtesy of Birthmark Doula Collective

BY THE NUMBERS

The Birth Justice Fund supports both national and state-level organizations.

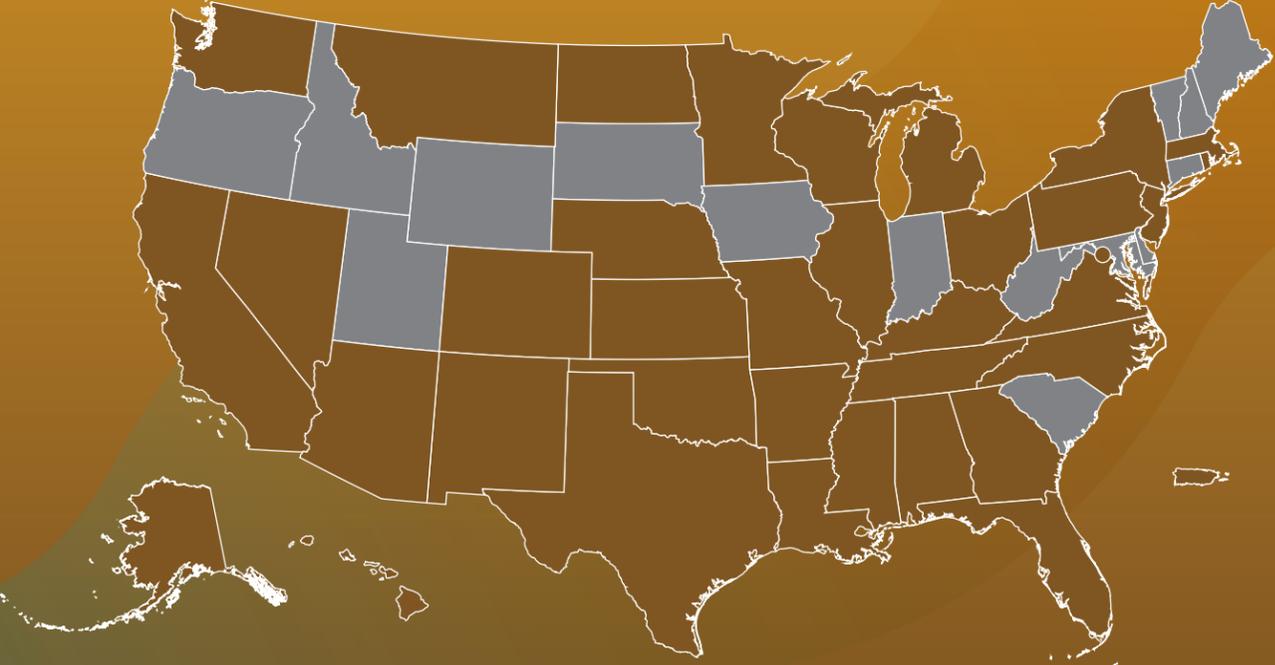


GROUNDSWELL'S BIRTH JUSTICE FUND

Established in 2011, the **Birth Justice Fund** provides resources for innovative **strategies led by midwives, doulas, and other birth workers of color to eliminate disparities in pregnancy, birth, and postpartum outcomes and experiences.** Poor outcomes disproportionately affect pregnant, birthing and postpartum people who are marginalized, including people of color, young people, poor and working-class people, and queer and transgender folks. Through this fund, we aim to increase access to empowering and culturally-relevant birthing options; uplift the leadership of midwives, doulas, and other birth workers of color; and support lasting

We are not here for incremental change.

States with Birth Justice Fund Grantees



- | | | | | |
|----------------------|---------------|-------------|----------------|------------|
| Alabama | Georgia | Minnesota | New York | Tennessee |
| Alaska | Hawaii | Mississippi | North Carolina | Texas |
| Arizona | Illinois | Missouri | North Dakota | Virginia |
| Arkansas | Kansas | Montana | Ohio | Washington |
| California | Kentucky | Nebraska | Oklahoma | Wisconsin |
| Colorado | Louisiana | Nevada | Pennsylvania | |
| District of Columbia | Massachusetts | New Jersey | Puerto Rico | |
| Florida | Michigan | New Mexico | Rhode Island | |



Image Courtesy of CHOICES

CHOICES

GRANTEE
IN ACTION



Committed to providing the full range of reproductive care for residents of Tennessee—and beyond—despite the criminalization of abortion

SUCCESS! FIVE-YEAR FUNDING GOAL ACHIEVED IN LESS THAN THREE YEARS

In 2020, as part of Groundswell’s five-year strategic Blueprint, the Birth Justice Fund set the ambitious goal of **distributing \$1.6 million annually by 2025**. Here’s a peek at our progress after passing the midway point last year. As you can see, thanks to the incredible generosity of our supporters, **we have already far exceeded that goal!**



Thank you for making this possible!

When the fall of *Roe v. Wade* looked imminent, **CHOICES** devised a plan to continue **offering as many reproductive health services as possible in Tennessee**. Though the organization is no longer able to provide abortions at its Memphis facility, it continues to offer all other sexual and reproductive health care. This includes birth control, HIV testing and prevention, gender-affirming hormone therapy, STI testing, sexual wellness check-ups, perinatal and birth services, and more.

At the end of 2022, **CHOICES** opened a **new clinic three hours from Memphis in Carbondale, Illinois, where abortion is protected by state law**. This facility offers the full spectrum of reproductive care for those who want to be pregnant and those who do not. After being open just a few months, the new location had **already served 517 people from 15 different states**.

Despite the devastating loss of abortion access in Tennessee after the *Dobbs* decision, **CHOICES** is here to stay. They are a safe, welcoming clinic that offers comprehensive reproductive health care to all. And their services are available to everyone who walks through their doors—even if they can’t afford the full cost of the services they need. 🌐

MISSION: CHOICES envisions a world where sexual and reproductive health care is recognized as an essential human right. Their services are open to everyone and they offer medication and procedural abortions, gynecological wellness care, gender-affirming hormone therapy, HIV testing and referrals, birth control, midwife-led prenatal care and births, and more.

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

“The people we serve have to draw on more bravery and strength than anyone should [have to] just to access basic health care. – CHOICES

Birthmark Doula Collective

GRANTEE
IN ACTION



From mutual aid and policy change to building lactation support in rural Louisiana for people of color

When the United States faced an infant formula shortage last spring, **BIRTHMARK DOULA COLLECTIVE** in New Orleans knew the upcoming hurricane season could make a difficult situation even more dire. Alongside the New Orleans Breastfeeding Coalition, they created “Infant Ready” kits, educated healthcare professionals on **infant feeding during an emergency**, and prepared to deliver mutual aid to clients who could not evacuate.

On the policy front, **Birthmark** is collaborating with the New Orleans Maternal Child Health Coalition and the New Orleans Mama+ Health Agenda to **advocate for the passage of two bills that allow insurance reimbursement for donor milk.**

Birthmark is also working in partnership with the Louisiana Department of Health to develop policies and provide

training on how to respond to perinatal emergencies. This includes establishing **BIPOC-centered, community-based lactation support circles in rural areas** as well as shaping state guidelines for families and providers to ensure non-judgmental language is used when talking about breastfeeding and formula options for feeding. [🌐](#)

MISSION: Birthmark Doula Collective is a birth justice organization dedicated to supporting, informing, and advocating for pregnant and parenting people and their families in New Orleans. They offer childbirth education, birth doula and postpartum doula services, and lactation support.

We invite you to learn more about their work at birthmarkdoulas.com

“*The rights of women and children have never been at the forefront of the American people. It has continuously been grassroots organizations, activists, and community members who have galvanized to come to our aid.* – **BIRTHMARK DOULA COLLECTIVE**



Image Courtesy of CHOICES

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.



Cover and Back Cover:
Images Courtesy of
Birthmark Doula Collective



GROUNDSWELL FUND



[GROUNDSWELLFUND.ORG](https://www.groundswellfund.org)