



FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

Martha's Table Reaches Over \$ 1 Million in Grant Funding and Capacity-Building Support for Ward 8 Nonprofits

WASHINGTON (October 31, 2024) – Today, Martha's Table announced an expanded commitment through its Community Impact Fund, awarding \$300,000 in new funding to ten exceptional organizations in Ward 8. Each grantee will receive a two-year grant totaling \$30,000 to support their innovative work addressing community challenges, enhancing organizational infrastructure, and advancing program operations. With this latest round, Martha's Table has provided more than \$1 million in grant funding to 34 nonprofits since the Fund's inception in 2022.

Recognizing that true transformation comes from within, the Community Impact Fund was developed in partnership with The Greater Washington Community Foundation in response to hearing from more than 1,000 community members who shared their visions for a thriving Ward 8. By amplifying the voices of those who understand their neighborhoods best, the Community Impact Fund supports local leaders to drive meaningful change.

Last year, Martha's Table enhanced its support for grantee organizations by integrating comprehensive capacity-building assistance in partnership with the Center for Nonprofit Advancement. This collaboration provides grantees with one-on-one consultations, in-person workshops, and a subscription to an online portal providing access to hundreds of webinars and recorded trainings. For this new grant cycle, Martha's Table will repeat the investment in capacity-building resources, empowering the new awardees to scale operations and strengthen internal systems.

"The Community Impact Fund is transforming how we invest in our local community," said Charlie Gussom, Director of Community Programs at Martha's Table. "Listening to our grantees underscored a need for targeted support that enables grassroots organizations to expand their reach. The Center for Nonprofit Advancement has been an invaluable partner in this work."

"Working in partnership with Martha's Table underscores our commitment to creating lasting, positive change within the community. This collaborative work brings together our shared resources, expertise, and passion to address critical needs and amplify impact. By joining forces, we are building a resilient network that uplifts organizations and fosters a thriving, inclusive community." Taylor Strange, Chief of Staff of The Center of Nonprofit Advancement.

In its inaugural launch, the Community Impact Fund awarded \$100,000 to ten organizations. Building on this success, Martha's Table has increased both grant amounts and capacity-building resources, with local funders including the Bernstein Foundation, The J. Willard and Alice S Marriott Foundation, Bainum Family Foundation, Horning Family Foundation, and Leonard and Hilda Kaplan Charitable Foundation playing key roles in the Fund's growth.

"The Community Impact Fund is made possible by the incredible generosity of our supporters, who are dedicated to fueling community-driven solutions," said Tiffany Williams, President and CEO of Martha's Table. **"Their commitment allows us to honor the voices of our neighbors, provide vital resources, and recenter power to organizations that are making a real difference at the grassroots level. Together, we are creating a brighter future that truly reflects the aspirations of our community and supports our neighbors thriving."**

"The Greater Washington Community Foundation congratulates Martha's Table and its nonprofit partners on Year 3 of the Community Impact Fund," said Tonia Wellons, President & CEO of The Community Foundation. **"We look forward to continuing our partnership to deepen impact in Ward 8."**

"Martha's Table's Community Impact Fund embodies The Community Foundation's values of community-led and informed grantmaking," added Benton Murphy, Director of Fund Administration and Special Projects at The Community Foundation. **"We've thoroughly enjoyed working with Charlie and the team at Martha's Table to ensure that these grants can do the most good. We also thank the members of the Participatory Grantmaking Committee for providing their time, knowledge, and perspectives to help select this year's slate of amazing groups. Congratulations to the new awardees!"**

We are thrilled to announce the launch of a new grant cycle for our Community Impact Fund, now in its third year. This year, we've awarded grants to the following ten grassroots nonprofits in Ward 8:

- Project Purpose - <https://projectpurposedc.org/>
- FurnishHopeDC - <https://furnishhopedc.org/>
- T.R.I.G.G.E.R. Project - <https://thetriggerproject.org/>
- Urban Ed Inc - <https://urbaned.org/>
- Children Of Mine - <https://childrenofminedc.org/>
- Ward 8 Woods Conservancy - <https://ward8woods.org/>
- Safe Sisters Circle - <https://www.safesisterscircle.org/mission-history>
- Children's Legacy Theater Inc - <https://www.childrenslegacytheatre8.org/>
- Changing Perceptions - <https://changingdcperceptions.org/programs-to-fight-recidivism/>
- Mint Project - <https://www.mintproject.org/>

For more details on the Community Impact Fund, please visit [Martha's Table's Community Impact Fund](#).

About Martha's Table

At Martha's Table, our mission is straightforward: to support strong children, strong families, and strong communities. We are committed to creating opportunities for a thriving Washington, DC, through innovative programs and community-led solutions. Our diverse range of initiatives spans strategic focus areas such as quality education, health and wellness, family support, and community investments. By harnessing the brilliance and strengths of our community, we provide holistic support that empowers families to not only meet their immediate needs but also build a brighter future for themselves and their children. The Community Impact Fund is a direct reflection of our commitment to community investments, enabling us to provide targeted support to grassroots organizations tackling pressing issues. For more information and to get involved, please visit marthastable.org.

About Greater Washington Community Foundation

The Greater Washington Community Foundation ignites the power of philanthropy, leads for community impact, and responds to critical community needs. Since 1973, The Community Foundation has been a trusted philanthropic partner to our generous donors and nonprofits working to create lasting change in DC, Montgomery County, Northern Virginia, and Prince George's County. As the region's largest local funder, we have invested more than \$1.4 billion to build racially equitable, just, and thriving communities where everyone prospers. Now, our strategic focus is to close our region's racial wealth gap so that people of all races, places, and identities reach their full potential.

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