

To understand social justice philanthropy, it is critical to understand the influences and events that helped shape it. The following is a list of over 100 key moments in American political history (key world events, major US government decisions, and the founding of key social movement organizations) and philanthropic history (founding of key foundations that have engaged in social justice philanthropy, establishment of key institutions in the philanthropic field, and legislative developments affecting philanthropy). While no list of this kind can be complete, taken together these events offer an opportunity to reflect on the origins and evolution of social justice philanthropy in a broader context.

The overview timeline is divided in three sections: Politics includes founding of representative social change nonprofits and key legislative decisions, “traditional” philanthropy includes founding of representative philanthropic institutions and key nonprofit/philanthropic laws, social justice philanthropy includes founding or representative foundations and related organizations. Dates given are for the launch, founding or start of the event or organization noted.

Politics	“Traditional” Philanthropy	Social Justice Philanthropy
<b>1900’s (plus one)</b>		
1900: International Ladies’ Garment Workers Union 1909: National Association for the Advancement of Colored People	1867: Peabody Education Fund 1907: Russell Sage Foundation	1909: New York Foundation
<b>1910’s</b>		
1911: Triangle Shirtwaist Factory Fire 1914: World War I 1916: Estate tax 1916: Planned Parenthood	1911: Carnegie Corporation of NY 1913: Federal tax exemption 1913: Rockefeller Foundation 1913: United Way of America 1914: Cleveland Foundation 1917: Charitable gift deduction	1917: Rosenwald Fund
<b>1920’s</b>		
1920: American Civil Liberties Union 1924: Immigration Act of 1924 1929: Great Depression		1921: American Fund for Public Service
<b>1930’s</b>		
1933: New Deal 1935: Corporate charitable tax deduction 1939: World War II	1930: W.K. Kellogg Foundation 1935: First Donor Advised Fund 1936: Ford Foundation	1936: Stern Family Fund
<b>1940’s</b>		
1940: Industrial Areas Foundation 1944: GI Bill of Rights 1945: US drops 2 atomic bombs 1945: United Nations 1947: Cold War	1941: Form 990 filed for 1 <sup>st</sup> time 1948: Conference of Southwest Foundations 1949: Council on Foundations	

*This timeline was developed as a resource on the political and philanthropic history of social justice movements. For other philanthropic planning resources, please visit [www.boldergiving.org](http://www.boldergiving.org) or contact Jason Franklin, Executive Director of Bolder Giving, at [jason@boldergiving.org](mailto:jason@boldergiving.org).*

<b>1950's</b>		
1950: McCarthyism is "launched" 1954: Brown v. Board of Education 1955: AFL-CIO 1955: Montgomery Bus Boycott	1950: Unrelated Business Income Tax 1952: Cox Committee investigates foundation practices 1954: GE Foundation 1956: Foundation Center 1956: Giving USA	1954: New World Foundation 1956: Needmor Fund
<b>1960's</b>		
1960: Student Nonviolent Coordinating Committee 1963: March on Washington 1964: Economic Opportunity Act 1965: National Voting Rights Act 1965: United Farm Workers 1966: National Organization for Women 1969: Stonewall Riots	1969: Tax Reform Act of 1969	1964: David Hunter hired to lead the Stern Family Fund 1967: RESIST foundation 1969: Catholic Campaign for Human Development
<b>1970's</b>		
1970: Environmental Protection Agency 1970: Kent State shootings 1970: The Struggle for Vieques 1971: Public Citizen 1972: Watergate Scandal 1973: Roe v. Wade 1974: Housing and Community Development Act 1979: Three Mile Island	1971: Association of Black Foundation Executives 1973: Sherwick Fund 1974: Filer Commission 1976: 5% foundation payout rate 1978: Yale's Program on Non-Profit Organizations 1979: Local Initiatives Support Corporation	1970: Youth Project 1971: 21st Century Foundation 1971: Bread & Roses Community Fund 1971: National Network of Grantmakers 1972: Ms. Foundation for Women 1976: National Committee for Responsive Philanthropy 1976: Tides Foundation 1979: Funding Exchange
<b>1980's</b>		
1980: Human Rights Campaign 1980: Independent Sector 1981: Centers for Disease Control records first case of AIDS in the US 1989: Exxon Valdez oil spill	1981: MacArthur Foundation awards first genius grants 1984: Atlantic Philanthropies 1988: Chronicle of Philanthropy	1981: Threshold Foundation 1982: Beldon Fund 1982: Funders for LGBTQ Issues
<b>1990's</b>		
1992: Earth Summit 1994: Proposition 187 passes in CA 1996: Defense of Marriage Act 1999: "Battle in Seattle" protests of the World Trade Organization	1991: Fidelity Charitable Gift Fund 1991: Living Cities funder collaborative 1993: Open Society Institute 1994: Guidestar.org 1997: New York Times "Giving" section 1999: Bill & Melinda Gates Foundation	1993: Joint Affinity Groups 1996: Latino Fund Collaborative 1999: Resource Generation

**1867: Peabody Education Fund established** - Considered by historians to be the first modern philanthropic foundation, British banker George Peabody created his fund to support the "intellectual, moral, and industrial education in the most destitute portion of the Southern States." It was a spend-down foundation which ceased funding in 1898.

**1900: International Ladies' Garment Workers Union founded** - Leading the fight to organize workers in the garment trades in New York with work stoppages and strikes, it served as a model for early labor movements around the country. It established the Union Health Center for its members in 1913, and it eventually established working standards including a 52-hour work week. The union provided education, social centers and built major affordable housing complexes in New York City for its members. In 1995 the ILGWU merged with the Amalgamated Clothing and Textile Workers Union forming UNITE (Union of Needletrades, Industrial and Textile Employees) and in 2004, UNITE and the Hotel Employees & Restaurant Employees International Union (HERE) merged to form UNITE HERE.

**1907: Russell Sage Foundation founded** - Margaret Olivia Sage founded the Russell Sage Foundation, which is often mistakenly noted as the first large modern foundation since the Peabody Fund, the other heir to this title, had closed its doors ten years previously. The first woman to create a foundation of any significant size, her foundation went on to become a leader in progressive social science research and the settlement house movement.

**1909: NAACP founded** - The National Association for the Advancement of Colored People is one of the oldest and most influential civil rights organizations in the United States. Its mission is "to ensure the political, educational, social, and economic equality of rights of all persons and to eliminate racial hatred and racial discrimination".

**1909: New York Foundation created** - Launched by Alfred M. Heinsheimer with a \$1 million bequest from his brother, it was the first locally-oriented progressive foundation in the country. It received two additional major endowment gifts - a \$2.4 million gift in 1925 from Lionel Salomon, restricted broadly to the benefit of the young and the elderly, and an unrestricted second gift of \$6 million from the estate of Alfred M. Heinsheimer in 1929. With assets of ~\$55 million in 2010, it continues to be a key local funder of community organizing and advocacy in NYC.

**1911: Carnegie Corporation of New York founded** - Andrew Carnegie, afraid he would die "rich and disgraced" created this organization, his largest foundation, with a gift of \$125 million. After a period of moderate activity, it emerged in the mid-20th century as a key funder of a wide range of social justice causes.

**1911: Triangle Shirtwaist Factory Fire** - One of the largest industrial accidents in the history of New York City, and the worst workplace disaster prior to September 11, 2001. Over 140 young female garment workers, some as young as 13, lost their lives in a 9-story building off Washington Square Park (now part of New York University) because exit and stairwell doors were locked to keep workers from taking cigarette breaks and fire truck ladders could not reach high enough to rescue them. The tragedy brought the International Ladies' Garment Workers Union to prominence and resulted in early federal legislative victories to improve factory working conditions and safeguard workers.

**1913: Federal tax exemption established** - The Revenue Act of 1913 exempted organizations operated exclusively for religious, charitable, scientific or educational purposes from paying federal income taxes.

**1913: Rockefeller Foundation created** - After being denied a national charter for his foundation, John D. Rockefeller Sr created his foundation in New York State. At that time the richest man in the country (his annual income, mostly from Standard Oil, represented approximately 5% of the national GDP), he was looking for a "wholesale philanthropy" approach to keep up with how fast his wealth was growing.

**1913: United Way of America established** - The nation's first modern Community Chest was born in Cleveland, where a program for allocating campaign funds was developed. Community Chests would spread to over 350 cities and towns by 1929. They would eventually become The United Way agencies.

**1914: Cleveland Foundation founded** - Frederick Goff, former staff to John D. Rockefeller, launched the Cleveland Foundation as the first community foundation in the country, enabling people of moderate wealth to pool their philanthropic resources to support social and cultural programs in their community.

**1914: World War I began** - World War I, which lasted from 1914 to 1918, began as a local conflict between Austria-Hungary and Serbia and eventually became a global war involving 32 nations, 28 of which, known as the Allies and Associated Powers including Great Britain, France, Russia, Italy and the United States opposed the coalition known as the Central Powers consisting of Germany, Austria-Hungary, Turkey and Bulgaria. The aggregate direct war costs amounted to ~\$186 billion and over 37 million soldiers and 10 million civilians were killed.

**1916: Estate tax created** - The 1916 Revenue Act established the estate tax. Initial rates ranged from 1 percent on net estates of up to \$50,000 (\$990K in 2009 dollars), to 10 percent on net estates over \$5,000,000 (\$99M in 2009 dollars).

**1916: Planned Parenthood founded** - Margaret Sanger, her sister Ethel Byrne and an associate, Fania Mindell, opened the first birth control clinic in America. They provided contraceptive advice to desperately poor immigrant women who lined up hours before the clinic doors opened. Within a few days, they were jailed and the clinic closed, but a powerful movement began. This became the founding of Planned Parenthood.

**1917: Charitable gift deduction created** - Income tax law changed to permit individuals to deduct up to 15% of taxable income for charitable contributions.

**1917: Rosenwald Fund created** - Julius Rosenwald, the force behind Sears Roebuck, established this foundation, which helped build thousands of schools for black children in the south. It is generally heralded as the first prominent "spend-down" foundation (even though Peabody preceded it, that fund was not as well known) and ceased operations in 1948.

**1920: American Civil Liberties Union founded** - Founded by Roger Baldwin, Crystal Eastman and Walter Nelles, the American Civil Liberties Union (ACLU) worked to defend and preserve the individual rights and liberties guaranteed by the Constitution and US law through litigation and lobbying efforts.

**1921: American Fund for Public Service launched** - Founded by Charles Garland, it was perhaps the first social justice foundation, focused initially on "simple justice" for blacks in America. Created with a million dollar endowment (equal to ~\$12 million in 2008 US dollars) when Garland refused to take an inheritance for himself, the Fund was a key source of support for 20s and 30s progressive and radical organizations. After suffering dramatic financial losses in the stock market crash, it primarily supported farmer rights organizations in the 1930s and closed its doors in 1941.

**1924: Immigration Act of 1924** - This act limited the number of immigrants who could be admitted to the U.S. from any country to 2% of the number of people from that country already living in the United States according to the Census of 1890. The law was aimed at limiting southern and eastern Europeans who were immigrating in large numbers at that time, and it entirely excluded immigration of Asians.

**1929: Great Depression begins** - Started by the US stock market crash, the Great Depression quickly spread to almost every country in the world. It was the longest, most widespread, and deepest depression of the 20th century and had devastating effects in virtually every country, rich and poor. Personal income, tax revenue, profits and prices dropped and international trade plunged by two-thirds. Unemployment in the United States rose to 25%, and in some countries rose as high as 33%. In the US, recovery began with the launch of Roosevelt's New Deal and was "completed" with the industrial ramp-up from World War 2.

**1930: W.K. Kellogg Foundation created** - W.K. Kellogg creates his foundation from the wealth he built on a cereal company. It focuses on education and health and is an early key funder for rural issues. In recent years it has been a leader on racial justice issues among others.

**1933: New Deal launched** - The New Deal was a series of economic programs passed by Congress during the first term of Franklin Roosevelt, from 1933 to his reelection in 1937. The programs were responses to the Great

Depression and focused on what historians call the 3 Rs: Relief for the unemployed and poor, Recovery of the economy to normal levels, and Reform of the financial system to prevent a repeat depression. It led to a major party realignment and the greatest expansion of the federal government in history.

**1935: Corporate charitable tax deduction created** - Corporations were permitted to deduct charitable contributions for the first time. The initial rate was set at 5% of gross income.

**1935: First Donor Advised Fund created** - The Winston-Salem Community Foundation launched the donor advised fund movement (housing a grantmaking fund within a community or other foundation which distributes grants based on the advice of the original donor) with the opening of its first DAF.

**1936: Ford Foundation founded** - Henry Ford and his son Edsel created the Ford Foundation, initially with a focus exclusively on Michigan. Upon their deaths in the 1940s it shifted to a national and international focus. When founded, it was the largest foundation in the US and retained that distinction until the founding of the Gates Foundation.

**1936: Stern Family Fund created** - Created by heirs of Julius Rosenwald, the Stern Family Fund was one of the most important social justice funders of the mid-20th century. David Hunter, its final Executive Director, was called by many the "godfather of social change philanthropy" and over its 50-year existence it provided funding to a cross section of the nonprofits on the left.

**1939: World War II began** - A global military conflict lasting from 1939 to 1945, WWII involved most of the world's nations organized into two opposing military alliances: the Allies and the Axis. It was the most widespread war in history, involving more than 100 million military personnel. From major military confrontations to civilian massacres, including the Nazi-led Holocaust and the American use of nuclear weapons against Japan, it stands as the deadliest conflict in human history, with over seventy million casualties.

**1940: Industrial Areas Foundation launched** - Established by Saul Alinsky, the father of modern community organizing, this national community organizing network offered training and coaching services for community organizing and supports the work (as of 2010) of 59 IAF affiliates in 21 states, Canada, the United Kingdom, Germany, and Australia.

**1941: IRS Form 990 filed for the first time** - The Form 990, an informational tax return completed annually by nonprofits, was filed for the first time for tax years ending in 1941. The original Form 990 required nonprofits to answer several yes/no questions, provide an income statement and a balance sheet. It was only two pages long.

**1944: GI Bill of Rights passed** - An omnibus bill passed during the Roosevelt Administration that provided free college and vocational education for returning World War II veterans, along with one year of unemployment compensation. It also provided low-cost loans for returning veterans to buy homes and start businesses. Since the original act, the term has come to include programs created to assist veterans of subsequent wars and those engaged in peacetime service.

**1945: Hiroshima and Nagasaki atom bombed** - In the history of warfare, only two nuclear weapons have been detonated offensively: when the United States bombed the Japanese cities of Hiroshima and Nagasaki. The bombings killed an estimated 150,000-250,000+ people and led to Japan's surrender to the Allies, officially ending World War II.

**1945: United Nations founded** - Created from an original constitution of 51 member states, the UN is an international organization whose stated aim is to achieve world peace. It works toward this aim by facilitating cooperation in human rights, economic development, social progress, international security and international law. The UN was founded after World War II to replace the League of Nations, provide a starting point for dialogue, and to end wars between countries. Currently at 192 member states, it includes nearly every sovereign state in the world. In spite of its purported mission of peace, especially in unstable nations, its ability to act outside of the sovereignty of individual countries makes its work subject to less than fully transparent oversight.

**1947: Cold War begins** - The 20th Century's "non-war", the Cold War describes the continuing state of political conflict, military tension, proxy wars, and economic competition that emerged after World War II primarily between the USSR and US and their respective allies.

**1948: Conference of Southwest Foundations created** - Dr. Robert Sutherland, Mary Butt and Margaret Scarbrough met for lunch in Austin, Texas. Recognizing their shared interests in philanthropy, and the general lack of resources needed to address them, these three planned, organized and hosted the first Conference of Texas Foundations and Trusts in the spring of 1949. This event led to the creation of the Conference on Southwest Foundations, the nation's first regional association of grantmakers.

**1949: Council on Foundations established** - The National Committee on Foundations and Trusts for Community Welfare—later renamed the Council on Foundations—was founded "to promote responsible and effective philanthropy." The Council had no members until 1957. Today COF represents more than 2,000 foundations and corporate grantmakers.

**1950: McCarthyism is "launched" with Joe McCarthy's Wheeling Speech** - After a relatively unremarkable first three years in the Senate, Joe McCarthy sprang to national prominence when he gave a Lincoln Day speech to the Republican Women's Club of Wheeling, WV where he produced a piece of paper that he claimed contained a list of known Communists working for the State Department. Praised by his supporters for protecting America from "Communist subversion," McCarthy helped create legislation to disallow all rights to members of the Communist Party in the US and launched the second Red Scare with his witch-hunt tactics - attacking and investigating potential communists or communist sympathizers without sufficient (or any) evidence. At the end of 1954, the Senate voted to censure Senator McCarthy by a vote of 67 to 22, making him one of the few senators ever to be disciplined in this fashion.

**1950: Unrelated Business Income Tax established** - Under pressure from business executives, Congress passed a law to tax charities' unrelated-business activities in hopes of preventing nonprofit groups from enjoying an unfair competitive edge against private companies.

**1952: Cox Committee investigates foundations** - The Select Committee to Investigate Tax-Exempt Foundations and Comparable Organizations (called the Cox Committee after its chairman, Edward Cox) was an investigative committee of the US House of Representatives between 1952-1954. It investigated the use of funds by tax-exempt organizations to see if they were being used to support communism. It ultimately yielded a positive report on foundation activities.

**1954: Brown v. Board of Education decision handed down** - This a landmark decision of the Supreme Court declared state laws establishing separate public schools for black and white students, denying black children equal educational opportunities, unconstitutional. As a result, de jure racial segregation was ruled a violation of the Equal Protection Clause of the Fourteenth Amendment of the United States Constitution.

**1954: First corporate foundation - GE Foundation - launched** - The GE Foundation, the philanthropic organization of the General Electric Company, starts the first matching gifts program to encourage GE employees to support the needs and objectives of higher education

**1954: New World Foundation established** - New World operated for the first 50 years of its life as a family foundation focused on progressive issues including worker safety, union organizing, public education, and the peace movement. Through the struggle against Apartheid in South Africa in the 1980s, New World's family-led board became more familiar with democratic movements, and transitioned from a board of social elites to one of community organizers, movement thinkers and leaders. In 1994 New World evolved from a private national foundation to a public charity in order to add new financial resources to its own.

**1955: AFL-CIO launched** - Created in the merger of the long estranged American Federation of Labor and Congress of Industrial Organizations, the AFL-CIO represented nearly all unionized US workers from 1955-2005. After several years of debate about the future of the labor movement and the loss of presidential candidate John Kerry, three of the four largest AFL-CIO unions withdrew and created the Change to Win Federation.

**1955: Montgomery Bus Boycott** - Launched after Rosa Parks was arrested for refusing to give up her seat to a white person, the boycott lasted until December 1956 after a Supreme Court decision declared the Alabama and Montgomery laws requiring segregated buses to be unconstitutional. The boycott was one of the first major victories of the civil rights movement and catapulted Martin Luther King Jr to fame as the boycott's leader.

**1956: Foundation Center founded** - The Foundation Library Center, later known as the Foundation Center, was established by the Carnegie Corporation and the Russell Sage Foundation. The center aims to increase public awareness by providing information about the field. Its activities include publishing a directory of foundations and a magazine, Foundation News (closed in 2007).

**1956: Giving USA launched** - The first edition of Giving USA, the seminal sourcebook on philanthropy in America, was published by the American Association of Fundraising Counsel. It reported on giving by Americans in 1955.

**1956: Needmor Fund established** - A family foundation launched in the mid-50s, Needmor Fund's mission is to work with other to bring about social justice. The Needmor Fund supports people who work together to change the social, economic, or political conditions which bar their access to participation in a democratic society, and it has been a key leader in funding community organizing, advancing mission related investing, promoting social justice philanthropy, modeling shared leadership in family foundations and other major SJP priorities.

**1960: Student Nonviolent Coordinating Committee founded** - The Student Nonviolent Coordinating Committee (SNCC), a civil rights organization made up of Black and White college students, was founded in Raleigh, North Carolina, to facilitate sit-in activities across the South, and later it helped thousands of Blacks register to vote.

**1963: March on Washington for Jobs and Freedom** - Organized by a group of civil rights, labor, and religious organizations, the March brought almost 300,000 people to Washington, DC. They turned out in support of civil rights and heard Martin Luther King, Jr. deliver his historic "I Have a Dream" speech advocating racial harmony at the Lincoln Memorial.

**1964: David Hunter hired to lead the Stern Family Fund** - Considered by many to be the "godfather of progressive philanthropy," Mr. Hunter was the third and final Executive Director of the Stern Family Fund. During his 22-year tenure at Stern, he constantly sought out new activist leaders around the country and advised dozens of other progressive donors on their entry into philanthropy and creation of new foundations.

**1964: Economic Opportunity Act passed** - Passed by Congress under President Johnson, this bill launched Johnson's Great Society Program with a \$1 billion appropriation to cities around the country to create job training centers and Youth Corps programs to educate and train young people in the skills necessary to secure decent jobs. While the "welfare" programs touted by Johnson became ideologically unpopular and were cut back or reversed during the conservative 1980s and 90s, important programs such as AmeriCorps/Vista and Headstart remain active today.

**1965: National Voting Rights Act passed** - A landmark piece of national legislation, this marked the first piece of Congressional legislation affirming and protecting the rights of African Americans to vote. It also marked a turning point in federal politics, breaking the deadlock on race issues sustained for decades by Southern Senators.

**1965: United Farm Workers formed** - Created from the merging of two groups, the National Farm Workers Association led by Cesar Chavez and the Agricultural Workers Organizing Committee led by Filipino organizer Larry Itliong, UFW gained prominence after winning a famous 5-year grape strike in California.

**1966: National Organization for Women created** - National Organization for Women was founded by Betty Friedan, Dr. Pauli Murray and 28 other women who met to set up a temporary organization for this purpose: "To take action to bring women into full participation in the mainstream of American society now, assuming all the privileges and responsibilities thereof in truly equal partnership with men." Today, the institution is comprised of over 500,000 members.

**1967: RESIST foundation launched** - The oldest progressive public foundation, RESIST was founded with a "Call to Resist Illegitimate Authority," issued to support draft resistance and in opposition to the war in Vietnam. During the Vietnam War, RESIST evolved into a national funder supporting anti-war activism, the civil rights movement, and beyond, and work against the unequal distribution of power and money domestically and US domination abroad

**1969: Catholic Campaign for Human Development established** - The National Conference of Catholic Bishops established the Catholic Campaign for Human Development as the Catholic Church's domestic anti-poverty program. It has been one of the largest and most progressive religious-based funders in the United States, with a mission "to address the root causes of poverty in America through promotion and support of community-controlled self-help organizations and through transformative social justice education, and solidarity between poor and non-poor."

**1969: Stonewall Riots occurred** - The Stonewall riots were a series of violent demonstrations against a police raid that took place in the early morning hours of June 28, 1969 at the Stonewall Inn in NYC. They are frequently cited as the first instance in American history when people in the LGBT community fought back against a government-sponsored system that persecuted sexual minorities, and they have become the defining event that marked the start of the gay rights movement in the United States and around the world.

**1969: Tax Reform Act of 1969 passed** - The Tax Reform Act of 1969 vastly changed tax-exempt law. For the first time, a distinction was made between public charities and private foundations, allowing the government to subject private foundations to a payout rate and requiring them to pay an excise tax. The act also increased the deduction limit for charitable contributions to 50% of a taxpayer's adjusted gross income and detailed limits for noncash gifts.

**1970: Environmental Protection Agency established** - Created by President Richard Nixon, the EPA was the first federal agency charged with setting and enforcing national standards on environmental issues, including the first coordinated enforcement of the landmark Clean Air & Clean Water Acts passed in the 1960s.

**1970: Kent State shootings** - Reacting to student protests of the American invasion of Cambodia, Ohio National Guardsmen shot and killed 4 unarmed students and wounded 9 others at Kent State University in Ohio. The "May 4th Massacre" became a defining symbol of the anti-Vietnam War movement and provoked the first nationwide student strike in US history, involving 4 million+ students.

**1970: The Struggle for Vieques** - Puerto Rican organizations began calling for the removal of the U.S. Navy from the island of Vieques, a small community subject to testing of live ammunition (including depleted uranium) that degraded the environment and contributed to abnormally high cancer rates. The struggle culminated in mass demonstrations and a year-long occupation of the bomb site by more than 200 activists. The U.S. Army finally left the island in 2003

**1970: Youth Project founded** - Co-founded by activists Dick Boone & Lenny Conway and a network of progressive organizations led by the Center for Community Change, the Youth Project provided a "venue through which young people with inherited wealth could channel their donations collectively and effectively." With a national DC office and branch offices around the country at its height, its staff and grantees moved on to assume many key leaderships in progressive philanthropy in the coming decades.

**1971: 21st Century Foundation created** - The Twenty-First Century Foundation was one of the first black-led public foundations. Founded by Robert Browne, its goal was to create an endowed, national philanthropic institution that supports the civil rights, economic empowerment, and grassroots leadership of the black community in the United States through its grantmaking and donor services.

**1971: Association of Black Foundation Executives established** - The Association of Black Foundation Executives was the first and oldest of more than 40 Council on Foundations (COF) affinity groups. Since its founding, the organization has grown into an autonomous membership organization and affinity group of the COF. The Association of Black Foundation Executives helps to promote black leadership and participation in organized philanthropy.

**1971: Bread & Roses Community Fund established** - The first of the "alternative funds" that eventually formed the Funding Exchange, Bread & Roses was founded in 1971. It helped touch off a wave of new activist-led public foundations across the country and continues to fund local progressive organizing in the Philadelphia region.

**1971: National Network of Grantmakers founded** - Perhaps the most important affinity group for progressive philanthropy for almost four decades was the National Network of Grantmakers (founded in 1971 as the Network of Change Oriented Foundation, and renamed in 1980). NNG was a membership organization of grantmaking organizations and individuals involved in social justice philanthropy. It organized many early conversations about social justice philanthropy, key annual gatherings for progressive funders, and generated key research and publications on these issues. It closed its doors in 2007.

**1971: Public Citizen launched** - Ralph Nader co-founded Public Citizen as an umbrella organization for the government corruption investigations launched by his "Nader Raiders," building on the success of his automobile safety advocacy launched by the publication of *Unsafe at Any Speed*.

**1972: Ms. Foundation for Women established** - Founded by Gloria Steinem, Patricia Carbine, Letty Cottin Pogrebin and Marlo Thoma at the height of the feminist movement, the Ms. Foundation was created to deliver funding and other strategic resources to organizations that were elevating women's voices and solutions across race and class in communities nationwide. It helped spur the launch of the women's fund movement across the country and around the world.

**1972: Watergate Scandal** - After attempting to cover up a break-in into the Democratic National Committee headquarters at the Watergate office complex in Washington DC, President Nixon ultimately resigned from office rather than face impeachment.

**1973: Roe v. Wade decision handed down** - A landmark case decided by the Supreme Court on the issue of abortion, it is one of the most controversial and politically significant cases in U.S. Supreme Court history. The Court held that a woman may end her pregnancy for any reason, up until the "point at which the fetus becomes 'viable'". A landmark victory for reproductive justice advocates, in disallowing many state and federal restrictions on abortion in the United States, *Roe v. Wade* prompted a national debate that continues today.

**1973: Sherwick Fund established** - Established as family foundation by John Sherwin Sr. in 1953, the foundation changed structured after working closely with the Cleveland Foundation. Sherwin realized that having access to its staff and expertise would be invaluable in helping his foundation. Together with his attorney, Sherwin petitioned the IRS and, under the terms of Section 509(a)(3) of the Tax Reform Act of 1969, The Sherwick Fund became the first supporting organization in the country.

**1974: Filer Commission convened** - John D. Rockefeller III convened the Commission on Private Philanthropy & Public Needs (called the Filer Commission after its chair) which conducted a widespread review of the state of philanthropy. Its report, published in 1975, was seen as a definitive document describing the early field of philanthropy.

**1974: Housing and Community Development Act passed** - This landmark piece of housing legislation created the Section 8 Housing Voucher Program and the Community Development Block Grant (CDBG) program which merged 7 programs into a block of flexible funds distributed each year by a formula that considers population and measures of distress including poverty and overcrowding.

**1976: 5% foundation payout rate established** - Congress adopted a 5% flat payout rate for private charitable foundations including grants and qualified administrative expenses. This adjusts down the rate from a previously established rate of 6.75% established by the IRS that was intended to shift as money rates and investment yields fluctuated.

**1976: National Committee for Responsive Philanthropy founded** - Founded by The Donee Group, a coalition of nonprofit leaders across the nation who recognized that traditional philanthropy was falling short of addressing critical public needs, the National Committee for Responsive Philanthropy serves as the country's "independent watchdog of foundations". It has been a strong voice for thirty years, pushing for philanthropy to focus on core social justice values and priorities.

**1976: Tides Foundation created** - Started out of a need to facilitate the giving of an anonymous couple in New Mexico, Tides was created to channel progressive grants from individual donors and in 1979 also emerged as a resource to help new progressive projects launch. An important values-based infrastructure for progressive nonprofit work, today it includes major granting, regranteeing, online giving, project support and real estate efforts under a multi-organizational umbrella.

**1978: Yale's Program on Non-Profit Organizations founded** - The Program on Non-Profit Organizations (PONPO) at Yale University was founded to foster interdisciplinary research aimed at developing an understanding of nonprofit organizations and their role in economic and political life. It was the first such academic center devoted to studying nonprofit organizations and volunteer sector.

**1979: Funding Exchange established** - Originally called the National Community Funds and later renamed the Funding Exchange, this network of progressive public foundations was a defining force in progressive philanthropy in the late 70s and 80s, raising questions of power and privilege in grantmaking and focusing on social justice organizing as a philanthropic strategy. In 2009, FEX includes 16 member funds across the country that make approximately \$15 million in grants annually.

**1979: Local Initiatives Support Corporation established** - The use of "intermediary" organizations began with the creation of Local Initiatives Support Corporation (LISC) by the Ford Foundation. Intermediaries are entities which stand between one or more foundations and grantee organizations, and which re-grant foundation monies or provide technical assistance to the grantees.

**1979: Three Mile Island nuclear accident** - The most significant nuclear accident in US history, a partial core meltdown of the second reactor at the Three Mile Island Nuclear Station in Pennsylvania sparked widespread public opposition to nuclear power generation and ultimately led to a cessation of new plant construction across the US.

**1980: Human Rights Campaign founded** - The Human Rights Campaign, the largest national gay, lesbian, bisexual and transgender advocacy organization, was founded to end discrimination against gay-lesbian-bisexual-transgender citizens and realize a nation that achieves fundamental fairness and equality for all.

**1980: Independent Sector founded** - Independent Sector was created from the merger of the National Council on Philanthropy and Coalition of National Voluntary Organizations. It represents all major charitable tax-exempt organizations-bringing foundations, corporate grantmakers and national nonprofit institutions together.

**1981: Centers for Disease Control records first recognized case of AIDS in the US** - San Francisco resident Ken Horne, the first AIDS case in the United States to be recognized at the time, was reported to Center for Disease Control with Kaposi's sarcoma.

**1981: MacArthur Foundation awards first genius grants** - The MacArthur Fellows Program awarded its first "genius grants"-- unrestricted fellowships to talented individuals who have shown extraordinary originality and dedication in their creative pursuits and a marked capacity for self-direction. This "no strings attached" award is given annually to typically 20 to 40 citizens or residents of the United States, of any age and working in any field, who "show exceptional merit and promise for continued and enhanced creative work."

**1981: Threshold Foundation created** - Threshold is a progressive foundation and a community of individuals united through wealth, who mobilize money, people and power to create a more just, joyful and sustainable world. It "has served as a quiet catalyst to the social change movement, by seeding thousands of non-profits and by supporting the evolution of many sister donor organizations and socially responsible business networks throughout the world."

**1982: Beldon Fund launched** - The Beldon Fund was created by John Hunting as a national foundation committed to promoting sound environmental policies. In 1998, Beldon received a major infusion of funds from the sale of Hunting's stock in the Steelcase company. Hunting set the foundation on a new course by deciding to spend all its principal and earnings over the next ten years, with the goal of building a national consensus to achieve and sustain a healthy planet.

**1982: Funders for LGBTQ Issues created** - Launched as the Working Group on Lesbian and Gay Issues (founded as a project of the National Network of Grantmakers), Funders for LGBTQ Issues seeks to mobilize philanthropic resources that enhance the well-being of lesbian, gay, bisexual, transgender and queer communities, promote equity and advance racial, economic and gender justice. Since its founding, Funders has studied, shaped and strengthened LGBTQ grantmaking by convening and educating funders, providing reliable research on institutional funding patterns, and disseminating information on issues relevant to our communities.

**1984: Atlantic Philanthropies founded** - Founded by billionaire Chuck Feeney from the proceeds of the sale of his duty-free merchandising empire, for the first 13 years of its existence it was one of the largest anonymous donors in the world. "Outed" in 1997, Atlantic Philanthropies supports programs in Aging, Children & Youth, Population Health and Reconciliation & Human Rights and intends to spend out its \$4 billion endowment by 2020.

**1988: Chronicle of Philanthropy publishes first issue** - The Chronicle of Philanthropy, a for-profit biweekly newspaper covering the nonprofit sector, was launched.

**1989: Exxon Valdez oil spill** - One of the most devastating human-caused environmental disasters ever to occur at sea, the Exxon Valdez oil tanker ran aground in Alaska's Prince William Sound, spilling 10.8+ million gallons of crude oil into the surrounding sea that eventually spread to cover 1300 square miles.

**1991: Fidelity Charitable Gift Fund established** - Fidelity Investment's Charitable Gift Fund was created, enabling its customers to take advantage of the benefits of donor-advised funds. Sixteen years later it had \$4.7 billion in assets, which would make it the 12th largest foundation in the US if counted on that list. These funds, which had long been available through community foundations and Jewish federations, represented a new and controversial commercialization of philanthropy.

**1991: Living Cities funder collaborative launched** - Several major foundations and financial institutions formed the National Community Development Initiative (NCDI)-the largest philanthropic collaboration in U.S. history-to revitalize America's great urban centers. Now known as Living Cities, the initiative has invested over \$543 million in 23 cities to build homes, stores, schools, daycare, healthcare and job-training centers, and other community assets that exceed \$15.9 billion in total value-a remarkable leverage ratio of 29 to 1. By 2011, Living Cities will have contributed three-quarters of a billion dollars to revitalizing urban America.

**1992: Earth Summit** - Meeting in Rio de Janeiro, the United Nations Conference on Environment and Development produced the UN Framework Convention on Climate Change, an international environmental treaty seeking to stabilize greenhouse gas concentrations in the atmosphere at a level that would prevent major climate shifts. This treaty was the basis of the 1997 Kyoto Protocol, a set of legally binding obligations for developed countries to reduce their greenhouse gas emissions.

**1993: Joint Affinity Groups founded** - The Joint Affinity Groups (JAG) is a coalition of identity-based grantmaker associations that worked to coordinate efforts of groups working on issues of race, sexuality, gender and disability in philanthropy.

**1993: Open Society Institute created** - Financier George Soros establishes the Open Society Institute, a foundation supporting civil-society programs in the newly-emerging democracies in Eastern Europe and the former Soviet Union. It is now part of a network of Soros-funded national foundations (30 of them as of 1999, spending a total of \$428.4 million in 1997).

**1994: Guidestar.org launched** - Philanthropic Research, Inc. launches Guidestar.org allowing the general public the ability to view and download the tax returns and other important information about charities and private foundations online.

**1994: Proposition 187 passes in California** - As the Latino population grew rapidly in California, this ballot initiative was designed to limit access to social services, healthcare and public education for children of undocumented immigrants. Federal courts ultimately held Proposition 187 to be unconstitutional, but anti-immigrant feeling had already begun to spread across the country. Since 1995, ten states have made attempts to introduce similar legislation

**1996: Defense of Marriage Act becomes law** - A major setback in the LGBT rights movement, the national act established a national definition of marriage as a union between one man and one woman and that one state did not have to recognize same-sex unions performed in another state. While it is being challenged on a variety of constitutional grounds it has not yet been reviewed by the US Supreme Court.

**1996: Latino Fund Collaborative launched** - The Latino Fund Collaborative formed as a joint effort among six national Latino Funds with the objective of working together to raise funds and strengthen Latino involvement in philanthropy. The collaborative is made up of: El Fondo de Nuestra Comunidad (Saint Paul, MN), Greater Kansas City Hispanic Development Fund, Latino Community Foundation (San Francisco), Hispanic Federation (NYC), Hispanic Fund of the Community Foundation of Greater Lorain County in Ohio, and Nuestro Futuro (Chicago).

**1997: New York Times annual "Giving" section premieres** - In December, the New York Times published its first annual year-end special section about philanthropy ("Giving").

**1999: "Battle in Seattle" protests of the World Trade Organization** - The largest anti-globalization protests ever staged in the United States, 40,000-100,000+ people mobilized for the N30 (November 30th) protests of the 1999 World Trade Organization Ministerial Conference in Seattle, WA.

**1999: Bill & Melinda Gates Foundation created** - Launched by the founder of Microsoft and his wife, their foundation quickly became the largest in the world. It is technically a family foundation and focuses on HIV/AIDS, US public education, and international economic development

**1999: Resource Generation launched** - Resource Generation (originally called the Comfort Zone) was created by a small group of young inheritors looking for peer-based support as they explored issues of wealth and social change. Today, RG works with hundreds of young people across the country with financial wealth who are supporting and challenging each other to effect progressive social change through the creative, responsible and strategic use of financial and other resources.