

# seeding justice

Seeding Justice was born out of an imperative to redistribute wealth and power to the communities most impacted by injustice. Donor-advised funds — which serve to give tax deductions to people with wealth and whose distributions are controlled by the donors themselves — can be at odds with that imperative.

With new awareness around the importance of transferring wealth into these communities since COVID-19 arrived, we have seen movements like “[Half My DAF](#)” arise, pushing donor advisors to grant out at least 50% of their donor-advised fund in the immediate future. While this is a good first step, it does not go far enough — we need new tangible tools in the philanthropic sector to push us toward racial and economic justice as institutions and systems.

For these reasons, Seeding Justice has redefined what donor-advised funds look like: we call them Donor-in-Movement Funds (DMFs).

## **Why a Donor-in-Movement Fund?**

- Each year, 50% of a DMF is allocated to our activist-led Grantmaking Committee. Their expertise within and knowledge of the grassroots, social justice landscape ensures these DMF funds will reach groups and projects that effect the most long-lasting impact within Oregon social justice movements, not just the “flavor of the day.”
- Seeding Justice provides donors with quarterly reports and lists of suggested grantees, including movement trends, and alerts on environmental, social, and political emergencies to which donors can contribute and make an immediate difference
- Every one of the organizations Seeding Justice recommends for funding is led by the communities most impacted — Black and Indigenous folks and people of color (BIPOC); women and LGBTQ+ folks; people with disabilities; people living on low incomes; youth; and immigrants and refugees

*“When you establish a Donor-in-Movement Fund at Seeding Justice, you not only contribute to our collective work, but also establish a space in community with other donors in which to be grounded, to continuously learn, and to be only a phone call away when those unpredictable political moments that can define social justice movements occur.”* — Rachel Robasciotti, Founder, Robasciotti & Philipson Social Justice Investing

## How Does It Work?

To set up a Donor-in-Movement Fund, the donor makes an initial donation to Seeding Justice. Once a year, the DMF distributes funds according to our 50/40/10 guidelines:

- 50% of distributable funds goes to organizations selected by Seeding Justice’s Grantmaking Committee.
- 40% of distributable funds goes to groups of the donor’s choosing that are aligned with Seeding Justice’s mission and values.
- 10% goes to Seeding Justice for operating costs.

Some donors may choose to fund their DMF with a one-time donation; others may opt for an initial set-up donation and then make ongoing annual donations — whichever works best for them. You’ll receive updates on your DMF balance and distributions quarterly, and an annual list of organizations, events, and issues that Seeding Justice’s Grantmaking Committee suggest you consider for funding.

	<b>Traditional Donor-Advised Fund</b>	<b>Seeding Justice Donor-In-Movement Fund</b>
<b>Movement</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>● Control over distributions resides with the donor</li> <li>● Donor not required to make distributions annually</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>● Control over distributions resides with both the donor <i>and</i> Seeding Justice Grantmaking Committee</li> <li>● Distributions are made annually, ensuring resources reach the communities that need them most urgently</li> </ul>
<b>Investments</b>	Investments may not be socially responsible	For funds that will be held longer than one year, investments are rigorously vetted and 100% socially responsible, using a racial and gender justice lens as well as other filters.
<b>Benefits to Donor</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>● 100% tax-deductible donation, whether funded with a one-time gift or multiple gifts over time</li> <li>● Not having to keep track of various donations</li> <li>● Ability to make donations over time</li> <li>● Ability to make donations anonymously</li> <li>● Ability to make a gift of stock, which smaller organizations cannot accept</li> <li>● Ability to set up the fund and continue building it up over time</li> </ul>	<p>Same as Donor-Advised Fund <b>AND</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>● Peace of mind in knowing that at least 50% of distributions are going to groups and communities most impacted, where resources are most needed</li> <li>● Being part of the movement to transfer wealth and shift power</li> </ul>

<p><b>Beneficiaries of Funds</b></p>	<p>Groups the donor feels an affinity toward. Most foundations only make distributions to 501(c)(3) or fiscally sponsored organizations</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Grassroots groups that are making the most impact within Oregon’s social justice movement</li> <li>• Groups other foundations are unable to fund because of their perceived risks</li> <li>• Groups working toward systemic—not just individual—transformation</li> <li>• Groups the donor feels an affinity toward that are in alignment with Seeding Justice’s values</li> </ul>
<p><b>Donor Involvement</b></p>	<p>Donors are... donors.</p>	<p>DMF holders are:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Partners</li> <li>• Advisors</li> <li>• Activists</li> <li>• Donors</li> </ul>
<p><b>Donor Education/Engagement</b></p>	<p>Limited</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Periodic workshops and training sessions on current issues and events</li> <li>• Opportunity to participate in Seeding Justice-organized events</li> <li>• Opportunity to connect with and learn from experts, activists, and organizers</li> </ul>

**Questions? Ready to open your own Donor-in-Movement Fund?  
 Contact Seeding Justice Development Director Dena Zaldúa at  
[dena@seedingjustice.org](mailto:dena@seedingjustice.org) or 503-289-1517, x2.**