

A vehicle for directing high-impact gifts to local grassroots nonprofit organizations

Donors often have a myriad of choices in allocating their resources. With 34,414 nonprofits in Massachusetts alone,¹ identifying and connecting with these organizations takes time, effort, and expertise, which many donors don't have.

For 20 years, the Social Innovation Forum (SIF) has been identifying, evaluating, and supporting small- to mid-sized nonprofits (budgets under \$2M) in Greater Boston through our Social Innovator Accelerator program. Organizations in our portfolio work across a range of diverse social issues but share a broad social justice focus. The leaders of these nonprofits are proximate to the communities they serve; in fact, sixty-three percent of our 2023 Social Innovator cohort identify as BIPOC.

About the Social Innovation Forum

Founded in 2003, the Social Innovation Forum (SIF) connects funders and volunteers with on-the-ground leaders of nonprofit organizations to build productive relationships focused on growing social impact. SIF offers programs to build capacity in the nonprofit sector, including the flagship Social Innovator Accelerator, an Alumni & Nonprofit Network, Funder Education, and a nationally focused peer learning program, CORE. To date, SIF has directed over \$52 million in cash and in-kind services to more than 120 social impact organizations.

About the Fund

In 2023, we've launched a new tool, the Social Innovator Fund, to help individuals direct resources to local organizations more efficiently and effectively. An anonymous donor has given a five-year grant to support SIF's broader work and provided seed money for the fund (including covering SIF's administrative costs), so 100% of each donation goes to the fund. This anchor gift ensures that each year, the fund starts with **\$200K**. Our goal is to continue to build the fund and ensure the SIF Social Innovators, typically small, local organizations, get maximized funding to build and expand their work. The fund will be divided equally amongst our eight Social Innovators in a given year (Note: A small amount of the fund (up to \$40K) will be allotted to finalists in the SIF Accelerator process each year).



The Social Innovator Fund



By giving to SIF's Social Innovator Fund, it allows us to give money to a broad range of community-based impact organizations, all at one time. SIF's process saves both time and money and ensures grant funds get to local organizations, in the most efficient way, by leveraging proximate experts and leaders in a range of social issue areas"

- ANCHOR DONOR

¹ <https://nonprofitlocator.org/organizations/ma/>



Benefits of gifting to the Social Innovator Fund

SIF does the work. We identify hundreds of local nonprofit organizations yearly, review 50-100, and select eight for the Accelerator program. Innovators then join our Alumni & Nonprofit Network and receive support for future growth and evolution.

- ✓ All donations to SIF are tax deductible.
- ✓ SIF handles disbursement, eliminating the need for multiple checks and transfers.
- ✓ Disbursement will be quick, evenly split among the Innovator cohort at year-end.
- ✓ Donors will receive an annual summary of fund financials and an update on the Innovator cohort.

100% Payout Annually

Unlike Donor Advised Funds (DAFs), with yearly annual payout variances, the Social Innovator Fund helps donors move money quickly to organizations that need it most. Every year, the fund is distributed among that year's cohort organizations and resets for the next cycle. This optimal disbursement advances on-the-ground community work.

Our Proximity to the Grassroots Organizations

Your gift to the Social Innovator Fund will strengthen the work of local grassroots organizations led by leaders proximate to the communities they serve – the very organizations historically overlooked by traditional philanthropy. Since many donors do not have deep networks with these high-impact organizations, SIF's role as an intermediary allows donors to easily identify and give to the organizations.

2023 Social Innovators

- [chica project](#)
- [GenUnity](#)
- [Justice 4 Housing](#)
- [Latino Health Insurance Program](#)
- [Lowell Parks and Conservation Trust](#)
- [MissionSAFE](#)
- [RIA, Inc.](#)
- [United Interfaith Action of Southeastern Massachusetts \(UIA\)](#)

Long-Term Partnership and Continued Investment

SIF continuously supports its Social Innovators. Upon the completion of the 24-month Accelerator Program, the participating organizations transition to SIF's Alumni & Nonprofit Network, gaining access to ongoing training, coaching, and capacity building. Thus, your investment is bolstered by SIF's long-term commitment to supporting our portfolio organizations as they grow and deepen their work.

How to make gift to the Social Innovator Fund

SIF will accept gifts to the 2023 Social Innovator Fund through December 31, 2023. The minimum gift is \$500.

Gifts can be made online at socialinnovationforum.org/innovator-fund or by check, electronic transfer, via your donor advised fund (DAF), or stock transfer. Mailing address: **2 Oliver Street, Suite 802, Boston, MA 02109.**

Contact Information

For more information about the Social Innovator Fund, please contact **Saejin Yoo, Special Projects Coordinator** at syoo@socialinnovationforum.org.



The Social Innovation Forum is a 501(c)(3) organization, EIN 47-3923576. All donations are tax deductible. No goods or services will be provided in exchange for the donation.