

Strategic Framework

FCYO's work is grounded in a clear analysis of the current and historical material conditions of the society in which we operate. This includes not only the conditions facing our people, but the social, political, and economic forces at play that drive those conditions. The better we can assess the source and direction of what is in our way, the better we can accurately forecast what is ahead and determine what is necessary for us to realize our vision of a society built by and for its people.

FCYO

The Funders' Collaborative
on Youth Organizing

OUR GUIDING ANALYSIS

- 1.** The United States has long been living under racial patriarchal capitalism - a system designed to consolidate power and resources in the hands of a very few.
- 2.** The current era of crisis and collapse will be historically decisive. Our conditions afford us an incredible opportunity to bring about transformative change, and we cannot miss this moment.
- 3.** The path forward lies in the strength of millions of organized, everyday people, united in purpose and prepared to drive a bold vision toward a new society.
- 4.** Significant advances in our infrastructure and capacity have planted the seeds of a movement capable of orchestrating the feat ahead. However, we are not there yet, and if we do not acknowledge our limitations, we cannot surpass them.
- 5.** There has been an upswing in progressive funders interested in aligning their practices with movements for social change, but the philanthropic sector as a whole is not yet equipped with a purposive strategy for resourcing to win.

We believe a new society is within our grasp. Reaching it will demand the collective strength of our movement partners and philanthropic allies and the immense potential of everyday people committed to building the power to win.

TRANSFORMATIVE SHIFTS

People Power:

A powerfully organized mass movement for social transformation anchored by an ecosystem of organizations aligned around a shared vision, strategy, and organizing practice.

Consciousness Shifts:

A shift in consciousness that reflects a shared understanding of our inherent interdependence and drives the dissolution of exploitation across demographic lines.

Behavioral Shifts:

Human behaviors that foreground collective benefit and collaboration over self-interest and individualism across social, political, and economic arenas.

Systems Transformation:

A society reshaped to reflect the interests, needs, and aspirations of everyday people.

OUR VISION

We envision a society governed by everyday people, fueled by a commitment to interdependence, grounded in joy and connection, and built to serve the collective interests of its people and the planet.

OUR GOALS

Youth and intergenerational organizations exercise governing power and win changes that materially improve people's lives in service of a long-term agenda that advances the common good.

Resource mobilization practices expand grassroots political power and sustain funding at scale.

A community of organizing practitioners, philanthropic leaders, and strategic partners share a vision and a strategic orientation to build a more just and democratic society and effectively combat regressive forces.

OUR STRATEGIES

Connect and unite youth and intergenerational organizing groups around a shared analysis and approach to organizing that advances meaningful power building.

Cultivate cross-sectoral partnerships that strengthen the fabric of aligned forces.

Experiment with and incubate projects, formations, and initiatives that support the emergence of new ideas and models.

Build knowledge and amplify learnings from our practice to coalesce around a shared power-building praxis.

Organize funders to be political leaders grounded in shared analysis and practicing mutual accountability with each other and the organizing field.

Mobilize resources to sustainably support and strengthen social justice infrastructure.

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OUR MISSION

FCYO is a collective of organizing practitioners and social justice funders with a shared commitment to achieving a society built by and for its people. To realize this aim, we work to advance rigorous organizing practices toward building meaningful power and to align philanthropic resources with movement strategies.