

QUEER MOBILIZATION FUND



2023 ANNUAL REPORT

A PROGRAM OF:

 SOUTHERN VISION ALLIANCE

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Mission

*A grassroots community re-granting fund
prioritizing & supporting queer and trans
people of color on the frontlines of struggles
for freedom and liberation to build power for
and within queer communities in the South*



2023 In Review

2023 was a year of rapid growth for QMF!

In response to increasing anti-trans and anti-lgbtq legislation across the country, especially the South, QMF saw the number of applications received **quadruple**. To meet our goal to increase funding and support to these deserving applicants, we kickstarted a \$100k fundraiser and surpassed our fundraising goal. As a result of this fundraising, we **massively increased** our grantmaking budget- from \$125k in 2022 to \$308k in 2023.

To this end, we more than doubled our grantee cohort, **supporting 50 QTBIPOC organizations across 12 states within the US Southeast** with funding and access to build organizational capacity and grow QTBIPOC power.

With our rapid growth, the Queer Mobilization Fund found ourselves needing to increase our own internal capacity quickly. In June, we onboarded Giannina Callejas as our new **Capacity Building Manager** and Torrianna Foster as our **Organizing and Communications Manager**. Giannina was a key part of QMF's development, serving as a member of our grantmaking panel for several years before coming onto our staff. Torrianna has grown our storytelling and power-building spaces as a new face. We were also able to onboard **four consultants** to assist our grantees with their coaching and capacity-building needs: Blair Franklin of Alight Alchemy, Mitzi Melaine Wilson of Emerge Flourish, and Christopher Cuevas and Gustavo Rico of Colibri Consulting. With their help, we offered technical assistance to each grantee, with 80% of our groups opting into regular coaching sessions with our team.

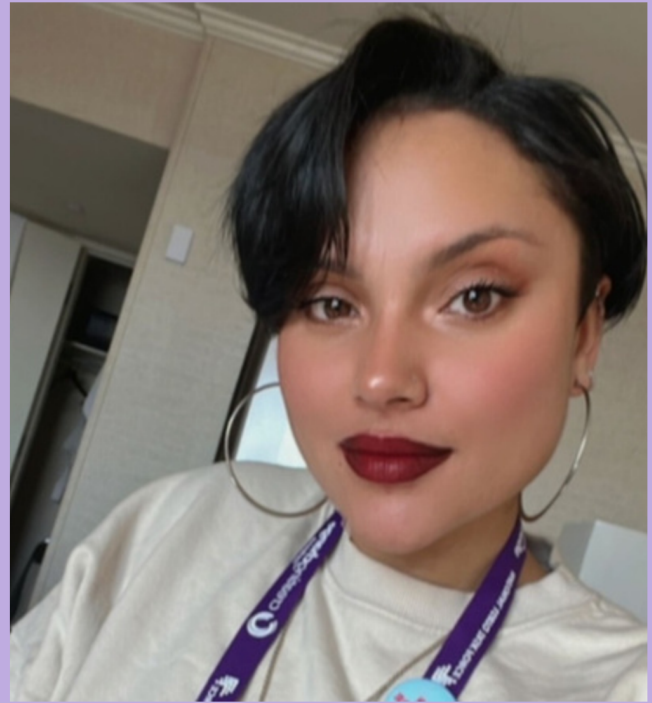
2023 QMF STAFF

02



Ricky Bratz (she/her)

QMF Director



Giannina Callejas (she/her)

QMF Capacity Building Manager



Asher Skeen (he/they)

QMF Coordinator



Torrianna Foster (they/we)

QMF Organizing & Comms Manager

2023 QMF GRANTMAKING PANEL



Domenico Ruggerio



Anna-Marie Smith



KD Randle



Freequency



Kortney Laperolerie



Miss B Haven

By the Numbers

04

In our first year funding in 2020, QMF distributed \$130,758 to 25 grantees across 5 states. Four years later, we have awarded \$308,000 to 50 grantees across 12 states. **We have awarded \$667,228 to 118 of organizations to date!** In 2025, we hope to fundraise to add another grant tier so we can offer \$5,000, \$10,000 and \$20,000 grants.

**Total Amount
Granted in 2023: \$308,000**

Total Number of Grantees	50
BIPOC-led Groups	72%
Trans-led Groups	72%
Rural Groups	24%
First-time grant seekers	20%
Groups receiving technical assistance	80%

photo credit: greensboro mutual aid

GRANTEE EXPERIENCE

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Sexy Sex Ed (Richmond, KY)

“Please continue to believe in smaller organizations in the South. Continue to hold space for people to **come, learn, and be in community with each other**. These spaces are needed and valuable in our fight for liberation. The workshops were excellent and helpful for organizers to learn and ask questions. We hope this work continues to grow and we can continue to be a part of this community. QMF has done a great job at creating a **shame and judgment-free environment** for folks to learn and grow together.” – Sexy Sex Ed



Capital Tea (Tallahassee, FL)

“We are not competitors; we are collaborators, and that's exactly how this space felt to us. Many of us grantees are in the same position of initiating our work out of necessity, and sometimes, taking the time to learn about finances and human resources seems like a luxury. However, the spaces convened by QMF gave us permission to **slow down and build our foundations**. Thank you.” – Capital Tea



LOUD (New Orleans, LA)

“keep doing all the things. the mere fact that i feel i can communicate in this form genuinely and honestly really goes to show that we created **real connections** here. this has been a very unique & positive experience and i'm excited to see what y'all do in the future. in addition to being an all Black, queer and TGNC collective, we are geared towards youth and no one in LOUD is over 35. QMF and this cohort truly felt like a space where we felt like we could show up as our full selves.” – LOUD

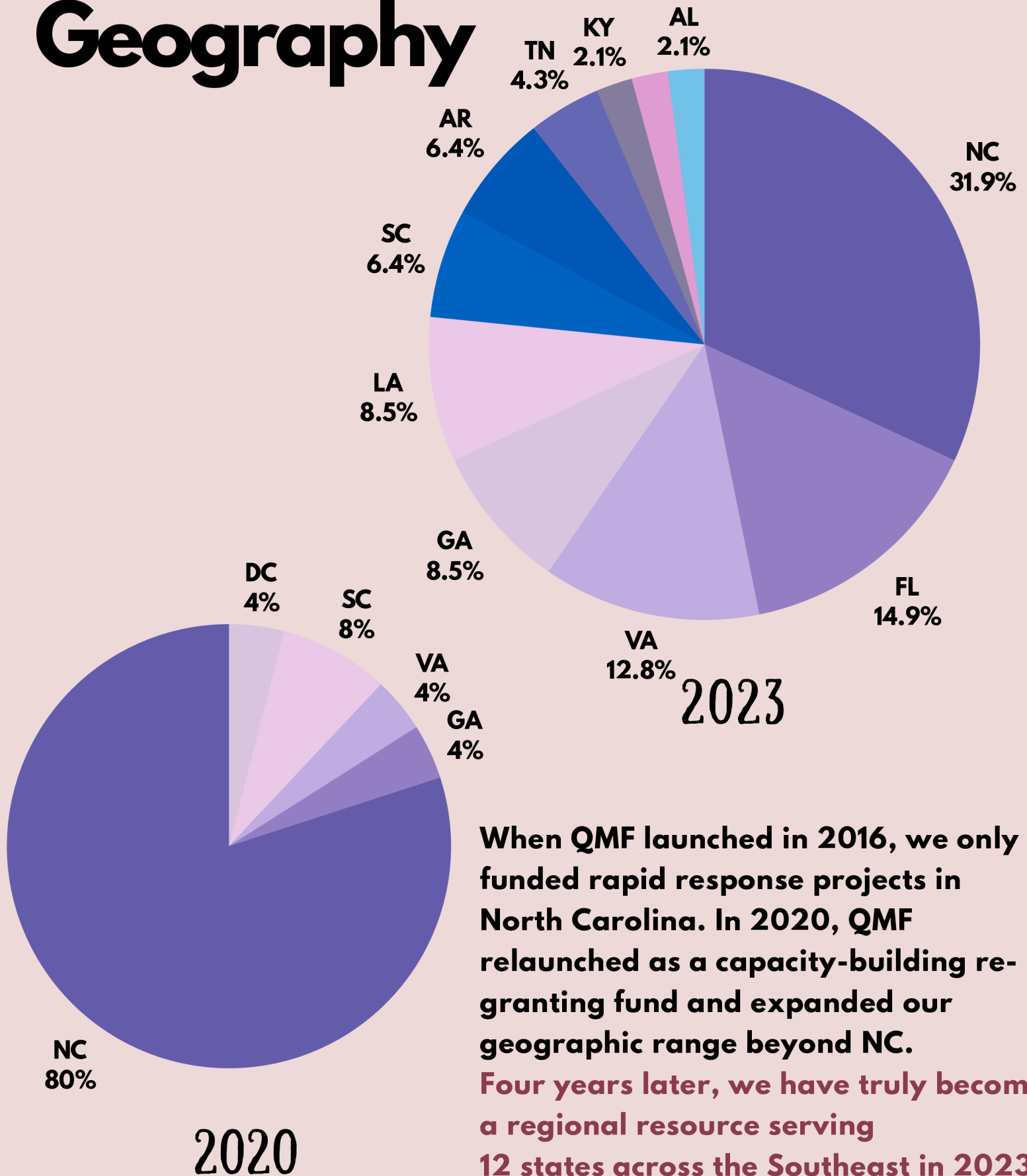


Birmingham Mutual Aid (Birmingham, AL)

“QMF funding was **the seed we needed** to feel abundant and like we could move forward with even just one part of our plan. It really snowballed from there!” – Birmingham Mutual Aid



Grantee Geography



CAPACITY BUILDING

07

A key area of QMF's work is providing capacity building alongside our grants to build the power of QTBIPOC-led organizations across the US Southeast.



Hear From Grantees:

“Overall, the technical assistance provided by QMF staff has been instrumental in supporting our organization/project's growth and development. Their guidance, mentorship, and connections have helped us navigate challenges, capitalize on opportunities, and advance our mission more effectively. We are grateful for their ongoing support and partnership in our journey towards creating positive change in our community.” - The Ladies Room

“I felt comfortable sharing some challenges that were difficult to talk about. I felt they were nonjudgmental, understanding and had good ideas to help me overcome challenges.” - BLINC

“One on one coaching has provided support with not feeling alone when things are really rough it was nice to get on a call and see a face that believed in you was rooting for you and wanting to share space and time with you focused on helping you uplift your work in ways that were healing helpful and not competitive or harmful.” - SoulThrive Collective

“This grant, especially the technical assistance (or power building), has helped us tremendously grow further towards financial stability, expand our outreach, build new connections and potential collaborators and community partners, write a strategic plan based on metrics we track of our goals and progress, and build a consolidated spreadsheet of present and past donors.” - Grimalkin Records

ED/LEADERSHIP ROUNDTABLE

An (optional) group open to QMF grantees who are in leadership positions within their organizations to receive peer support and build skills collectively.

We launched our ED/Leadership Roundtable in 2023! QMF worked with grantees and consultants to offer an annual “Executive Director Roundtable”. This roundtable created space for grantees in executive leadership to learn, trade resources, and learn new ways to run their organization in sustainable and meaningful ways,



Financial Outlook

Growth since 2020

QMF experienced rapid and unplanned growth over the past year due to an unexpected massive increase in applications to our 2023 grant cycle.

\$318K

2020 Revenue

\$229K

2020 Expenses

\$130K

Grantmaking Budget

2023 Budget

We had to work hard to rapidly raise funds in 2023 to meet the needs of increased grantees. Our goal in 2024 is to maintain and hold steady support of 50 grantees with our current grantmaking budget while we work to make our rapid response funds a permanent part of our budget.

\$422K

2023 Revenue

\$412K

2023 Expenses

\$300K

Grantmaking Budget

Future Growth

For the future, we hope to add a \$20k grant option, a Rapid Response Fund and hire additional coaches and staff to support our continued growth. Our fund is continuing to grow, and we are constantly seeking new funders, donors, and partners to support our work!



QMF is one of the only resources available in the US Southeast for QTBIPOC-led organizations to build and grow. Our goal is to not only offer small grants to build power with/in Queer, Trans and LGB communities, but to resource the movement for collective liberation.

There is a massive gap between large funders and small, more readily available funding. Most funding is generally not accessible to new, emerging or intentionally small organizations. QMF seeks to provide support at multiple levels of an organizations growth to provide a solid foundation so if they have the ability to acquire more funding and resources when they are ready to “move on” to larger funders.

2025

- Raise funds to be able to offer 5 groups who QMF has been in continued relationship with more resources via \$20,000 grants
- Raise funds to support and launch our Rapid Response Fund

Beyond 2025

So much of our program is based on feedback from grantees, anything is possible!

*Thank you to
our Funders!*



Freeman Foundation
Laughing Gull
Foundation
Funders for LGBTQ
Issues
Arcus Foundation
Tikkun Olam
Foundation

Astraea Foundation
Libra Foundation
Trans Futures Funding
Campaign
Cast Iron Skillet
Chispas Resistance Fund



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WEBSITE

(left) QMF staff, grantees,
panelists and capacity
building coaches at Creating
Change 2024