



# QUEER MOBILIZATION FUND

## 2024/25 CYCLE REPORT



Project of Southern Vision Alliance

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# 2024/25 Cycle in Review

2024 was a year of holding steady after some massive growth for QMF in 2023. The number of applications we received in 2024 surpassed our 2023 number, and the rise in anti-trans and anti-LGBTQ legislation continued amidst a backdrop of increasing fascist threat with Trump's looming presidential campaign. We once again supported a grantee cohort of nearly 50 Southern grassroots QTBIPOC-led organizations from 9 Southeastern states. The support from QMF is not only financial, but includes capacity building support from trusted coaches focusing on building power and leadership within grantee organizations.



## 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



# 2024/25 QMF Staff



**Ricky Bratz**

she/her  
QMF Director



**Asher Skeen**

he/him  
QMF Coordinator



**Penelope French**

they/she/he  
Powerbuilding Coordinator



# QMF Panelists



Chester Williams



Domenico Ruggerio



FreeQuency



KD Randle



MJ Gray



TAYLOR ALXNDR

# By the Numbers

In our first year of funding, QMF distributed \$130,758 to 26 grantees across 4 states. In our 2024/25 cycle, we awarded \$340,000 to 45 cohort grantees and 4 rapid response grantees across 9 states. **We have awarded \$997,228 to 170 organizations to date!** In 2025, we will be offering our first Multi-Year grant of \$20,000/year for 3 years (\$60,000 total).

**Total Amount  
Granted in 2024:** **\$340,000**

<b>Number of grantees</b>	<b>45</b>
<b>BIPOC-led groups</b>	<b>36</b>
<b>Trans-led groups</b>	<b>25</b>
<b>Rural groups</b>	<b>5</b>
<b>First-time grant seekers</b>	<b>6</b>
<b>Groups receiving power building support</b>	<b>32</b>





# Grantee Experience



## **SoulThrive Collective (Asheville, NC)**

“Ultimately, we believe QMF is helping to model what liberatory grantmaking can look like when it centers trust, community autonomy, and expansive definitions of care. Thank you for continuing to create space for our work to not only be funded—but to be seen, respected, and uplifted as essential to the future we’re building together.”

## **The Ladies Room SC (Greenville, SC)**

“The trust, flexibility, and encouragement we’ve experienced through QMF have made us feel seen and supported in ways that are rare in funding spaces. Your approach honors our lived experiences, and that makes all the difference. Thank you for creating a space where we are not just grantees—but community.”



## **Central Florida Ballroom Collective (Tampa, FL)**

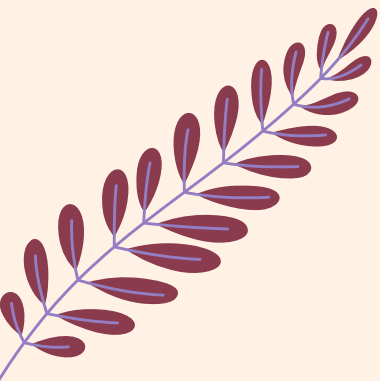
“We feel seen, supported, and affirmed by this ecosystem, and we’re excited to continue growing with it. QMF is setting a beautiful example of how resourcing grassroots movements can be values-aligned, relationship-based, and deeply impactful. Thank you for all that you do.”

## **Uplift Outreach Center (Spartanburg, SC)**

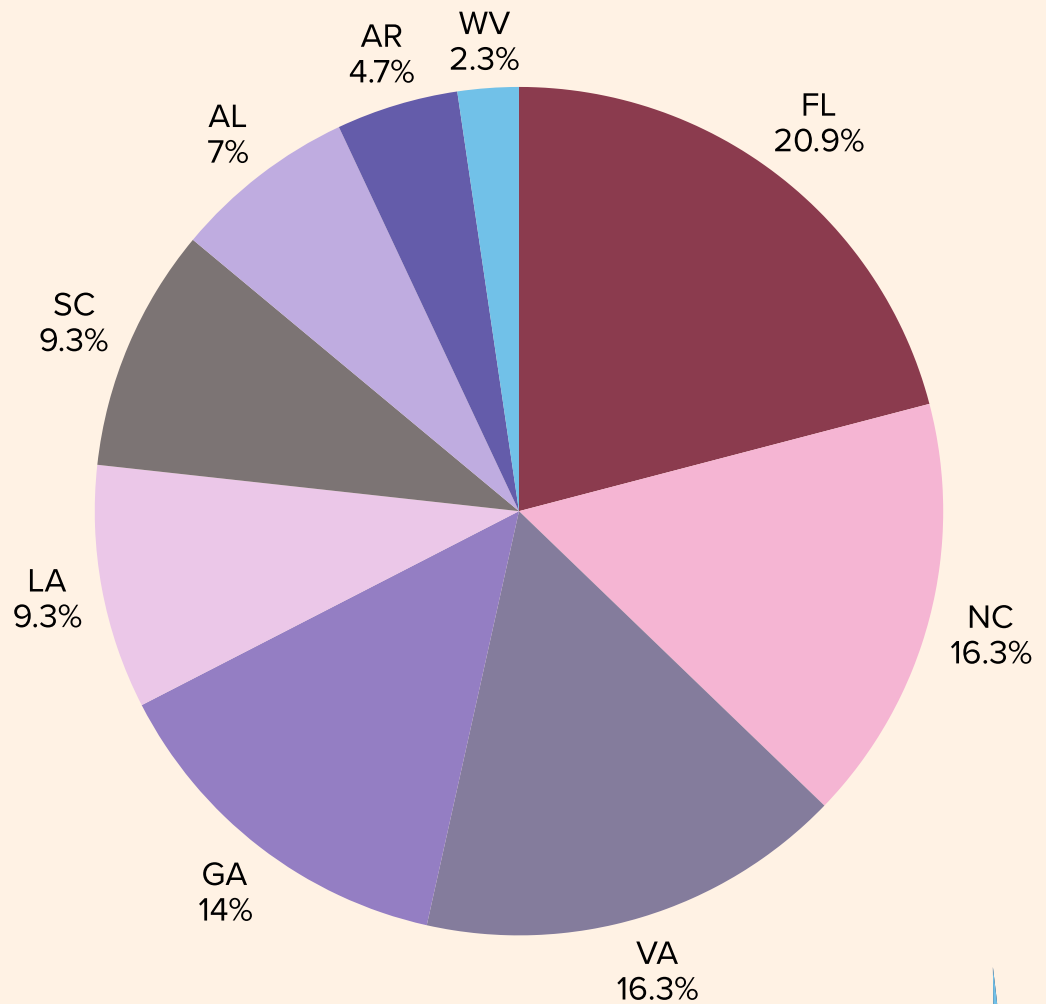
“Being supported by a values-driven funder like QMF sent a strong message to other potential supporters that our work is vital, especially in a time when LGBTQ+ organizations—particularly those serving youth and BIPOC communities—are under heightened scrutiny. The visibility and trust QMF offered made a real difference, especially during a time when so many of us are being forced to defend our existence alongside our programs.”



# Grantee Geography



2025



QMF holds a critical space in the LGBTQ BIPOC funding ecosystem. Funding for queer and trans work has decreased in recent years, especially in the US South. QMF is an important seed grant for small, emerging and grassroots Queer and Trans BIPOC led work in the Southeast. In our 2024/25 grant cycle, QMF served 9 states across the Southeast.



# Power Building

A key area of QMF's work is providing capacity building alongside our grants to truly build the power of QTBIPOC led organizations across the US Southeast. Hear what our grantees are saying:



“The power building support provided by QMF staff has been very instrumental in strengthening our organizational capacity. Through our cohort workshops and resource-sharing, we refined our grant-writing strategies and developed clearer frameworks for our collective overall. This support not only enhanced our sustainability but also regenerated more fuel to meet the needs of our community.” – FOR OUR SIBS (Atlanta, GA)

“The power building support we received gave us space to reflect, learn, and grow alongside peers. These sessions were valuable in helping us think through staff development, strategic communications, and aligning programming with long-term outcomes. In particular, the space to connect with other Black and trans-led organizations helped reinforce our belief that community-rooted solutions are effective and powerful.” – Game Changing Men (Atlanta, GA)



“This was an exceptional cohort experience. It fostered a close-knit environment, particularly during the dedicated space where Black participants in the cohort were able to openly discuss issues specific to our marginalized community. We were able to forge meaningful connections and establish collaborations with several participants.” – Black Butterfly Collective (New Orleans, LA)

“Being part of a collective of grassroots organizers was—and continues to be—deeply inspiring. The space created by the QMF cohort allowed us to listen, connect, and grow through one another's stories, lived experiences, and shared challenges. What made this cohort so special was the sense of solidarity—especially as organizers in the South. In a region where our work can often feel isolating, QMF built a community that reminded us we are not alone.” – Camp Pride FL (Orlando, FL)



# Financial Outlook

## Growth Since 2020

QMF has grown rapidly since our relaunch in 2020, seeing a major increase in applications over the past 2 years in response to the increased attacks on QTBIPOC communities across the South.

## 2024 Budget

QMF has continued to fundraise vigorously to meet the increasing demand for support from our community. In our 2024/25 cycle, we were able to maintain our cohort of nearly 50 grantees and continue to grow our program offerings to better serve our networks.

	2020	2024
Revenue	\$318K	\$709K
Expenses	\$229K	\$670K
Grantmaking	\$130K	\$340K



# Future Plans

QMF is one of the only resources available in the US Southeast for QTBIPOC-led grassroots 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 that they have the ability to acquire more funding and resources when they are ready to “move on” to larger funders.

## **New for Next Year!**

**Multi-Year  
Grants**

**Rapid Response  
Funding**

**Smaller  
Cohort**



**Gen Ops  
Grants**

## **Beyond 2026**

QMF's programming is largely based on feedback from grantees, panelists, and community members. Anything is possible!



# Thank You to our Funders!



Arcus Foundation  
Astraea Foundation  
Cast Iron Skillet  
Chispas Resistance Fund  
Freeman Foundation

Foundation for a Just Society  
Funders for LGBTQ Issues  
Laughing Gull Foundation  
Libra Foundation  
Tikkun Olam Foundation

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