

A group of approximately 20 diverse people, including men and women of various ages and ethnicities, are posing for a group photo. They are standing and kneeling on a stone-paved area in front of a white building with a dark doorway. The doorway is decorated with string lights. The people are dressed in casual to semi-formal attire, including jackets, sweaters, and a hijab. The overall atmosphere is warm and community-oriented.

Are you interested in expanding your role in social justice movements in the state of Maine, unceded Wabanaki territory?

Do you want to build transformative relationships across race and class and deepen your political understanding?

Do you want to embrace a professional development opportunity to learn more about mutual aid, grassroots organizing, and democratic grantmaking?

Do you want to be part of a donor organizing cohort raising funds to resource community organizing efforts in Maine?

MAINE INITIATIVES IS PART OF THE GIVING PROJECT NETWORK,

a collaboration of nine progressive funders across the country dedicated to moving money and power to their local grassroots organizing infrastructure. From September 2025 through March 2026 this program will engage 20-25 dedicated community members to participate in a transformative learning cohort and serve as grantmaking committee for grants resourcing community organizing efforts in Maine.

All Giving Projects across the country utilize the same proven model:

RELATIONSHIP BUILDING

- Inviting a group of people from diverse racial and economic backgrounds to form a cohort that comes together approximately 8-10 times, over a 6 month period.

POLITICAL EDUCATION

- Through workshops, training, and peer support, the cohort deeply explores the impacts of racial capitalism and develops a shared understanding of how race, class, and power intersect in our society.

RESOURCING MOVEMENTS

- Each person makes a meaningful financial gift, whatever that may mean to them, before mobilizing resources within their communities.
- The cohort selects the slate of recipients, granting significant financial resources to inspiring and effective grassroots organizations in our community.

SKILL BUILDING & COMMUNITY CONNECTION

- Each person commits to organizing their community to give - family, friends, neighbors, and more - to support the financial goal of the cohort. This process is heavily supported by staff and designed to be accessible to those with all levels of fundraising experience.

DEMOCRATIC DECISION-MAKING

- The cohort is trained in the process of democratic grantmaking, including reading and scoring proposals, interviewing applicants, and equitable group decision making.



JOIN A GROUP OF LOCAL PEOPLE WHO ARE COMMITTED TO ADDRESSING THE HARMS OF RACIAL CAPITALISM

as it relates to traditional philanthropy and work towards a shared vision of well-resourced liberation movements.



maineinitiatives.org

Interested in learning more and/or attending an **information session**? Complete this form and we will be in touch.

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**The Giving
Project**

a program of Maine Initiatives

2025-2026 SCHEDULE

POLITICAL EDUCATION AND PEER LEARNING

DATE	TIME	DESCRIPTION
September 27	10:00 AM - 4:00 PM	Introductory Meeting
October 18 & 19	10:00 AM - 4:00 PM	Understanding Race & Class

FUNDRAISING

DATE	TIME	DESCRIPTION
November 22	10:00 AM - 4:00 PM	Fundraising
December 6	10:00 AM - 4:00 PM	Grantmaking

GRANTMAKING AND CELEBRATION

DATE	TIME	DESCRIPTION
January 24	10:00 AM - 4:00 PM	Screening
March 7	10:00 AM - 4:00 PM	Grantmaking
March 28	10:00 AM - 4:00 PM	Celebration & Evaluation