CHANGE THE RULES

Help frontline communities rebuild a shared, respectful, and sacred relationship with the commons
• Use your voice and power to accelerate the transition to solidarity-based economies and commonification of the public sector with reciprocity and dignity.

Advocate for changes to the tax law
• Don’t allow the 1% to amass wealth in perpetuity.
• Change the tax code to increase the annual payout of philanthropic charities to 10% of assets, or greater.
• Encourage your philanthropic institution to increase its payout to the grassroots organizing sector or to spend down.

Relax restrictions on use of grants for acquisition of land and capital purchases
• Enable groups to acquire land and make capital purchases, help propel innovative People’s Solutions that can house, feed, provide energy, and put people to work.

STOP THE BAD

Prevent the knee jerk contraction of grantmaking based on fear and invest in communities now
• Call on your institution to reject wealth hoarding in a time of crisis. Don’t be like the toilet paper hoarders!

Divest philanthropic endowments from the extractive economy
• Ensure that the return on investments does not come from sectors that extract resources from Mother Earth or from human labor.

Streamline emergency funds
• Coordinate and organize amongst philanthropy so that frontline organizations can easily access rapid response funding.

Eliminate reporting requirements, not just for the crisis period, but permanently

It Takes Roots is a multiracial, multicultural, intergenerational alliance of networks and alliances representing over 200 organizations and affiliates in over 50 states, provinces, territories and Native lands in the U.S. and Canada, and is led by women, gender nonconforming people, people of color, and Indigenous Peoples.
BUILD THE NEW

Fund the Grassroots Organizing Sector
• If you already fund in this sector, double or triple down. If you don’t, now is a great time to start. Make this a priority sector for philanthropy.
• Prioritize funding grassroots organizing led by frontline communities—in the US and internationally—that suffer the greatest impacts of racial, gender, health, environmental, climate, housing, and other injustices—especially Indigenous Peoples, Black, Latinx, immigrant, Asian-Pacific Islander, and LGBTQ communities.

Invest in Just Transition by moving your investment dollars to non-extractive loan funds
• Support frontline-led solutions that transform ownership and move us toward a regenerative feminist economy.
• Follow GGJ’s example by investing in workers and cooperatives that are building a regenerative feminist economy and are among the hardest hit right now. Learn more at www.seedcommons.org.

Fund grassroots groups directly and support the emergency fund campaigns of the ITR sister alliances

ITR SISTER ALLIANCE JUST RELIEF & RECOVERY EFFORTS

CLIMATE JUSTICE ALLIANCE: To build frontline mutual support & resiliency amidst the COVID-19 Crisis, contact Holly Baker, Philanthropic Partnerships Director, holly@climatejusticealliance.org.

GRASSROOTS GLOBAL JUSTICE ALLIANCE: Contribute to GGJ COVID Response Fund to support international social movements, women & non-binary folks facing increased domestic violence, and small co-op workers. Contact Anne White Hat, Development Coordinator, anne@ggjalliance.org.

INDIGENOUS ENVIRONMENTAL NETWORK: The COVID-19 Emergency Mutual Aid Fund resources Native groups providing emergency services and securing PPE to distribute to tribal healthcare facilities and high-risk communities. To donate by phone, text IENCovid19 to 44-321. Contact Eva Blake, Philanthropic Relations Manager, eva@ienearth.org.

RIGHT TO THE CITY ALLIANCE: To contribute to the RTTC Emergency Organizing Response Fund, contact Alia Trindle, National Organizer for Resource Development, alia@righttothecity.org.

To learn more about ways to support It Takes Roots and the sister alliances, contact Randy Jackson, It Takes Roots Development & Finance Coordinator, at randy@ittakesroots.org.