



2025 Year-End Giving Guide

Greater Boston's vibrant mix of cultures and communities is the heart of our region's strength.

This strength depends on accessible, high-quality social services—ensuring everyone has food, housing, and the support they need to thrive. Today, these vital services are under growing pressure. Your generosity can help protect them and ensure that all our neighbors have the opportunity to participate fully in our shared civic life.

As we enter the traditional giving season, we invite you to consider one or more of the trusted nonprofit organizations listed on the following pages. All are working to protect safety nets and fortify the many communities that make Greater Boston a special place to live.

For those who prefer a simpler approach, consider a contribution to one of the Boston Foundation's collaborative funds. The following funds aggregate charitable dollars so that our team may direct high-impact gifts to local nonprofit organizations serving specific populations or meeting critical basic needs:

Sustaining Families Fund helps strengthen regional systems to address hunger and food insecurity in Eastern Massachusetts.

Asian Community Fund builds support for our diverse and growing AAPI community.

Equality Fund works to advance equity for lesbian, gay, bisexual, transgender, and queer (LGBTQ+) individuals and their families.

Latino Equity Fund focuses on achieving greater and more equitable access to economic prosperity and well-being for the Latino community.

We know there are many other areas of interest that you might want to include in your end-of-year giving. If you have questions or would like help identifying additional organizations, please reach out to a member of our Philanthropy team or email donorservices@tbf.org.

Together, we will build a Greater Boston.



The Boston
Foundation

Food Insecurity

Access to quality food and nutrition is a fundamental human need that is becoming increasingly uncertain for many families across the Commonwealth. Give to these organizations to help alleviate hunger and food insecurity in Eastern Massachusetts.

- [Community Servings](#) provides fresh, medically tailored meals to individuals and their families experiencing critical or chronic illness and nutrition insecurity. This year, Community Servings will provide over 1.2 million meals to more than 6,000 individuals experiencing critical and chronic illnesses like HIV/AIDS, cancer, kidney disease, and diabetes. With the loss of \$2 million in government funding, support is even more critical this year to nourish those who need it most.
- [The Food Project](#) grows 200,000 pounds of food annually and hires local youth to help grow and donate more than 80,000 servings of fresh produce to 20 hunger relief organizations across Eastern Massachusetts. Food Project farms make fresh, culturally relevant produce available to neighbors at farmers' markets in Boston's Dudley neighborhood

and in Lynn, where about 75 percent of market transactions use SNAP, HIP benefits, or community coupons. With SNAP benefits being cut, it is crucial to help The Food Project expand its work.

- [Urban Farming Institute of Boston](#) is dedicated to the development and promotion of urban farming practices. It works diligently to empower individuals and neighborhoods in fostering healthy communities by creating opportunities for meaningful engagement in the cultivation of food. As grocery prices continue to rise, the Urban Farming Institute needs funds to cover coupons for its farm stand and to distribute more Community Supported Agriculture boxes.



Read [recent research](#) by Boston Indicators on the impact of SNAP cuts and [learn more about TBF's efforts to sustain families](#) during this difficult time.

Housing Equity

Safe, affordable housing is out of reach for far too many families in Greater Boston. With the fourth-highest rents in the country, nearly half of all renters are cost-burdened. Fair Housing funding and enforcement have been slashed, which is greatly undermining small organizations in Massachusetts and their ability to fight housing discrimination. You can support collaborative efforts aimed at unlocking opportunity and stability for every family in Greater Boston.

- [Action for Equity](#) is a coalition of community-based social justice organizations working to address structural racism and longstanding inequities through strategies such as housing access, housing policy and transit equity. All grants support their cross-cutting work to ensure everyone can thrive in Greater Boston.
- [The Greater Boston Community Land Trust Network](#) supports current and emerging community land trusts for resident-led planning and long-term, collective control of land in and around Boston. Donations support the trusts in removing land from the speculative market and putting it into the hands of the community for use in permanently affordable housing, economic development, urban agriculture, and open space. To give to the Network, recommend

a grant to Dudley Street Neighborhood Initiative with the grant purpose "to support the Greater Boston Community Land Trust Network."

- [Mass Alliance of HUD Tenants](#) was founded as an area-wide coalition of HUD tenant unions and is now the only resident-run membership coalition providing organizing and technical assistance to tenants in government subsidized developments in Eastern and Central Massachusetts. Give to support the work the Alliance has been doing since 1983, which has saved 13,600 units as affordable housing.



Since 2002, the [Greater Boston Housing Report Card](#) has used local, state, and federal data to track housing market trends in Greater Boston.

Legal Aid

Supporting legal organizations is vital because they protect fundamental rights and ensure access to justice for those without the resources or clout to obtain the legal representation they deserve. Support nonprofits that strengthen democracy, hold powerful institutions accountable, and empower individuals to navigate complex legal systems fairly.

■ GLAD Law, through strategic litigation, public policy advocacy, and education, works in New England and nationally to create a just society free of discrimination based on gender identity and expression, HIV status, and sexual orientation. In the face of increasing attacks, help GLAD Law in supporting LGBTQ+ people and their families as they navigate federal actions, from health-care access to identity documents, online safety, family protections, and other pressing issues.

■ Lawyers Clearinghouse provides pro bono legal services through its vast network of attorneys to people facing civil issues related to housing, benefits, credit and tax issues, unemployment, tax lien foreclosure, wills and trusts, or their criminal records. With rising demand for legal services, as community members face increasing economic hardship and cuts to safety net programs, a grant to Lawyers Clearinghouse plays a vital role in ensuring access to foundational legal expertise for vulnerable populations.

■ Political Asylum Immigration Representation Project (PAIR) provides free immigration services to indigent asylum seekers and detained immigrants, assuring fairness and access to justice. PAIR acts as vital legal representation to the underserved population of detained immigrants as the only nonprofit in Massachusetts with negotiated access to provide legal orientation at all detention facilities where immigrants are detained by Immigration and Customs Enforcement. Donate to support an organization that is on the forefront of protecting immigrant rights.



As legal questions about nonprofit compliance arose in early 2025 amidst a shifting federal landscape, Lawyers for Civil Rights Boston and TBF partnered to offer virtual legal clinics for nonprofit leaders to provide responsive, one-on-one guidance. LCR-Boston legal clinics are ongoing and their dates, along with other resources for nonprofits, are regularly posted to TBF's Navigating the Moment page.

Protecting Civic Health

In this pivotal moment, safeguarding democracy requires strategic action. Your support can often have the most impact for local organizations with smaller budgets. This collection of organizations works to protect and strengthen democratic values, focused on efforts coordinated across nonprofits.

■ Massachusetts Voter Table (MVT) integrates nonpartisan voter engagement with grassroots organizing and works with its 40+ coalition members to fight for resources, representation, and power for communities of color, working-class people, new citizens, and youth in Massachusetts. Donate and help MVT bring together community-based organizations for statewide campaigns that advance a collective, long-term agenda for change.

■ Merrimack Valley Project is made up of more than 40 member groups, including congregations, local labor unions, and community-based organizations

that come together to take on the issues that are most pressing to their communities and organize specific, strategic, and winnable campaigns to bring about systematic change at all levels of government. Give to support this organization that focuses on an often underfunded area of the Commonwealth.

■ Vot-ER is a nonpartisan, nonprofit organization working to integrate civic engagement into health-care. Giving to Vot-ER supports its development of nonpartisan civic engagement tools and programs for every corner of the health-care system—from private practitioners to medical schools to hospitals.

Local Media and Journalism

Supporting local news media is indispensable because they keep communities informed, highlight issues that directly affect residents, and preserve the stories and perspectives unique to the communities they serve. Alongside better-known nonprofit outlets such as public media stalwarts GBH and WBUR, the organizations below provide strong local journalism that fosters connection, transparency, and informed decision-making within our Greater Boston community.

■ [CommonWealth Beacon](#) is an online news outlet with no paywall that is published by the [Massachusetts Institute for a New Commonwealth](#), a nonpartisan, nonprofit organization and frequent TBF partner dedicated to promoting economic inclusion and civic vitality. Donate to support the provision of unbiased research and journalism and respectful civic dialogue. To give to the *CommonWealth Beacon*, recommend a grant to MassINC with the grant purpose “to support the *CommonWealth Beacon*.”

■ [Institute for Nonprofit News](#) (INN) brings together more than 500 independent, nonprofit news outlets to advocate for local journalism and provide resources including technical support and grant matching through its NewsMatch initiative. Use INN’s directory, [FindYourNews](#), to connect and give to your own local

news outlets, whose journalism is created for, supported by, and committed to the communities they serve.

■ [Report for America](#) is a national service program that places journalists into local newsrooms to report on under-reported issues and communities. Support this Boston-based nonprofit in its partnership with host newsrooms across New England and beyond, which has placed nearly 800 reporters in local newsrooms across the country. To give, recommend a grant to The GroundTruth Project with the grant purpose “to support Report for America.”



To find local independent and nonprofit news outlets in your community, you can [check this list](#) from the Media and Democracy Project.

Supporting the Arts

In times of crisis, we turn to the arts for meaning, connection, and hope. The arts also drive local economies, nurture talent, and create vibrant spaces that bring people together and strengthen community identity. Donors have the power to ensure these vital nonprofits are still there when we need them most.

■ [Arts Collaborative Medford](#) is a community arts center that provides space for making connections and experiencing creativity in the city of Medford. This grassroots organization is seeing an increase in the use of its space by artists, cultural organizations, and residents, and a donation will support its ability have a bigger impact with space that can serve all ages and provide opportunities for art making, gathering, and creative expression.

■ [Boston Music Project](#) wants to give every child access to engaging musical experiences, performance opportunities to develop their confidence, high levels of musical proficiency, and a passion for learning that transcends all subjects. Support the Boston Music

Project during a time in which it has experienced major funding losses and yet has continued to serve a large body of students across Greater Boston.

■ [Elevated Thought](#) is an art and social justice organization based in Lawrence that focuses on alternative models of art-based education and economic opportunities for youth. Given the growing need of young people looking for creative ways to express themselves, any size donation to this grassroots organization can have tremendous impact.



Watch this video about TBF’s investments in Arts, Creativity and Community Spaces.

Strengthen and Support LGBTQ+ Communities

With federal actions threatening the rights and well-being of LGBTQ+ people, support for LGBTQ+ organizations is needed more than ever. Ensuring these entities are well-funded is a must for safeguarding the rights, health, and dignity of our LGBTQ+ neighbors. These organizations provide essential services, advocacy, and support tailored to the needs of the LGBTQ+ community with the aim of fostering safety and inclusion.

■ [Massachusetts Transgender Political Coalition](#) (MTPC) works to ensure the well-being, safety, and lived equity of all trans, nonbinary, and gender-expansive residents in Massachusetts. MTPC is the oldest trans-advocacy organization in the United States. As a grassroots organization, however, every donation has major impact for its work.

■ [LGBT Asylum Task Force](#) provides support to LGBTQ+ individuals who are seeking asylum in the U.S. because of homophobic persecution in their home countries. Give to support their work as the only program in Massachusetts providing both housing support and legal assistance for queer asylum seekers.

■ [Greater Boston PFLAG](#) advocates for societal affirmation of LGBTQ+ people by building and strengthening loving families, safe communities, and a diverse and inclusive society. Donating now ensures the continuation of its parent, caregiver, and family support services at a time of extreme vulnerability for LGBTQ+ youth.



In 2025, the Equality Fund at the Boston Foundation announced the largest single slate of grants in its history; [see a list of the fund's grantees](#). Learn about the Equality Fund's recent [landscape scan](#) on the LGBTQ+ community in Massachusetts.

Climate Justice

Investing in climate organizations helps protect the region's coastlines, neighborhoods, and public health from the mounting impacts of climate change. These groups drive innovative, community-based solutions that make the city more resilient and ensure a sustainable future for everyone who calls the Greater Boston area home.

■ [Boston Climate Action Network](#) organizes Boston residents and collaborates with other social justice allies to advocate for climate justice and urgent action on the climate priorities identified by the City of Boston. Giving supports its work to reduce energy bills, expand renewable energy, improve air quality, and hold the biggest institutions accountable.

■ [GreenRoots](#) is fighting to achieve environmental justice and greater quality of life through collective action, unity, education, and youth leadership across neighborhoods and communities. Donate to support a longstanding climate justice organization that is investing in the futures of Chelsea and East Boston.

■ [Speak for the Trees](#) works together with community members to plant, preserve, care and advocate for trees and to expand the tree canopy in environmentally marginalized Boston neighborhoods. A donation supports its tree giveaways and plantings that empower residents to become stewards for their own communities.



TBF's [2024 Climate Report: Powering Up Together](#) called on philanthropists to support a new effort to transform Boston's pursuit of small building retrofit goals. You might also check out the [Mass Climate Careers Fund](#) hosted by Social Finance.

Investing in Immigrants

Immigrant communities in the U.S. are facing heightened threats of deportation, limited access to health care and legal services, and increasing barriers to employment and education. Support these organizations in doing critical work to protect their rights, ensure community safety, and promote long-term opportunity in the face of growing systemic persecution.

- Agencia ALPHA is one of the few Boston-based organizations offering both legal immigration services and community organizing, including leadership development opportunities for immigrants to get involved civically and advocate for themselves. At a time when Agencia ALPHA is facing an increased demand for services, support their important community work.
- Immigrant Family Services Institute (IFSI) has been supporting immigrants for over 10 years to ensure successful integration. IFSI has been a critical and central support for newly arrived immigrants. Support for IFSI will provide culturally competent case management, education, legal services, and advocacy for individuals and families facing severe hardships.
- LUCE Immigrant Justice Network is a coalition of organizations that established a hotline to track ICE activity and dispel misinformation. The network has built local hubs across the state working to defend and build immigrant justice. Grants of any amount help LUCE manage the hotline, train ICE Watch hubs, and build solidarity across the state in their fight for justice.

To support this organization, recommend a grant to Neighbor to Neighbor with the grant purpose “to support LUCE.”

- Southeast Asian Coalition of Central Massachusetts has provided essential services to immigrants, refugees, and low-income residents throughout Central Massachusetts for over two decades, including those from Southeast Asia, Haiti, and Afghanistan. Giving supports them in providing job training and career assistance; promoting economic development and social justice for immigrant and refugee communities; expanding access to urban agriculture and culturally relevant foods; and uplifting AAPI culture and heritage.



An event in June co-sponsored by the Latino Equity Fund and SkillWorks focused on challenges to full and appropriate employment for foreign-born residents and highlighted the importance of English for Speakers of Other Languages (ESOL) programs. Many immigrant-serving organizations are among recent grantees of the Latino Equity Fund and Asian Community Fund.

ANNUAL FUND FOR CIVIC LEADERSHIP

To directly support the work of the Boston Foundation, please consider a gift to the Annual Fund for Civic Leadership. Alongside our grantmaking, the **Annual Fund for Civic Leadership** helps us invest in expanded research, host a record number of convenings large and small to share answers and advance ideas, and broadens our commitment to advocate for needed protections and investments to empower individuals and strengthen communities. Your Annual Fund support allows TBF to take on its uniquely active role in informing and shaping policy for a better region.