

OSI Seize the Day Grantmaking

OSI has recently operationalized its c3 grantmaking for the new Seize the Day initiative and, on March 20, approved five grants totaling \$1.25 million for organizations that are addressing our priority funding strategies to: 1) advance the hardest issues; 2) ensure that there is transparency, equity, and accountability in the economic recovery debate; 3) expand public participation; and 4) integrate online innovations from the 2008 election into broader advocacy efforts. The first Seize the Day grantees are listed below.

Advancing the Hardest Issues: Criminal Justice

Council on State Governments, recommended by the Criminal Justice Fund, \$350,000 over two years (in addition to \$700,000 in project support and funding to offset the JEHT Foundation's closure) to conduct research, provide technical assistance, and facilitate public education related to the development of federal criminal justice policy priorities. Questions on this grant may be directed to Lenny Noisette, Program Director, Criminal Justice Fund.

Expanding Public Participation on OSI Priority Issues

National Training and Information Center, \$200,000 over two years (in addition to \$300,000 in general support and \$100,000 in Neighborhood Stabilization Initiative funding) to support capacity building and affiliate development for a large, national community organizing network active on foreclosure, TARP accountability, and immigrants' rights issues in 13 states and Washington, DC. Questions on this grant may be directed to Bill Vandenberg, Program Director, Democracy and Power Fund.

PICO National Network, \$250,000 over two years (in addition to \$300,000 in general support and \$50,000 from the Neighborhood Stabilization Initiative) to support capacity building and affiliate development for a large, national congregation based organizing network active on immigrants' rights, foreclosure, and economic opportunity issues in 1,000 congregations in 150 cities nationwide and in Washington, DC. Questions on this grant may also be directed to Bill Vandenberg.

Ensuring Transparency, Equity, and Accountability in Economic Recovery Efforts

Fund for Constitutional Government, \$100,000 over one year to host three national convenings for state and federal level organizations seeking to build the **Coalition for an Accountable Recovery** and to ensure that recovery dollars move to the state level in as transparent a process as possible. Questions on this grant may be directed to Laleh Ispahani, Program Director, Transparency and Integrity Fund.

Focus Project for OMB Watch, \$350,000 over two years to launch **Bailout Watch**, a national transparency effort to spotlight how prior stimulus funds are being used and propose new methods for increasing transparency and accountability in future stimulus discussions. Questions on this grant may also be directed to Laleh Ispahani.