

## **Abundance, a Movement That Challenges Philanthropic Giving to Black-Led and Black-Centered Organizations, Hires First Director**

*The movement's recruitment of new leadership is an exciting first step toward creating proactive change within philanthropy.*

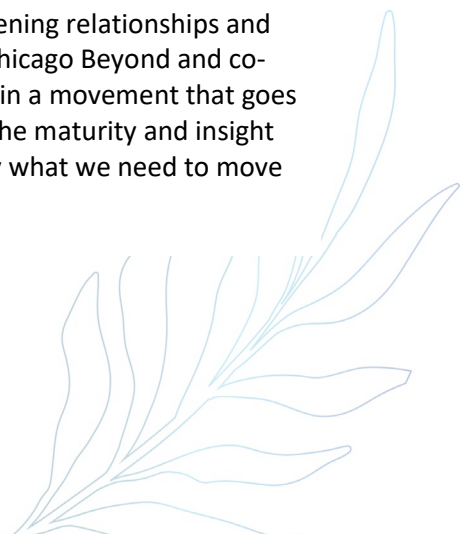
**Chicago, IL (June 29, 2022)** – *Abundance*, a movement dedicated to shifting how philanthropic dollars are allocated to Black-led and Black-centered organizations, hires its first-ever director, Jasmine Jones, the former executive director at West Contra Costa Public Education Fund.

Jasmine joins *Abundance* with deep and direct experience in disinvested communities struggling with the school-to-prison pipeline, particularly addressing the issue of school safety. She was also a founding member and the lead organizer at the Black Organizing Project based in Oakland, California. Jasmine believes that through empathy, public policy, and deep financial investments sustained over time, we can create a world where everyone can thrive, especially Black and Brown people who have historically been disenfranchised.

"If you really know me, you would know how much I want liberation for the Black community in America," notes Jones. "With the recent attack in Buffalo, NY and the ongoing attacks on Black lives, there is an urgency for our country to get serious about the destructive effects of anti-Blackness. It is an extreme honor to be chosen as the leader of the *Abundance* movement, and I am most excited to support the philanthropic sector with creating conditions in its institutions that will allow for an overflow of funding and resources to Black-led and Black-centered organizations. I believe that through this work, foundations can have a meaningful impact in Black communities by partnering to be pro Black."

*Abundance* aims to create a path for philanthropy to move beyond pledges and statements of solidarity to tangible, public commitments to change through action. Philanthropic organizations that join the *Abundance* movement will commit to participating in the *Abundance Action Community*. In this space, funders will come together to learn and then implement structural changes at their foundations to lead to more equitable giving. This could include collectively strategizing shared goals, tracking year-over-year growth in the percentage of annual payout to Black-led work, encouraging adaptive changes in practice, and being responsive to Black leaders. Through this work, *Abundance* will also set the stage to create joy in how we serve and how we help one another.

"Jasmine is a dynamic leader, a creative strategist who excels at building and strengthening relationships and fostering trust while calling for accountability," notes Liz Dozier, founder and CEO of Chicago Beyond and co-founder of *Abundance*. "She is a strong communicator who is able to build and maintain a movement that goes against the grain of traditional philanthropy. She has high emotional intelligence and the maturity and insight required to guide people through individual and organizational changes. That's exactly what we need to move the needle with *Abundance*."



“We love that Jasmine has a history of a deep commitment to racial equity and justice and organizing leaders toward these goals,” added Sharon Bush, president of Grand Victoria Foundation and co-founder of *Abundance*. “We were extremely drawn to her eagerness and ability to inspire and influence others in this work, a necessity for leading the *Abundance Action Community*. She has demonstrated that she has the experience to lead groups through change and disrupt the status quo.”

If an organization is interested in being a part of *Abundance*, would like to learn more information, or collaborate, please visit <https://abundancemovement.org>.

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**About Abundance**

*Abundance* is a movement dedicated to shifting how philanthropic dollars are allocated to Black-led and Black-centered organizations, founded by Chicago Beyond, Grand Victoria Foundation, and the John D. and Catherine T. MacArthur Foundation. The initiative aims to create a path for philanthropy to move beyond pledges and statements of solidarity to tangible, public commitments to change through action and creating and spreading abundance for all.

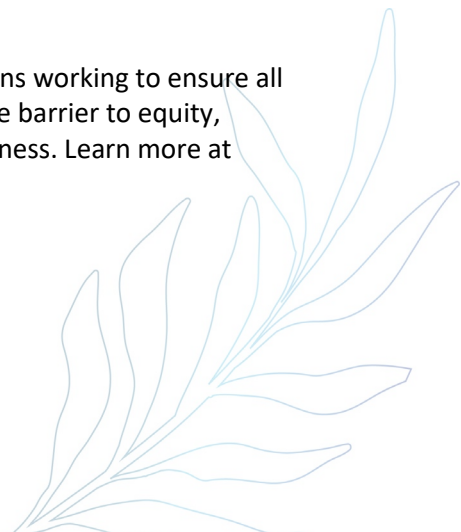
*Abundance* is a demonstration of love for Black people and an acknowledgement of the richness of existing Black-led efforts and the opportunity to support those efforts in a way that leads to freedom and joy for all. It is a movement to free mindsets, dollars, policies, and practices to address anti-Blackness in philanthropy. The goal is to ensure long-term and equitable distribution to Black-led and centered organizations, including those that challenge the forces standing in the way of systemic change.

For more information, visit <https://abundancemovement.org>.

**About Chicago Beyond**

Chicago Beyond is an impact investor that invests in ideas, individuals, and organizations working to ensure all young people have the opportunity to live a free and full life. Because there is no single barrier to equity, Chicago Beyond invests in everything from education to youth safety, health, and wellness. Learn more at [chicagobeyond.org](http://chicagobeyond.org).

**About Grand Victoria Foundation**



Grand Victoria Foundation is a private foundation whose mission is to empower communities to ensure Illinois is a great place to live and work. We believe people and communities are at the center of social and economic change. Through our funding, we aim to change and improve conditions that persistently hold problems in place. Our vision is a strong, livable, and equitable Illinois where every resident has an opportunity to thrive. Learn more at [grandvictoriafdn.org](http://grandvictoriafdn.org).

### **About MacArthur Foundation**

The John D. and Catherine T. MacArthur Foundation supports creative people, effective institutions, and influential networks, building a more just, verdant, and peaceful world. MacArthur is placing a few big bets that truly significant progress is possible on some of the world's most pressing social challenges, including advancing global climate solutions, decreasing nuclear risk, promoting local justice reform in the U.S., and reducing corruption in Africa's most populous country, Nigeria. In addition to the MacArthur Fellows Program and the global 100&Change competition, the Foundation continues its historic commitments to the role of journalism in a responsive democracy and the vitality of our hometown, Chicago. Learn more at [macfound.org](http://macfound.org).

