

March 2026

SOLIDARITY LESSONS

from a year of crisis and change



Building Movement Project

Activating Nonprofits | Fueling Change



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About the Building Movement Project

The Building Movement Project (BMP) is a national nonprofit organization that provides insightful research, practical resources, and pathways for transformative relationships that support nonprofit organizations, networks, and movements in their work to create a just and equitable world. This brief is part of BMP's [Movement Infrastructure Series](#), which offers ideas, approaches, and practices to strengthen individual organizations and broader social movement ecosystems.

BMP's previous reports in this series include:

- *Movement Lessons from the First 100 Days*
- *Sounding the Alarm: Nonprofits on the Frontlines of a Polarized Political Climate*
- *Reckoning With Sustainability: Black Leaders Reflect on 2020, the Funding Cliff, and Organizing Infrastructure*
- *100 Days of Building Power and Solidarity: Observations and Recommendations about Immediate and Long-Term Infrastructure Needs for Palestinian, Muslim, and Arab Groups in the U.S.*
- *Balancing Act: Asian American Organizations Respond to Community Crises and Build Collective Power*
- *Funding Movement Infrastructure Brief*
- *Meeting the Need: Building the Capacity of Community-Based Organizations*

Acknowledgements

We are grateful to Adaku Utah and Priti Nemani for developing this report and to the nonprofit leaders who shared their experiences with us in the midst of challenges and crises.

Introduction and Context Setting

BMP's [Movement Infrastructure Series](#) offers ideas, approaches, and practices to strengthen individual organizations and broader social movement ecosystems. In April 2025, Building Movement Project released [Movement Lessons from the First 100 Days](#), an early snapshot of how nonprofit organizations and coalitions were responding to the Trump Administration's executive actions. Drawing on interviews, movement strategy tables, convenings, and a sector-wide survey, that brief surfaced a set of cross-cutting themes: the array of coordinated attacks on marginalized communities and the institutions that sustain them; the types of policies that result in collective punishment and repression; and the erosion of a multiracial democracy. It also documented how organizations were navigating funding freezes, heightened surveillance, reputational harm, and increased demand for services, while simultaneously buttressing adaptive practices rooted in solidarity, care, and collective power.

Over the past year, our analysis has deepened through ongoing engagement with community partners and coalitions across the country. Organizations increasingly recognize that the targeting of DEI, immigration, reproductive and gender-affirming care, Palestinian solidarity, climate justice, and racial justice is not a series of isolated attacks, but part of a broader strategy to weaken institutions, dismantle fundamental rights, and exclude certain communities and identities.

At the same time, a dangerous convergence has come into sharper focus: attacks on marginalized communities are inseparable from attacks on the institutions that sustain them.



Cultural institutions, educational spaces, nonprofit organizations, funders, and informal community networks are all under growing pressure to depoliticize their work, as equity is framed as “risky,” participation is recast as loyalty, dissent is treated as a threat, and pluralism is replaced with “neutrality.” Together, these dynamics function to weaken collective capacity, fragment solidarity, and enforce compliance—often without the need for formal bans or prosecutions.

This has created a landscape in which preemptive compliance feels rational, even as it narrows the horizon of what movements can imagine and practice. Many organizations are scaling back public communication, distancing themselves from partners, depoliticizing language, or restructuring programs to remain legible and “safe” in anticipation of retaliation, funding loss, reputational harm, or institutional isolation.

Still, in the midst of ongoing crisis and complexity, many nonprofit organizations and movements have continued to build alternative infrastructure where government systems have failed or disappeared.

Over the past year, these adaptations have deepened — from the expansion of legal defense networks and durable mutual aid systems to healing and care practices that have been woven into organizing strategy and cross-movement coordination bringing newer organizations into aligned partnerships.

This moment invites us to understand how movements might govern themselves through a time of sustained uncertainty, how nonprofits resist being disciplined and punished into isolation, and what kinds of solidarity infrastructure are necessary to withstand a surge of attacks and threats.



This updated brief builds on our initial findings to offer a deeper look at how the nonprofit sector is navigating a prolonged period of constraint and contestation. While not exhaustive, this brief:

- Provides a snapshot of how federal actions continue to shape nonprofit organizations and broader movements
- Highlights evolving movement infrastructure needs and challenges
- Documents how organizations are responding through adaptation and innovation
- Synthesizes strategic considerations for nonprofit and philanthropic stakeholders, with a focus on care, sustainability, solidarity, and collective power in the face of ongoing threats

BMP will continue to track and analyze how federal actions are affecting nonprofit organizations and the communities they serve. We are regularly updating our [FAQ resource](#) focused on how nonprofits may be impacted by the Administration. The FAQ begins with a series of common questions and responses, followed by a summary of key executive orders and links to additional tools and resources for further learning and response.



Significant Policy Shifts During the First Year

The policy shifts during year one of the second Trump term touch nearly every part of American society. Education, healthcare, the environment, the preservation of American history, immigrant families, core constitutional rights, progress in racial justice, and the nonprofit ecosystem itself have all been placed on the cutting board. In short, the Administration's policies are resulting in attacks on **marginalized communities and civil society**; an increase in **collective punishment and repression**; and the **erosion of a multiracial democracy**. The following is a snapshot of the impact of these policy shifts as well as additional learning resources:

Marginalized Communities and Civil Society

Education: The Administration has [systematically dismantled public education](#) by defunding schools, eliminating student loan relief, shuttering the Department of Education, and weaponizing "parents' rights" rhetoric to police gender identity in classrooms.

Healthcare: Through funding threats, anonymous reporting mechanisms, and hateful rhetoric, the Administration has forced healthcare providers to roll back reproductive care, gender-affirming services, and critical health research, [with the heaviest burden](#) falling on women, LGBTQIA+ people, immigrants, and communities of color.

Environmental Protection: The Administration has [defunded climate research](#), erased scientific findings from public view, targeted environmental justice advocates as radicals, and cleared the way for AI data centers that threaten community health and ecological stability.

Civil Society: By labeling progressive [nonprofits](#) as "radical" and "terroristic," the Administration has weaponized federal funding, congressional oversight, and post-9/11 national security infrastructure to surveil, defund, and destabilize [organizations serving vulnerable communities](#).

Collective Punishment and Repression

Immigration and Border Enforcement: The Administration has [militarized immigration enforcement](#), built a mass surveillance apparatus, and launched congressional investigations into immigrant-serving nonprofits, intentionally draining their capacity precisely when communities need them most.

Suppression of Dissent: By branding protesters and dissidents as domestic terrorists, the Administration has [criminalized constitutionally protected activity](#) and enabled the arrest and detention of journalists, students, officials, and community members.

Erasure of a Multiracial Democracy

Civil Rights Rollbacks: The Administration has systematically dismantled civil rights protections by gutting the DOJ's anti-discrimination work, weaponizing the False Claims Act against DEI programs, and suppressing press freedom, while quietly working to [undermine electoral integrity](#).

Cultural Erasure: The [Administration](#) has defunded arts organizations, shuttered multicultural spaces, banned books by canonical Black authors, and actively [suppressed collective memory of racial violence](#) in an effort to whitewash [American history](#).

Language and Belonging: By [declaring English the official language](#) and eliminating 25 years of language access mandates, the Administration has isolated millions of limited-English-proficiency residents while targeting specific immigrant communities, including Venezuelan, Somali, and Afghan communities, for violent enforcement.

How Nonprofits and Movements Are Adapting

As nonprofits and movement organizations continue to navigate an intensifying political landscape, many are adapting their strategies and tactics to continue to defend their communities, build collective power, and create the necessary resources to sustain their work. What follows is a snapshot of a few organizational adaptations taking shape on the ground.

BUILDING MULTI-ENTITY INFRASTRUCTURE & SOLIDARITY ECONOMIES

Organizations are developing multi-entity legal structures to protect assets, distribute risks, and sustain their organizations under increased legal scrutiny and surveillance. Alongside this, solidarity economy models are taking root. Examples include worker-owned cooperatives; faith and labor-organized campaigns, such as the January 23 [general strike](#) in Minnesota; mutual aid networks supporting rent, groceries, and pet care for sheltering families; and rapid-response support for people released from detention with no resources.



Artwork by N.O. Bonzo
@nobonzo on IG via Justseeds

DEFENSE PACTS & COLLECTIVE PROTECTION

After the Administration began targeting colleges and universities with threats of revoking federal funding, a group of the Big Ten Universities decided to create a "[Mutual Defense](#)" Compact in the defense of academic freedom and research. Members of the Compact agreed to stand together against Trump's threats, share legal counsel and other resources, and create a joint fund for the costs of defense. In a similar fashion, The Leadership Conference on Civil and Human Rights led a [Unity Commitment](#) among a coalition of nonprofit groups, pursuant to which groups agreed to stand with one another and stand against censorship and mission abandonment. Additionally, more than [150 cultural organizations](#) and over 320 artists and cultural workers came together to affirm their commitment to resisting political pressure.

SAFETY, SECURITY, & DIGITAL INFRASTRUCTURE

Community members and organizations are rapidly upgrading their safety and security infrastructure. In Minnesota, ad hoc neighborhood groups organized patrol schedules for schools, immigrant-owned businesses, and places of worship to support immigrant communities during heightened immigration enforcement in 2026. These groups formed organically, often through word of mouth, with neighborhood patrols formed in collaboration with parents of school-age kids, or with the faith leaders and small business owners seeking security support (such as monitoring entrances to buildings and vetting visitors).

In the wake of the federal administration threatening to [investigate](#) Signal groups in Minnesota, community members are educating each other on digital security, from sharing resources on best practices for Signal to tech-savvy neighbors offering to create more secure digital tools for information sharing. Organizations are also creating multilingual safety planning resources in [print](#), [audio](#), and [video](#) formats to grow accessibility across communities.

ABSORBING AND DEVELOPING NEWLY POLITICIZED PEOPLE



Artwork by Monica Trinidad
[@itsmonicatrinidad](#) on IG via Justseeds

The past year has generated unprecedented public engagement. Many community members are becoming newly politicized or deepening their political awareness in response to current conditions, and are actively seeking political homes where they can channel their energy into longer-term commitments. Organizations are partnering with networks to scale their training capacity and integrate new members more effectively. The deeper question remains: how do movements create sustainable on-ramps for newly politicized people as crises and community needs continue to evolve?

One telling example: groups offering legal and constitutional observer training are facing [increased demands for training](#) as more people become engaged in direct action despite the government's characterization of protesters and legal observers as "[domestic terrorists](#)."

CROSS-COMMUNITY EDUCATION & ORGANIZING

In cities and states facing federal occupations under the guise of immigration enforcement, the need for cross-issue organizing is deeply evident. As targeted community members shelter at home, mutual aid groups, nonprofits, local elected officials, and small businesses are organizing, from fundraising and advocating for rent relief to coordinating grocery and supply drives. In the lead-up to the midterm elections, there is also a surge of interest in local electoral organizing, with record turnouts for local caucuses and primary days.

Organizations are also sharing lessons, in real time, from the frontlines, as well as offering opportunities for cross-community education. For example, NDN Collective shared [organizing and solidarity lessons](#) from Minnesota, while groups like Transgender Law Center and Black LGBTQIA+ Migrant Project have collaborated on a [series of virtual sessions](#) focused on LGBTQ+ and migrant solidarity.



A flyer for Beyond Borders and Boxes: Building LGBTQ+ and Migrant Solidarity, a four-week virtual training series hosted by Transgender Law Center and Black LGBTQIA+ Migrant Project in February 2026.

COLLECTIVE CARE, SUSTAINABILITY, & CONFLICT INFRASTRUCTURE

Organizations are investing in internal capacity for [sustainability](#), [care](#), and [conflict transformation](#), recognizing these not as supplemental supports but as core movement infrastructure. Initiatives like the [Liberation Line](#), which offers free and confidential mental health support to organizers, and the growing field of [embodied leadership](#) reflect a broader shift: movements are building the conditions for people to show up over the long haul, not just in moments of crisis. As conflict within and between organizations continues to intensify under pressure, the ability to navigate harm, repair relationships, and tend to collective care is essential to movement longevity and to the solidarity that sustains it.

LEARNING FROM GLOBAL MOVEMENTS

Some organizations are leaning on movements that have navigated authoritarian conditions in the Global North and Global South. From Hong Kong's [umbrella movement](#), including [open-source patterns](#) for reinforced umbrellas adapted by Indigenous artists, to lessons from democratic resistance across the Global South, U.S.-based groups are actively studying how communities have sustained movements under repression.

ROLE CLARITY & ORGANIZATIONAL DISCERNMENT

Many organizations are doing hard internal work to get clear on what they do and don't do, what risks they can take, and what lies beyond their current capacity and trust. Some are navigating this with concrete skills and resources, while others are struggling to be discerning with too little capacity and internal alignment. Many organizations are recognizing how role clarity is a form of organizational resilience – that knowing your lane can protect and sustain your ecosystem.

Many organizations are also making adaptations by building infrastructure for smaller and more rural communities. Faith communities are providing sanctuary and organizational care. Intergenerational and youth organizing is creating new entry points into movement work. The broader legal defense ecosystem – from rapid response hotlines to know your rights education – continues to expand. Narrative and communications work is increasingly central as organizations navigate surveillance, disinformation, and media hostility. The funding landscape is also shifting, as some funders withdraw, others move toward more community-centered and solidarity economy models. And, arts and cultural organizers are doing critical work to sustain morale, uplift and protect the stories of this moment, and hold collective identity across communities under pressure.



The preceding snapshot is by no means comprehensive. In addition to what's shared here, we invite you to reflect on the ways your organizations and communities are adapting in the midst of so much upheaval.

Observations from Minneapolis

In mid-February 2026, the federal government announced that it was ending its “surge operation” of immigration enforcement in Minnesota. Between November 2025 and February 2026, ICE and CBP agents terrorized communities across the state—not just in Minneapolis, Saint Paul, and the surrounding metro area, but in rural cities as well, targeting anyone they perceived to be an immigrant, citizens and non-citizens alike. As residential streets and city parks became occupied by federal agents, the government also targeted vulnerable communities through the narrative of fear, using military phrasing such as “[in theater](#)” and “[quick reaction forces](#)” to describe the operation in Minnesota, while also [characterizing community members and legal observers](#) as “paid agitators” and “domestic terrorists.”



The consequences have been appalling and unquantifiable. On January 6, agents detained [Victor Manuel Díaz](#), a Nicaraguan man, at the suburban Minneapolis restaurant where he worked. Manual Díaz died in ICE custody in El Paso, Texas ([six people have died in ICE custody](#) in January alone). On January 7, agents shot and killed a legal observer, [Renee Macklin Good](#). On January 14, agents shot [Julio Cesar Sosa-Celis](#) in the leg through the door of an apartment. On January 24, agents shot and killed [Alex Pretti](#) as he tried to help a woman the agents had pushed to the ground.



The stories of Twin Cities residents targeted by immigration enforcement - [Liam Conejo Ramos](#), [ChongLy "Scott" Thao](#), [Jose Roberto "Beto" Ramirez](#), [Aliya Rahman](#) - have revealed the harsh consequences of the government’s actions. So many more neighbors are still in federal detention and are being [denied their rights](#) to legal counsel. There are countless more individuals and families who have been harmed, whose stories have yet been shared.

Above: Minneapolis, early 2026 - “Demonstrators chanting ‘Hands up, don’t shoot’ in the face of relentless volleys of teargas.” Photo and caption by Ben Hovland, @benjovland on IG

Left: Minneapolis, January 7, 2026 - Community members light candles at a vigil for Renee Good.

Throughout all of this, in the face of unrelenting state violence, groups and community members showed up again and again, from new formations and experiments to organizations with deep roots in the community. What follows is just a glimpse into the care and solidarity practiced in Minneapolis and Minnesota in the winter of 2026.

Movement groups and beyond demonstrated a number of [solidarity stances](#) in defense of their communities. In an example of solidarity through demand and disruption, the “[Day of Truth and Freedom](#)” on January 23 saw several hundred businesses closing in solidarity and tens of thousands joining a march in sub-zero temperatures. This effort, [organized](#) by a joint coalition of groups, from faith organizers with Faith in Minnesota to major labor unions (including the AFL-CIO, the state’s federation of more than 1,000 affiliated local unions), called for ICE out of Minnesota, legal accountability, an end to ICE funding, and for corporations to cease business with ICE.



Protest against ICE in downtown Minneapolis on January 23, 2026. Photo by Fibonacci Blue on Flickr.



People wave from the skyway while protesters march below on January 23, 2026, in Minneapolis, Minnesota. Photo by Lorie Shaull on Flickr.

 **MONARCA**
RAPID RESPONSE LINE
We keep us safe.



Artwork via MonarcaMN.org

Local movement networks showed solidarity through deepening connections with newly formed neighborhood groups to offer community defense and skill-building trainings. [Monarca](#), an immigrant-led organization, trained countless Minnesotans in legal observer workshops while also operating a rapid response hotline.

Minneapolis Families for Public Schools, a base-building group with [TakeAction Minnesota](#), coordinated Sanctuary School teams, activating thousands of parents and caregivers across the Twin Cities metro to provide community defense at neighborhood schools and coordinate mutual aid drives.



Artwork by Jearica Fountain, @jearicafountain_designs on IG



Lessons from Minnesota [report back](#) February 2026 panel with Minnesota organizers, hosted by 18 Million Rising



A flyer from Community Aid Network MN, a neighborhood mutual aid group in Minneapolis.

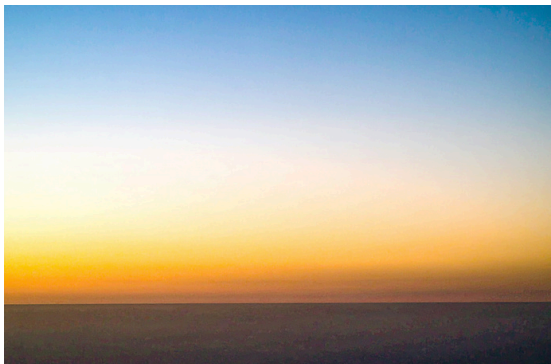
Healers and bodyworkers offered drop-in clinics for frontline responders. [Writers](#), [poets](#), and [visual artists](#) showed solidarity through documentation and discussion by using their platforms and artwork as an [invitation](#) for community building, supporting mutual aid efforts, education, narrative shifting, and more. [Singing Resistance](#) connected people through music.

Community members also stepped in to practice solidarity through design, experimenting with new approaches and formations that may be adapted in other locales facing similar federal occupations. When school districts [reported](#) a drop in student attendance as families sheltered at home and food shelves [noticed](#) a steep drop in patrons, it was clear that there was an overwhelming need for mutual aid support, as so many community members felt unsafe leaving their homes. Neighbors responded in a variety of ways:

- Decentralized, hyperlocal networks sharing safety alerts as well as coordinating patrol schedules and grocery deliveries and vetted carpool drivers for students
- Healthcare providers setting up a rapid response team to provide [home visits](#)
- Groups including [Inquilinxs Unidxs por Justicia](#) (Renters United for Justice) and [MN Immigrant Rights Action Committee](#) and more advocating for eviction protections at the city and state level
- Neighbors, small businesses, and mutual aid groups making and handing out [whistle kits](#) (borrowing [lessons](#) from Chicago organizers) in partnership with immigrant-led groups
- Hair salons, restaurants, and breweries holding fundraisers for rent relief; coffee shops offering their physical space to coordinate supplies and deliveries; local yarn stores collecting craft kits at the request of high school students sheltering at home
- Collaborations between movement organizations, local businesses, and grassroots groups - such as a supply drive of diapers and baby formula, coordinated by Our Justice, a reproductive justice organization, and Moon Palace Books, an independent bookstore, with Community Aid Network MN, a neighborhood mutual aid group

Forecasting: Conditions Nonprofits Might Prepare For

In 2026, the policies and enforcement actions of the past year are expected to intensify in reach, pace, and impact on communities. This section is offered as a resource and an invitation: to get oriented together, to look honestly at what's on the horizon, and to find the solidarity stances and practices that can support the people and movements we're in deepest relationship with.



Nonprofits can expect continued uncertainty and disruption across education, immigration enforcement, voting rights, free expression, and the rights of trans people to participate fully in public life.

Pending legal decisions from the Supreme Court could significantly affect:

- Access to public education and the federal infrastructure that supports it;
- Birthright citizenship and who has the privilege of belonging in this country;
- The rights of immigrants to constitutional protections, such as due process and protection from enforcement overreach;
- The ability of trans youth to participate equally in school and community life;
- The voting power of majority-minority communities and the protections of the Voting Rights Act;
- The boundaries of free expression and the right of censorship.

Here, we offer a glimpse into what may be on the horizon for specific issue areas, what solidarity stances may help navigate this landscape, and additional resources to support your 2026 planning.

Issue	Potential 2026 Trends	Potential <i>Solidarity Stances</i> to Adopt
<p>Education</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Continued gutting of federal education programs and grantmaking Implementation of “school choice” vouchers and erosion of public education Religious indoctrination in the public classroom and the continued conflation of ethnic/religious supremacy and discrimination <p><i>Learn more: 4 Education and Policy Trends to Watch in 2026 (K-12 Dive, Jan. 2026)</i></p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Defend by sharing Know Your Rights materials for educators and students widely to prepare for immigration enforcement Demand policy change by sharing research and policy analysis Disrupt by supporting students engaging in direct actions through infrastructure and planning support
<p>Healthcare</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Continued targeting of gender-affirming care and forcing concessions by providers Increasingly limited pathways for access to reproductive healthcare Impact of H.R. 1 cuts in SNAP, Medicaid, ACA coverage Increase in public health incidents due to anti-vaccination policies <p><i>Learn more: The Case for Hope: Transgender Rights Going into 2026 (Erin in the Morning, Dec. 2025); Medicaid: What to Watch in 2026 (KFF, Jan. 2026)</i></p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Defend by translating and sharing mutual aid materials Design new formations with local groups for safety planning Deepen by educating cross-movement partners about how your community members are being impacted
<p>Environmental Protection</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Federal government support for the expansion of AI data centers throughout the country Continued rollback of environmental protections Increasing oversight and surveillance of climate change advocates <p><i>Learn more: The Secret Plan to End U.S. Climate Regulations (The New York Times, Feb. 2026)</i></p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Defend by offering/seeking staff or infrastructure support from groups that have greater capacity and resources Design local experiments to push back on AI data centers Deepen relationships with groups outside of the climate change ecosystem

Issue	Potential 2026 Trends	Potential <i>Solidarity Stances</i> to Adopt
<p>Civil Society</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Increased surveillance and targeting of progressive nonprofits and those that serve communities targeted by the Administration, such as BAMEMSA groups, the LGBTQIA+ community, women, and immigrants • Continued divestment by the federal government from the nonprofit ecosystem and an increasingly chilled landscape for private funding • Criminal charges for racketeering and domestic terrorism • Targeting of civic engagement groups <p><i>Learn more: The Nonprofit Sector Is At An Inflection Point. 2026 Is The Test. (Forbes, Dec. 2025)</i></p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Defend by working with other targeted organizations to pool funds for legal defense and safety measures for community members • Demand by sharing research on the way in which threats to civil society are causing the reduced delivery of critical services to communities in need • Design experiments with partner groups to push back against surveillance and targeting
<p>Immigration + Border Enforcement</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Expansion of the detention apparatus by use of large-scale industrial spaces • Potential SCOTUS decision approving immunity for private contractors who own detention facilities • Continued attempts to force assimilation and erase multiculturalism • Outcomes of June 2025 probe into 200+ immigration groups by the House Judiciary Committee <p><i>Learn more: Protecting Immigrant Communities: How States Can Lead in 2026 (American Immigration Council, Dec. 2025); Immigration Detention Expansion in Trump's Second Term (American Immigration Council, Jan. 2026)</i></p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Defend by uplifting the demands and needs of local groups on the frontlines of enforcement actions • Document by collecting stories of impact among survivors of immigration enforcement actions and pro-immigration groups • Deepen connections with other movements who are also impacted by the immigration enforcement apparatus

Issue	Potential 2026 Trends	Potential <i>Solidarity Stances</i> to Adopt
<p>Suppression of Dissent</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Increased targeting of members of the independent media Continued targeting of immigrants and noncitizens who criticize the federal government Increased surveillance tools to monitor and target dissenting members of the public <p><i>Learn more: One Year In: Defending the Constitution Under a Second Trump Administration (ACLU, Jan. 2026)</i></p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Defend by joining group litigation to preserve First Amendment rights Demand that funders increase long-term funding to fight government targeting Disrupt by refusing to work with organizations, including philanthropy, that comply with the authoritarian narratives and tactics
<p>Civil Rights Rollbacks</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Drastic measures by the executive and congressional branch to reduce access to voting in Black and brown communities Increased gerrymandering activity with little oversight Continued gutting of the Voting Rights Act Continued lack of enforcement by federal government against unlawful discrimination <p><i>Learn more: Key Political Violence and Resilience Trends From 2025 with Developments to Watch in 2026 (Bridging Divides Initiative)</i></p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Defend by translating and sharing civic engagement materials with community members around voting rights Demand that state and local jurisdictions mobilize to protect the vote Design local-level coalitions to create safety plans for elections
<p>Cultural Erasure</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Continued whitewashing and sanitization of American history to promote a white Christian savior narrative Additional methods of censorship to eradicate multicultural marks within American society Hyper-nationalist narratives around the 250th anniversary of American independence <p><i>Learn more: Trump Administration Says Europe Faces 'Civilizational Erasure' (The New York Times, Dec. 2025)</i></p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Defend by preparing plans to house cultural artifacts in secure and hidden locations while in a time of heightened risk Disrupt by making visible art and engaging in collective remembrance about the cultures that the Administration is attempted to erase Discuss the impact of policy shifts on arts and cultural organizations and what a healthy and thriving cultural and arts ecosystem could look like

Issue	Potential 2026 Trends	Potential <i>Solidarity Stances</i> to Adopt
<p>Language and Belonging</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Continued rollout and implementation of new agency guidance around the English-only executive order • Escalating use of immigration enforcement as a weapon to coerce assimilation into white Christian nationalism, targeting those most vulnerable to detention, deportation, or family separation. • Continued erasure of trans people through life-threatening policies depriving healthcare and dehumanizing rhetoric <p><i>Learn more: Online Federal Multilingual Resources Continue to Disappear under Trump Executive Order (The Fulcrum, Nov. 2025)</i></p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Defend by sharing translated resources widely and as often as possible • Disrupt by uplifting how multiculturalism has benefited our society and by rejecting calls for white Christian nationalism • Design local programs and actions to help those cast out by the Administration, such as immigrants and trans people, to find community in safer, healing, and joyful places

Additional Recommendations for Nonprofits and Funders

What Can Nonprofits Do?

Legal, Strategic, and Risk Planning

- Seek support from legal counsel and organizational development practitioners to understand potential impacts, conduct risk assessments, and plan for various scenarios.
 - See this [resource](#) from the National Council of Nonprofits and review the many offerings for due diligence, digital security, and other best practices to stay resilient from the Charity and Security Network's [Civil Society Resource Hub](#).
 - Review [BMP's FAQs for Nonprofits in the New Landscape](#) for policy trends impacting organizations in 2025.
- Prepare for legal ambiguity by clarifying organizational risk thresholds and decision-making authority before a crisis hits.
- Engage in scenario planning and risk assessment/tolerance. What situations might occur and what is the risk tolerance around responses?
 - Normalize ongoing scenario planning around loss of access to federal funds, philanthropic funding changes, reputational harm, surveillance, criminalization, reputational attacks, etc.
- Develop contingency budgets and operational plans for various funding scenarios to ensure flexibility and adaptability.

Documentation and Advocacy

- Express concerns with relevant federal, state, or local agencies about the potential impact of the loss of federal funds for programs that serve vulnerable communities.

Safety and Security

- Expand safety planning to include physical, digital, emotional, and relational security with protocols for doxxing, harassment, surveillance, and intimidation campaigns.



Funder and Donor Engagement

- Reach out to private funders and ask them to provide additional funding pathways.
- Prepare for funder contraction and/or retreat by diversifying revenue, building shared capacity, and planning for funder withdrawal without organizational collapse.

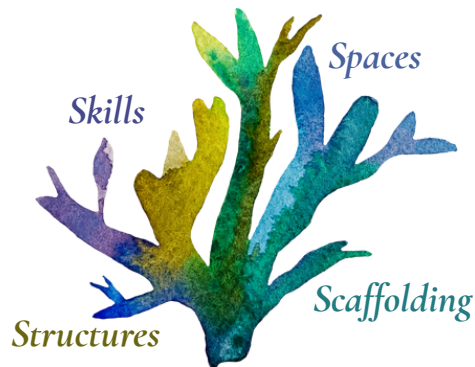
Solidarity

- Create solidarity agreements that clarify how organizations show up for one another amidst repression, uneven risk, or political disagreement.
- Mobilize with others facing similar cuts to determine what collective action can be taken across the sector. Sometimes, collective solidarity can be the pathway to safety.
- Consider partnerships with similar organizations to preserve programs. Muslims for Just Futures [offers suggestions](#) on establishing resilient mutual aid programs.
- Invest in cross-movement coordination that allows for differentiated roles; for example, some organizations might move publicly while others provide behind-the-scenes infrastructure, etc.



Protect Your Neighbors - artwork by @juliandeyo on IG via Defend the 612

Solidarity Infrastructure



At the Building Movement Project, our solidarity work with movement partners has shown us that building and maintaining solidarity – both in crisis moments and across the long arc of movement building – requires intentional investment in **solidarity infrastructure** [across four interconnected parts](#). Each piece strengthens the others, forming the foundational blocks that can hold us through immediate challenges while building towards lasting power and transformation.

- **Skills** — Develop shared capacities for the long haul, including trust-building, conflict navigation, strategic scenario planning, and the ability to analyze systemic oppression across movements and dismantle narratives that pit communities against each other.
- **Spaces** — Create intentional spaces (physical, digital, and relational) where organizations can align strategy, share political education, coordinate rapid response, and tend to the people doing the work through healing and co-learning.
- **Scaffolding** — Build the frameworks, tools, and connective systems that help organizations locate themselves within broader ecosystems and move together rather than in silos, especially during crisis moments when coordination and shared sensemaking matter most.
- **Structures** — Develop durable agreements, protocols, and governance practices that carry solidarity beyond single moments: resource-sharing agreements, communication flows, conflict transformation protocols, and statements of alignment that signal shared values both internally and to the world.

Care and Conflict

- Create shared agreements and processes for navigating internal conflict, political disagreement, and harm. This includes identifying when to bring in mediators or facilitators and identifying ways conflict does not erode trust or derail collective work.
- Invest in healing practices that address the compounding effects of external repression and internal strain. This might include access to somatics, therapy, peer support, or other embodied modalities that help people stay rooted and connected under pressure. If introduced within an organizational context, be sure there is buy-in and consent.
- Create explicit agreements about how organizations will care for staff who are most targeted, including undocumented workers, trans staff, Muslim staff, and others facing disproportionate risk, so that care is responsive to differentiated risk and vulnerability.
- Invest in ongoing relationship-building across teams and partner organizations so that trust exists before moments of tension or crisis. Strong relationships increase the ability to move through conflict with less fragmentation.
- Extend care beyond individual organizations by checking in on partners, sharing resources, and recognizing when others in the ecosystem are under strain. Collective care strengthens collective power.

Communications

- Document and share your organization's experiences. Develop a communications strategy. Map out your vulnerabilities and draft targeted communications in advance, tailored to your specific audience (e.g., membership, funders, partners). Find resources for communications strategies from the [Rad Comms Network](#).



*Together We Grow a New Path -
artwork by Andrea Narno via Justseeds*

What Can Funders Do?

- **Reassure nonprofit grantees** that the foundation stands by them and will support them during this time.
- **Give unrestricted funding** without limitations.
- **Deepen support for organizations working with vulnerable communities** and on issues deemed as "controversial" such as immigration, reproductive justice, DEI, and LGBTQ rights.
- **Pool together rapid response funds** with other funders and provide funding **for both short-term scaffolding** (for example, establishing legal defense funds that can share costs for legal representation that grantees need) **and long-term infrastructure planning** (for example, providing multi-year general support grants that are used for staffing, skills-building, and strategic partnerships).
- **Fund groups long-term** (10 years or more) to build the infrastructure necessary to resist right now and into our collective future, including capital campaigns that give organizations the resources to weather the current and coming storms.
- **Introduce** grantees to other funders.
- **Provide support** to nonprofit staff to buttress self and organizational **resilience**.
- Explore [Solidarity Philanthropy](#) from Grassroots International for additional frameworks on how funders can **show up in solidarity with movements**.
- Consider insights from [Philanthropy Must Defend the Right to Bear Witness](#) (Nonprofit Quarterly, Feb. 2026), which makes the case for why funders must **remain present on contested issues**.





For more information, please visit the
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