

# The Kroger Co. Foundation

2022 Report



FOUNDATION





# Letter from the President

Our communities continue to be confronted with multiple crises and seemingly intractable challenges. In times of disruption and uncertainty, we are all called to meet the moment and make a difference by doing all the good we can. This has been the longstanding ethos of The Kroger Co. Foundation, where our mission is to lift up the communities we call home.

The foundation carried out this mission in 2021 through impact giving in five areas: creating communities free of hunger and waste; stewarding a more sustainable future; facilitating a more equitable and inclusive society; enhancing economic mobility through education; and—when disaster strikes—providing relief to communities in need.

Nearly 60% of the foundation's giving is focused on advancing Kroger's Zero Hunger | Zero Waste vision, driving both social impact and environmental sustainability. The Racial Equity Fund, established in 2020, is actively identifying and providing capital—more than \$5.1 million to date—to non-profit organizations that are building more equitable and inclusive communities. We granted scholarships to 120 students who are dependents of Kroger associates, 98% of whom work in stores, to invest in the next generation of learners. With climate-related natural disasters and incidents of mass violence on the rise, the foundation is providing more direct response and disaster relief than ever before.

While we face immense challenges, our conviction remains: we can solve anything when we work together in common purpose toward the common good. I continue to be inspired by our partners and grantees who are building a better future. At The Kroger Co. Foundation, we'll continue to do our part.



*Keith G. Dailey*

**Keith Dailey**  
President, The Kroger Co. Foundation  
Group Vice President of Corporate Affairs, Kroger

## Board of Directors

The foundation's board of directors include the following Kroger leaders:

Vice President: **Tim Massa**, Senior Vice President & Chief People Officer

Secretary: **Colleen Lindholz**, President, Kroger Health

Treasurer: **Sunny Reelhorn Parr**, Head of Philanthropy

Director: **Jody Kalmbach**, Group Vice President, Product Experience

# Our Mission

We're on a mission to lift up the communities we call home. We focus our philanthropic efforts on building stronger communities and supporting neighbors in need.

Established in 1987, The Kroger Co. Foundation, Kroger's private foundation, aligns community investments and grants with Our Purpose—to Feed the Human Spirit™. The foundation is dedicated to making a difference at national, regional and local levels.

## 2021 Highlights

**\$12.7M**

in grants to 322 non-profits

**58%**

of grants supported hunger relief and sustainability

**24%**

of grants supported emergency assistance and disaster relief efforts

## Financials

Assets, Liabilities & Net Assets	FY 2021	FY 2020
Total Assets	\$133,833,193	\$137,326,428
Total Liabilities	\$4,087,139	\$5,088,374
Net Assets	\$129,746,054	\$132,238,054

Summary of Revenue & Expenses	FY 2021	FY 2020
Total Revenue, Gains & Other Support	\$11,177,456	\$23,011,196
Grants and Charitable Activities	\$12,717,500	\$16,174,768
Management and Administration	\$1,051,956	\$1,804,534

M = million

## Cumulative Impact

**\$5.1M**

in Racial Equity Fund grants for our communities since 2020

**\$4.2M**

in scholarships awarded by Kroger Scholars to children of Kroger associates since 2008

## Direct Response and Disaster Relief

Our communities count on Kroger to be a trusted and compassionate partner in good times and bad. We have a long history of leading with our heart at national and local levels and providing support when needed most.

The foundation supports the American Red Cross Annual Disaster Giving Program at the \$500,000 level to enable preparedness and quick response in the wake of natural disasters and other emergencies.

We offer additional support as needed to provide meals and access to essential services. In 2021, the foundation directed grants to support

recovery from tornadoes in the South and Midwest. In response to tornadoes in Kentucky, a foundation grant to Feeding America helped provide meals and other community assistance. We also supported winter storm relief in Texas through the United Way of Greater Houston, The Dallas Foundation and the Mayor's Disaster Relief Fund for the city of Dallas.

The foundation formed strong ties with the National Compassion Fund and other victims' assistance funds last year to help our communities heal after tragedies.

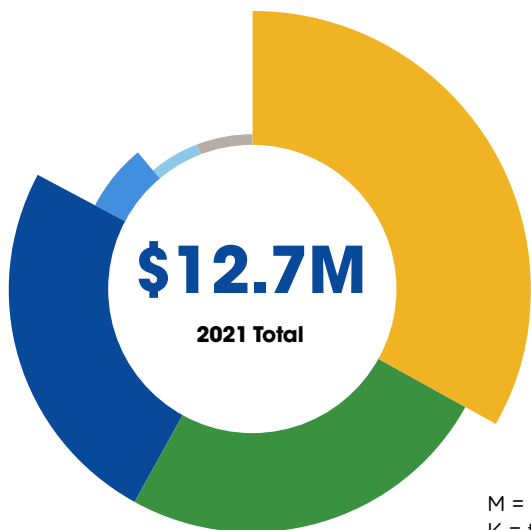


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# Funding Overview

Foundation grants help advance our strategic priorities, including Kroger's Zero Hunger | Zero Waste social and environmental impact plan. We are committed to helping communities in the following areas:



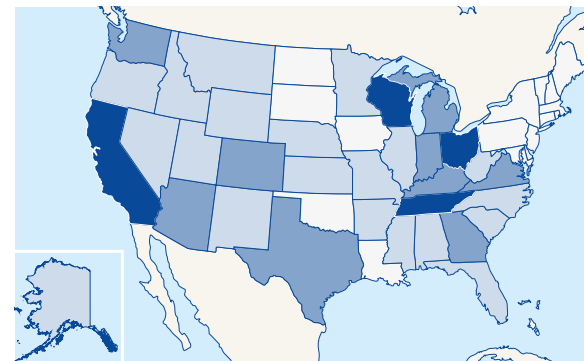
M = million  
K = thousand

**Total Giving in 2021: \$12.7M in grants to 322 non-profits**

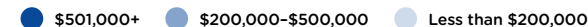


\*Includes support for our nation's military service members and veterans, and programs to advance health and nutrition.

## Geographic Focus



## Funding Range



## Congressional Hunger Center

### Developing Future Leaders in Food Security

The foundation supports the Bill Emerson National Hunger Fellowship, a program of the Congressional Hunger Center. This one-year fellowship aims to tackle hunger by connecting emerging leaders with organizations fighting hunger at national, state and local levels. Since 2017, the foundation has supported two Bill Emerson National Hunger Fellows each year.

In 2021, Tenzin Dhakong of Minnesota worked in Denver, CO, with Hunger Free Colorado, and Amira Iwuala of Boston, MA, worked with Community Farm Alliance in Berea, KY, to improve food security through advocacy, public policy and capacity building.



## Kroger Scholars

### \$4.2M in Scholarships Since 2008

In 2021, the foundation provided scholarships to 120 students who are dependents of eligible Kroger associates and pursuing a two- or four-year college degree or vocational certificate.

*"This past year, my father underwent some major medical procedures that prevented him from working. This made paying for school much more difficult, but this scholarship is now a tremendous help. Thank you so much to the program sponsors for giving me this chance to advance in my academic career."*

### Madison

Kroger Scholar in 2019, 2020 and 2021

# Racial Equity Fund

The foundation's Racial Equity Fund aims to help expand opportunities for underrepresented groups across the U.S. To date, the fund has directed a total of \$5.1 million in grants to non-profit organizations advancing meaningful change.



## Build It Together Grants

The Racial Equity Fund's *Build It Together* initiative provided \$3 million in funding to organizations creating more equitable communities.

### Black Girl Ventures Cincinnati and Detroit

Black Girl Ventures developed their nine-month leadership program and technology platform to support chapters in Cincinnati and Detroit. The programs include pitch competitions and mentorship for Black and female entrepreneurs.

### Everytable Los Angeles

A grant to Everytable helped launch Everytable University, supporting six individuals from diverse backgrounds to train and become franchise business owners. They also opened three new stores to increase local access to nutritious, affordable meals.

### LISC Arizona, Ohio, Tennessee, Wisconsin

LISC Project 10X awarded funding to six business development organizations with diverse leaders. This funding connected 237 food system entrepreneurs to networking resources and helped 29 entrepreneurs acquire further grants.

### Thurgood Marshall College Fund Across the U.S.

In partnership with Historically Black Colleges and Universities (HBCUs), the foundation and the Thurgood Marshall College Fund developed a new Zero Hunger | Zero Waste Innovation Challenge to stimulate entrepreneurship among students. Students had a chance to compete for additional scholarship opportunities. Another Innovation Challenge will take place in 2022.

## Changemaker Grants

### Cincinnati, OH



#### Fundnoire

A grant to Fundnoire provides access to non-dilutive capital for 24 black-owned small businesses in the Greater Cincinnati area. Fundnoire will leverage an advocate program to provide support for sustainability, growth and scale.



#### Urban League of Greater Southwestern Ohio

Funding for the Urban League of Greater Southwestern Ohio is advancing workforce development, financial literacy and social justice work in the region.



#### National Underground Railroad Freedom Center

A grant for the Center's *Hunger and Race Equity Programming: Freedom Foods Initiative* aims to raise awareness for health disparities and increase access to healthy food for underserved communities of color.

### Memphis, TN



#### Women's Foundation for a Greater Memphis

The fund's investment promotes access to higher education by awarding scholarships to graduating seniors of Booker T. Washington High School who will attend LeMoyne-Owen College.

## Impact in Numbers

**319**

food entrepreneurs supported, representing Black, Indigenous and other people of color

**6**

grantees improved financial stability for other local organizations

**50**

students at HBCUs engaged in the Zero Hunger | Zero Waste Innovation Challenge

**6**

diverse leaders became first-time business owners



# Join Our Journey



To request a grant, please visit  
[thekrogerco.versaic.com/login](https://thekrogerco.versaic.com/login)

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