

## THE HSF ANNIVERSARY FUND: GRASSROOTS PARTNERS SURVEY

### BACKGROUND:

Next year, 2009, marks the 50<sup>th</sup> anniversary of the establishment of the Hill Snowdon Foundation. It also marks the 10<sup>th</sup> year of more strategic grantmaking for HSF and our commitment to community organizing; as well as the 5<sup>th</sup> year since HSF became an independent, staffed institution based in Washington DC. In order to celebrate these milestones, HSF would like to honor the work of our grassroots partners by creating a special fund designed to maximize the scope and scale of our partners' social justice work.

We are proposing the creation of the "***Big Picture Fund***" to provide funds and other support to allow our partners to come together for big picture thinking, strategizing and reflection. Over the years, we have heard from our that it is very difficult to secure funds for social justice groups to come together to think about and strategize around the bigger opportunities and the larger responses that are needed to effect broad scale, sustainable change. **The Big Picture Fund would be a two year, \$100,000 fund that would provide grants (above and beyond your current HSF grant) to support new or existing efforts to come together with your allies across geography, issue, constituency, strategy, etc.** We hope that the outcome of these grants will be the formation of coalitions or networks that will raise your work to a new level of scope, scale, effectiveness and power.

While we think this might be a good use for our anniversary fund, we want to get your input and guidance about what would be most useful way to maximize the scope and scale of your work with the funds we have available (i.e., \$100,000 over two years). We would appreciate it if you could take a few minutes to respond to the following questions:

1. On a scale from 1 to 10, with 1 being not necessary and 10 being extremely necessary, how necessary would you rate the goals of the Big Picture fund "***to allow groups to come together for big picture thinking, strategizing and reflection to expand the scope, scale and power of their work.***"
2. Would your organization be interested in applying for the Big Picture Fund as described above?  

YES                      NO
3. If no, is there **another issue or purpose** you would like to see the fund supporting?  
*Please specify.*
4. Would working with a **facilitator or TA provider** who has expertise in strengthening alliance building be useful to your organization as part of this grant?  

YES                      NO
5. In the next few weeks, HSF staff will be holding a few **follow-up discussions** regarding the design of this Fund – please indicate if you'd be interested in a more in-depth conversation about this how to best structure this Fund.  

YES                      NO