

2020 ANNUAL REPORT

# A WORD FROM OUR FOUNDER

2020 was impossible, unimaginable, and devastating. We also witnessed the largest social movement in defense of Black lives, forefronted by Black feminst leaders; mutual aid networks supporting people and communities better than the government; and creativity, care work, pods and more sustained us

During 2020, the year of pandemic, uprisings and transitions, I was guided by the words of Gwendolyn Brooks. Guided by the call to action to be "each other's magnitude and bond," I knew that the only way we could survive the unknown in each and every day was through relationships, shared purpose, collective work, and deliberate care. This was my anchor in this year of so much unknown.

All of our plans, like yours, were upended in early 2020, and in its place we found opportunity and possibility to build community, to amplify the racialized and gendered impacts of COVID, police violence, the economy, and develop Black feminist interventions, solutions and ideas.

In the midst of it all, we grew. We grew as an organization, in supporters, and donors. We launched new programs like Harriet's Troop and Constellation. We deepened our partnership and movement building work with projects like Black Womxn Are Essential. We also worked on strengthening our infrastructure.

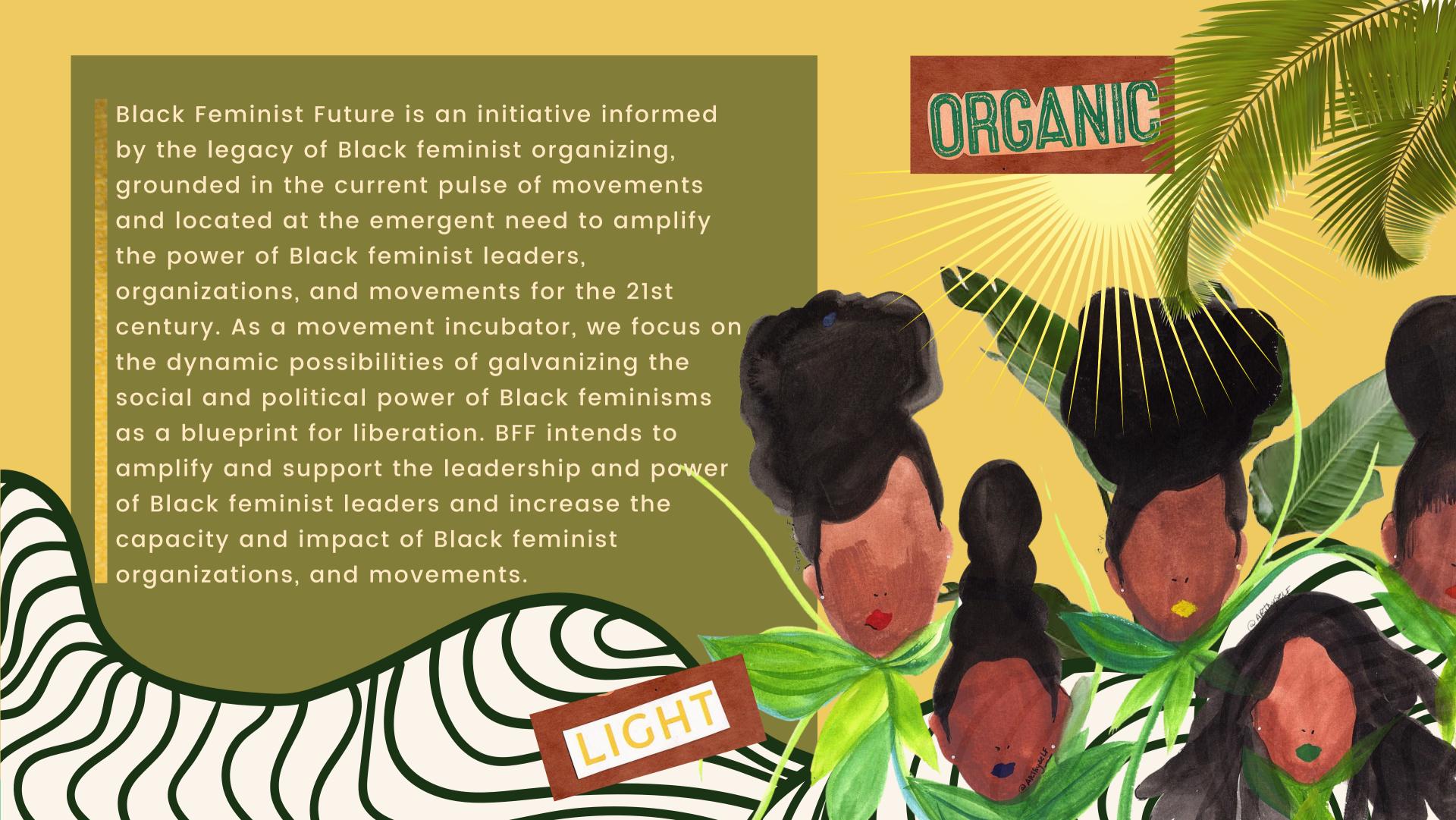
It is in the spirit of what we are/I am becoming, that I am thrilled to share and have you read our first annual report. In this report, you will learn about our programs, our team and our resources. I hope you take delight in all we have done together during this impossible time.

I am encouraged to keep going,

**Paris** 

"We are each other's harvest; we are each other's business; we are each other's magnitude and bond."

— Gwendolyn Brooks



# WHO WE ARE



### CRYSTAL DES OGUGUA

Crystal is a Black feminist educator, learner, and lover of Black archives who works as the Manager of Leadership & Learning at Black Feminist Future. Her work is rooted in the intersections between liberatory education and creative community/power building within communities of Black womxn. She finds joy in designing and implementing programs that both unearth the rich archived history of Black feminisms, while holding space to creatively nurture our visions of the Black Feminsit future.



### **RACHEL JOHNSON**

Rachel comes from a background of HR and Office Management. She has spent the last 6 years working with organizations behind the scenes to strengthen internal controls and making the business run as a smooth, well oiled machine.



## LISA AMAKER

Lisa Amaker is Black Feminist Future's director of development. A NYer transplanted to GA, Lisa is most proud of her work to ensure others have access to the services and education needed to increase safety and opportunity, shift and improve social determinants of health, and amplify Black voices.



### SYDNEY KESLER

Sydney is a Southern freespirit that utilizes relationship building to lead and guide her work as a program coordinator with Black Feminist Future. She lives in the legacy of her mother, grandmother, and great grandmother through a deep commitment to liberating black bodies from mental, spiritual, and physical holds of white supremacy and patriarchal violence. She has been organizing since she was 19, fighting for reproductive, environmental, electoral, labor, and queer justice. As a Black feminist she is excited to usher her folx into their political home.





# TIRREA BILLINGS

Tirrea is the Communications Manager at Black Feminist Future. She is a Michigan native, artivist, educator, and multidisciplinary storyteller. Her purpose centers using civic storytelling and social impact-driven media to shift power and drive social change in communities.

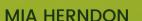


### **MAYLOTT MULUGETA**

Maylott is the Manager of Networks & Movement Building at Black Feminist Future. She is a first-generation Atlanta native and lover of the South with over 8 years of experience as an educator, organizer, and local philanthropic agitator. Her background in youth and reproductive justice organizing and program management is informed by a deep commitment to liberation for and by Black womxn and girls and a belief that communities have always been the cradle of their own solutions.



Paris is a Black, queer visionary feminist who has has been organizing individuals and organizations toward liberation at the local, national, and international level for twenty years.. In 2014, Paris founded Black Feminist Future as a movement incubator to support the leadership of Black feminist leaders, organizations and movements. At BFF, she serves as the Director and Chief Rabble Rouser. Paris also worked as Principal at Rhombus Consulting, Race Forward: The Center for Racial Justice Innovation, and was the co-founder and the Executive Director at SPARK: Reproductive Justice NOW. She served as board member of Southerners on New Ground for five years and she was a founding board member of the Groundswell Fund the largest reproductive justice foundation in the United States.



Mia comes to this work with almost 20 years of experience in community-based, state and national social justice and philanthropic organizations. Mia is also licensed acupuncturist, somatic coach, therapeutic bodyworker, and facilitator based in Canarsee/Lenape occupied land (Brooklyn, NY) born in Atlanta, GA



# OUR ADVISORS

### LUTZE SEGU

Doctoral Student in The Institute for Gender, Race Sexuality and Social Justice at The University of British Columbia: Black cisgender woman, queer. Provides programmatic oversight. Social justice facilitation and Organizer. Long time organizer with Power U in Miami, FL. Connection to Black immigrant communities



### M ADAMS

Co-Executive Director at Freedom Inc. Black, gender non confirming person, queer. Brings programmatic and strategic oversight as well as connection to Black queer and trans communities and gender-based violence and sexual assault issues and leadership. Key leadership of the Movement for Black Lives



## MONIFA BANDELE

Senior Vice President: Mom's Rising Black cisgender woman, parent. Brings programmatic, strategic, and fundraising oversight. Two decades of organizing experience and deep connection to a variety of Black organizing communities



### **ETOBSSIE WAKO**

Reproductive Health and Justice International expert at CARE USA: Black cisgender woman, parent, queer Brings programmatic, governance, and fundraising expertise with years of experience of being on Black feminists boards. Connection to Black immigrant and international Black feminist organizers



### **SAVANNAH SHANGE**

Professor at the University of California,
Santa Cruz Doctor of Anthropology: Black
cisgender woman, parent, queer
Brings programmatic and
organizational development expertise.
Has connection to a variety of activist
and scholar networks including Black
queer feminist organizers and
abolitionist



Digital Organizer at Color of Change: Black cisgender woman, parent, queer Brings programmatic and digital organizing expertise. Connection to youth organizing and digital organizing



Programming

# WHERE WE ARE

Our progression:

# Funding

2020 provided the opportunity to build with sistering organizations in the efforts to raise capital. Contributions from individual donors activated the space to house and support this movement.

# **Innovation**

A GOOD REASON

Through a series of labs and surveys in collaboration with other orgs and Black femme community leaders, BFF worked tirelessly to carefully assess and accurately record data that will advance Black feminisms.



# Activism

BFF programming was curated and led by a team of

extraordinary womxn dedicated to equity, education,

In the midst of it all, we grew. We grew as an organization, in supporters, and in donors. We launched new programs like Harriet's Troop and Constellation.

One of the greatest gifts of Black feminism to ourselves has been to make it a little easier simply to be Black and female.

—Barbara Smith







# MOMENTS AND MOVEMENTS

BLACK FEMINIST BLACK AUGUST

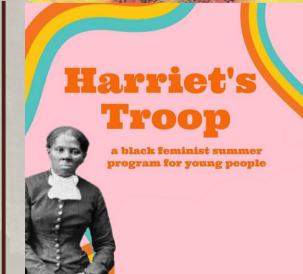
FROM NAT TURNER'S SLAVE REBELLION TO THE
FERGUSON UPRISINGS, AUGUST HAS BEEN A MONTH FOR
REBELLION AND RESISTANCE BY BLACK PEOPLE. BLACK
AUGUST STARTED IN 1979 AND IS A PRACTICE OF
REMEMBRANCE AND RESISTANCE TO BRING ATTENTION
TO BLACK REVOLUTIONARIES WHO HAVE BEEN
IMPRISONED, EXILED, MURDERED, AND HARMED BY THE
STATE. DURING THIS MONTH, WE STUDIED, FOCUSED ON
OUR PHYSICAL PRACTICES, AND FASTED TO DEEPEN OUR
COMMITMENT TO COMMUNITY.



AS THE PANDEMIC CONTINUED TO DEVASTATE OUR COMMUNITIES, BLACK FEMINIST FUTURE KNEW IT WOULD BE IMPORTANT TO DOCUMENT THAT MOMENT. AS WITNESSED IN THE PAST, WHEN NATURAL DISASTERS, COMPOUNDED BY GOVERNMENT INACTION AND NEGLIGENCE, HIT OUR COMMUNITIES (EX: HURRICANE KATRINA), THE EXPERIENCES OF BLACK WOMEN, GIRLS, QUEER, AND TRANS PEOPLE ARE OFTEN ERASED AND FORGOTTEN. BLACK WOMXN ARE ESSENTIAL INTENDS TO SHIFT THIS APPROACH THROUGH A COLLECTION OF DATA, OBSERVATION, AND SHARED UNDERSTANDING.



IN THE MIDST OF THE COVID-19 PANDEMIC AND A GLOBAL MOVEMENT IN DEFENSE OF BLACK LIVES, WE ARE ALSO IN THE MIDST OF ONE OF THE MOST IMPORTANT ELECTIONS IN RECENT HISTORY.
GUIDED BY PAST AND CURRENT BLACK FEMINIST ELECTORAL CHAMPIONS, BLACK FEMINIST FUTURE HAS CREATED VOTE LIKE A BLACK FEMINIST (VLABF): A 4-POINT GUIDE THAT ENCOURAGES YOU TO APPLY YOUR BLACK FEMINIST VALUES IN NAVIGATING THE ELECTORAL SPACE.



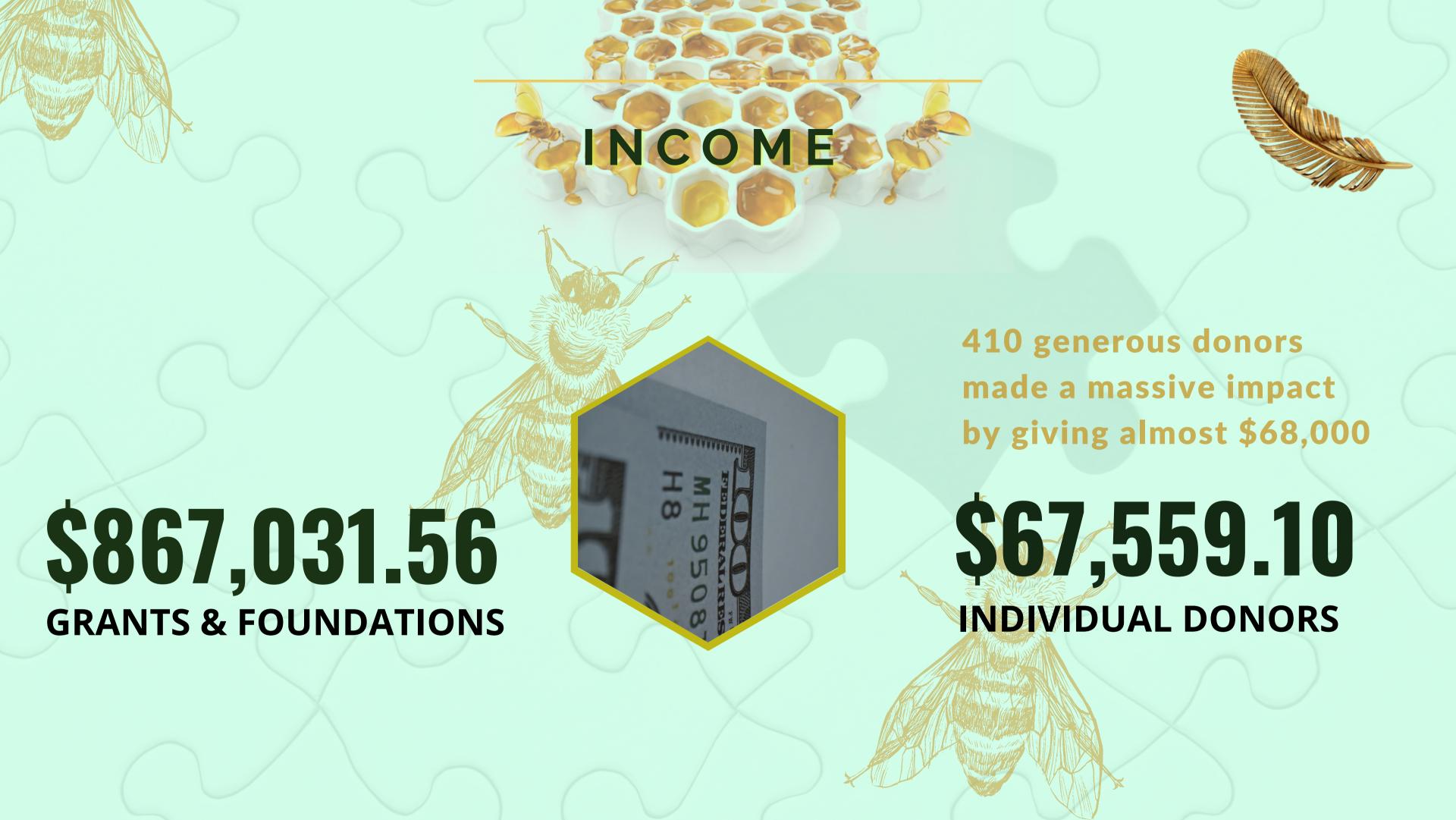
WEEKLY SUMMER PROGRAM
CREATED TO GUIDE YOUNG
BLACK PEOPLES' INTRODUCTION
AND EXPLORATION INTO BLACK
FEMINISMS THROUGH A SERIES
OF CREATIVE LESSONS,
READINGS, ACTIVITIES, MOVIE
WATCH PARTIES, AND OTHER
INTERACTIONS.



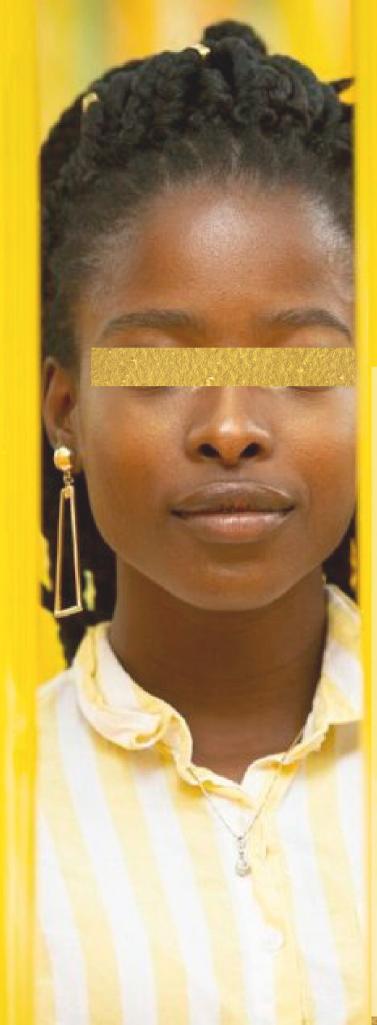
IN THE FALL OF 2020, BFF PROUDLY
LAUNCHED CONSTELLATION, OUR SIGNATURE
HUB OF BLACK REPRO WORK.
CONSTELLATION IS A NATIONAL, MEMBERBASED, BLACK REPRODUCTIVE HEALTH,
RIGHTS, AND JUSTICE NETWORK THAT
CONNECTS, ALIGNS, AND WEAVES DYNAMIC,
BLACK REPRO LEADERS AND MOVEMENTS
TOWARDS COLLECTIVE POWER, BOLD
LEADERSHIP, AND VISIONARY ACTION.











# WHERE WE'RE GOING

New year, same purpose. In 2021, we are protecting Black womxn, supporting Black feminist leaders, amplifying the power of Black feminist movements, centering the voices of Black queer, trans, and gender nonconforming folx, and popularizing Black feminism. We're operating with the full intention of equipping Black feminist leaders and organizations with the tools needed to shift the paradigm and create transformational solutions.

BLACK FEMINIST FUTURE IS
INCREDIBLY GRATEFUL TO OUR
DONORS AND FUNDERS FOR THE
UNWAVERING TRUST, SUPPORT AND
FINANCIAL CONTRIBUTIONS YOU'VE
SHARED AS DEMONSTRATIONS OF
HOW MUCH YOU VALUE OUR WORK.

WE ARE HONORED TO HELP BRING
TO FRUITION THE WORK AND
ASPIRATIONS OF BLACK FEMINIST
LEADERS, ORGANIZATIONS AND
MOVEMENTS, AND WE KNOW WE
COULDN'T HAVE DONE AS MUCH
WITHOUT YOUR SUPPORT.

THANK YOU FOR ENSURING BLACK FEMINIST FUTURE THRIVED IN 2020! IN 2021, YOU CAN EXPECT US TO CONTINUE BEING AGITATORS, VISIONARIES, INNOVATORS, CONVENERS, AND AMPLIFIERS!

