



**2024 IMPACT REPORT** 

TLAZOCAMATI

Tlazocamati
in Nahuatl
expresses,
thank you.
But it is
more than
just saying
thank you.
It means
"you and I
are one in
the fire of
love of the
universe."

Each year at Wildseeds Fund, we grapple with how to best convey the impact of resourcing our remarkable grantees- their movement building, organizing and unique narratives. It's been a priority for us that this impact is framed within the context of the accountability, reciprocity, and gratitude we feel toward our vibrant staff and community of organizers, farmers, funders, and collaborators for all the ways they are making this critical work possible. We approach our work to build a practice of accountability within the culture of philanthropy. For us, accountability is an act of service—a love language. In seeking the words that best express our love for our communities and all they do, we found the Nahuatl word, Tlazocamati. While Tlazocamati expresses "thank you," its translation is "you and I are one in the fire of love of the universe."

As we reflect on our most active year yet in 2024, you may be noticing one major change right now: our name. We shifted to an identity that better conveys the community we are part of and support. **Wildseeds are resourceful, creative beings full of imagination and the power of transformation.** They continue to identify ways to succeed against all odds, just like us and our greater movement community. Wildseeds build their resilience on generational memory of their relationship to place and external impacts. It's astounding to think of all the ways they carry their powerful stories to their next destination to grow.

While our name changed last year, we remained grounded in the purpose of our work. We challenged ourselves to consider new ways to impact those working to protect our food and agricultural systems. In partnership with NDN Fund, we launched the Blue Deer Grant program directed to diasporic and displaced Indigenous communities to share their narratives of repair and healing with the land. Blue Deer Grants provide technical and storytelling support for Indigenous land-based practitioners, healers and grassroots organizers. Part one of our partnered series with the Castanea Fellowship, Food, Land and Liberation, launched. We introduced a Reverse RFP, a call to shift the power dynamic of resource mobilizing to be led and formed by our communities. We created a Reparative Fee Program that provides a pathway for impact investors to support our work and circulate funds to grantee partners. And we kicked off an inspiring partnership with SENTIENT, a vegan fashion house in Mexico City, to create the Semilla Collection, fashion designed from food waste.

We have also **continued our commitment to participatory grantmaking**. In 2022, we ceded grantmaking decisions of our Wildseeds Grant Program, which represents 90% of our grantmaking capital, to community grants advisors. We are incredibly proud of the outcomes we have seen from this vital shift in power and decision making. In 2024, we invested \$1.21 million, \$981k of which were Wildseeds Grants to 17 projects across the U.S., including U.S. islands.

As we situate ourselves in 2025, we are seeking more ways to be responsive to our community. We are engaging more deeply in our priority of reclaiming democracy and we are being attentive to the needs of migrant and labor justice movements. We will continue looking to binational partnerships to leverage resources and networks to protect people and the planet.

We are in the fire of love of the universe with you.

Esperanza, Shavaun and Sabrina

**2024 IMPACT REPORT** 

#### **TLAZOCAMATI**

# CONTENTS



200			_							
04		R	- 1	I - 1		I - 1	7 . N			-
				1 – 1			/ A N	١,٧		
				I A 1		I A 1			1 5	_

- 06 2024 IMPACT
- 08 ALL 2024 GRANTEE PARTNERS
- 09 GRANTEE SPOTLIGHTS
- 12 IMPACT MEDIA AWARD RECIPIENTS
- 15 PARTNERSHIPS
- 16 OUR SUCCESS WITH FUNDRAISING
- 17 OUR PEOPLE
- 20 GRATITUDE
- 22 SUPPORT OUR WORK



### **OUR PROGRAMS**

Wildseeds Fund understands that systemic change is not only about resisting harmful practices but also imagining and building alternatives. Our grantee-led counter-narratives help articulate visionary solutions by highlighting innovative practices, cultural wisdom, and community-driven approaches that pave the way for transformative change. These strategies create space for new perspectives that are rooted in equity, justice, and the lived experiences of marginalized communities.

We leverage a range of programs that integrate resourcing, capacity building, media innovation, training, and coaching. Together, these programs support grantee partners in building power and fostering critical change across food and agricultural systems through the lens of climate, land, and labor justice.

#### Wildseeds Fund's key offerings:

- **Wildseeds Grants** resource movement organizers by investing in solutions that support idea development, message amplification, and long-term movement infrastructure;
- **Capacity Grants** provide grassroots and frontline organizations with catalytic support for movement building activities and communication strategies;
- **Impact Media Awards** recognize and support the media makers working to revolutionize the food media landscape and cultivate transformational systemic change;
- **Capacity Training** which offers organizing strategy training, campaign support, website, media and social media strategy and 1:1 communications coaching; and
- Blue Deer Grants, our newest program, focuses on repair, healing, and advancing a climate-just future. This program supports storytelling and advocacy efforts that highlight Indigenous leadership in addressing climate challenges.





**Lakeshore Flavor** 

#### **Movement Infrastructure/Support/Technical Assistance**

Our work doesn't stop after our initial investment. During and after their grant cycles, we offer grantee partners opportunities for ongoing training and capacity-building support. In 2024, our grantees let us know that they needed support with storytelling, specifically how to communicate their values through their stories and share those stories with various audiences. So we sent 7 current and former grantees to <a href="re:power's 4-week virtual Storytelling Academy">re:power's 4-week virtual Storytelling Academy</a>, where participants learned the Public Narrative Framework, and how to coach and support others in developing and sharing their own stories.

Grantees also shared a need for creating powerful visual designs that support their organizing efforts. So we partnered with <u>Social Movement Technologies (SMT)</u> and offered 16 current and former grantees spots in SMT's Visual Design for Organizing Apprenticeship. SMT also provided 1:1 digital organizing coaching and digital campaigning support to 12 grantees. This level of coaching has helped participants build campaign strategies, create strong narratives, improve website functions, create video content, develop organizer trainings, and more.

And every year, we hear the same need from our grantee partners: the desire to connect with and learn from each other. Our Partner Network–a network of current and former grantee partners–has grown to 100+ members in the past year! This Network is a space for sharing resources, trainings, and learnings. 30 partners joined virtual meet-ups in February and October of 2024 to connect with and learn from each other. Partners have reported connecting outside of the meet-ups to continue supporting and building with each other.



### **2024 IMPACT**

FULL PORTFOLIO TOTAL:

150 UNIQUE GRANTEE PARTNERS

\$6,462,382

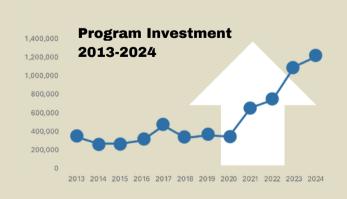
# Total Program Investment in 2024: \$1,214,286 Wildseeds Grants \$959,286 (17 grantees) Capacity Grants

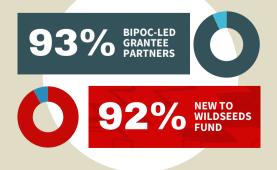




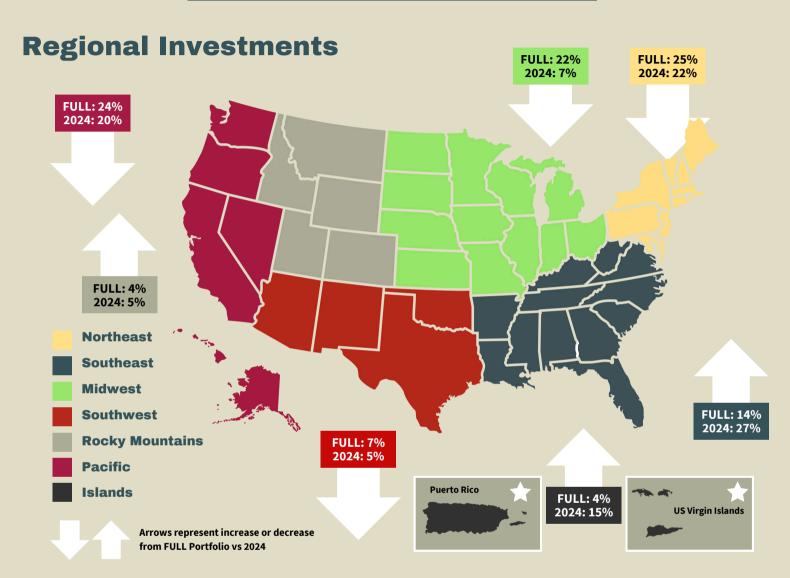
\$50,000 (4 grantees)







### **2024 IMPACT**



#### **Rural Investments**



**Rural Serving** 86%

36% rural based and serving

50% of our grantees reported being mixed rural and urban serving regardless of their office geography.



14%

**Urban based** and serving



TOTAL PORTFOLIO:

**STATES** 

**US ISLANDS** 



# GRANTEE SPOTLIGHTS

### **2024 GRANTEE PARTNERS**

#### **Wildseeds Grantees:**

- Black Zócalo
- Central Coast Food Web
- Colectiva Agroecológica de Masificación y Unidad (CAMU)
- Fideicomiso de Tierras Comunitarias para la Agricultura Sostenible (FiTiCAS)
- Future Leaders of Change
- Idaho Organization of Resource Councils
- Mahalah Farms
- Midwest Farmers of Color Collective
- Movement for Justice in El Barrio
- Near Futures Projects
- Not Our Farm
- Oregon Climate and Agriculture Network
- Self-Evident Education
- Selma Center for Nonviolence, Truth, and Reconciliation
- Sông Community Development Corporation
- Virgin Islands Good Food Coalition
- Wukchumni Tribe

#### **Capacity Grantees:**

- Black Dirt Farm Collective
- Black Fiber & Textile Network
- The Hungry Season Series
- Freedom Farms
- Mimouna, Jewish Southwest Asia and North Africa Bay Area
- Love is Our Lifeline, Reem Assil & Layla Feghali

#### **Blue Deer Grantees:**

- Freedom Community Clinic
- Palestine Heirloom Seed Library
- River Rose Re-membrance
- Sol Root Farmer Collective



# Black Fiber & Textile Network

#### **Capacity Grant Recipient**

#### **Participatory Media Strategy**

<u>The Black Fiber & Textile Network (bftn)</u> advances the livelihoods and traditions of Black artisans, growers, and makers working with regenerative fibers, plant dyes, and sustainable textiles worldwide.

#### **Project Objective:**

To produce a digital storytelling series highlighting bftn network partners across the globe who are producing and working with regenerative fibers and sustainable textiles.



# 44

Over the past year, Black Fiber & Textile Network's membership has grown from 15 to 55 businesses, reflecting the trust our community places in us to provide peer support, technical resources, and visibility. In addition to featuring our members on Instagram, we have been hosting screenings of **Woven from Nature,** our short documentary highlighting six of our members across three states."

-Teju Adisa-Farrar,Founder and EcosystemsDirector

#### **IMPACT:**

With support from the Wildeeds Capacity Grant, bftn

- Developed a long-term communications strategy which guided them to advance the completion of its member platform, and
- Distributed the short film, <u>Woven from Nature</u>, which they produced, featuring six member businesses in their network.
- These efforts have strengthened bftn's ability to connect and uplift Black fiber artists, fostering greater visibility and sustainability in the field. Consider hosting a screening!

# GRANTEE SPOTLIGHT

### <u>Wukchumni</u> <u>Tribe</u>

#### **Wildseeds Grant Recipient**

#### **Digital Communications Strategy**

<u>The Wukchumni Tribe</u> non-profit organization was formally established in 2021, with the focus of providing culture, wellness, education, and food sovereignty programs to Wukchumni youth, elders, and community members.

#### **Project Objectives:**

- Develop a digital strategy to support engagement in their learning hub
- Drive content development through their farm and market
- Offer farmer training in Wukchumni farm and land stewardship practices

44

Storytelling has always been important to our people. That's how we've passed on history, genealogy, life's lessons. It is our way of life."

-Darlene Franco (Wukchumni Yokuts)



# GRANTEE SPOTLIGHT

#### **IMPACT:**

With support from the Wildseeds Grant, the Farm developed an integrated communications plan and media initiatives to amplify its impact and storytelling. These efforts have enhanced visibility, deepened community engagement to facilitate distribution of fresh produce, eggs, and medicinal plants for cultural uses to tribal elders and community at our Wukchumni Farms Tribal Food Pantry.

# Idaho Organization of Resource Councils

#### **Wildseeds Grant Recipient**

#### **Farm Worker Justice and Health Campaign**

<u>The Idaho Organization of Resource Councils (IORC)</u> is a non-profit grassroots organization working to protect Idaho's unique way of life by empowering citizens to improve the economic well-being of their communities by preserving family farms and ranches; supporting local, sustainable agriculture; developing small businesses and clean energy; and being responsible stewards of Idaho's water, land, air, and natural resources.

#### **Project Objectives:**

- To utilize multimedia opportunities to feature fourteen farm workers' testimonies detailing the impact of climate change on their livelihoods.
- Amplify narratives that humanize farm workers, recognizing them as essential individuals within the agricultural and food system.
- Advocate for mandated breaks for outdoor workers in Idaho.



44

**IORC** joined the Social **Movement Technologies** (SMT) coaching partnership because we needed to have more coaching on using the communication tools we had as well as expand those to ensure that our members and the general public were able to know what campaigns and programs IORC is working on. We are so glad to have SMT provide the support we were looking for and plan on using these skills moving forward."

- Irene Ruiz, IORC
Executive Director

#### **IMPACT:**

With the support of the Wildseeds Grant, IORC launched the Farmworker Justice and Health Campaign, a farmworker-led initiative to educate, safeguard, and advocate for statewide policies addressing critical issues such as heat exposure, smoke inhalation, and pesticide poisoning among farm workers. They worked in collaboration with Boise State University who published a pivotal study on farmworker pesticide exposure in Idaho. They launched a digital resource for migrant essential workers in Idaho. IORC utilized Wildseeds' technical assistance offerings and partnered with movement trainers Social Movement Technologies to provide 1:1 support for their campaigns.

GRANTEE SPOTLIGHT

### <u>River Rose</u> <u>Re-membranc</u>e

#### **Blue Deer Grant Recipient**

#### **Podcast Development**

River Rose Re-membrance is dedicated to re-membering, reclaiming, and restoring baladi (local land-based) ancestral wisdoms and indigenous paradigms of practice. Their approach is rooted in healing relationship, unveiling stories, and awakening embodied memory/resilience/knowledge in collaboration with the natural world and our cultural practices.

#### **Project Objectives:**

- Strengthen River Rose Re-membrance's digital archive of food, farm and ecological healing knowledge preservation through storytelling.
- Launch a podcast series bringing attention to the work of ancestral agricultural and traditional medicine practices for the purpose of community healing, nourishment and resilience.

44

"Wildseeds Fund is the first funders encounter I have had in which I truly felt honored, aligned, and supported within the authentic expression of my work. This has been especially meaningful as an Arab during a year of incredible violence and the steady alienation of our community from such resources."

Layla K. Feghali, MSW,
 Plantcestral Re-Membrance



# GRANTEE SPOTLIGHT

#### **IMPACT:**

While the support of a Blue Deer Grant has facilitated River Rose Remembrance's capacity to move forward with their podcast development, there was a delay as storytelling efforts in Sudan, Gaza, and Syria required additional community relief efforts due to climate and political impacts. The priority work of River Rose Re-membrance and affiliated communities is to provide relief, healing and resources for communities impacted by violence and crisis while they continue to <u>preserve critical knowledge</u>.

# IMA RECIPIENTS

Wildseeds Fund's Impact Media Award spotlights emerging influential media makers who utilize documentaries, journalism, books, and other forms of media to take on big issues. Impact Media Award recipients are challenging attitudes and beliefs, fostering collective empathy and understanding, and activating audiences to take part in transformational food and agricultural systems change. Each year the Wildseeds network of grantees and partners nominate powerful voices of emerging media makers to recognize.

44

The Impact Media Award was our first money in, and money that was committed to us, before I had the privilege of being on television. It really means a great deal more to me, especially now, the people and the entities who saw the value of the work and our thesis before it was more easily commodified."

- Stephen Satterfield of <u>Whetstone Media</u> and Netflix's "High On The Hog", and also a former Impact Media Award recipient. [1] [2]

In 2024, we celebrated Isa Jamira and Margarita Fernandez as our Impact Media Award recipients:



#### **Isa Jamira**

Isa Jamira is being recognized for her emerging work focused on uplifting farmers' narratives, particularly her recent work in partnership with Northeast Farmers of Color Land Trust, on the farm bill. Isa Jamira is a garden educator from Mount Vernon, New York. She started urban gardening and farming in 2017 as an environmental studies college intern at Bates College. As a full time student, she taught her peers about gardening and assisted harvesting nearly two thousand pounds of produce for the dining hall. As an artist, activist, and farmer, Isa creates educational experiences around food and land. Through hosting and facilitating social events, she creates welcoming spaces for people to have fun, learn, and collectively set intentions for a safe and just future. Her work encourages and teaches people to foster a relationship with our Earth by growing food. In 2022, Isa founded Liberated Lands and acquired an acre of land to grow the first Liberated Lands campus with the mission to create healing and educational growing environments for free thinkers.



#### **Margarita Fernandez**

Margarita Fernandez is being recognized for her documentary, Our Agroecology, Our Future, exploring the successes and challenges of the Cuban agri-food system through the voices of farmers. For more than 25 years, Margarita has been researching, practicing, promoting and defending agroecology, food sovereignty, farmers rights, sustainable livelihoods and biodiversity conservation through transdisciplinary and participatory action research (PAR), coordination of global dialogues and processes, and the design, implementation, monitoring and evaluation of international cooperation projects in Latin America and the Caribbean, Southeast Asia and the USA. Since 2015 she directs the nonprofit, Caribbean Agroecology Institute, which facilitates knowledge and farmer exchanges, supports PAR processes, resources local communities and shifts narratives by amplifying voices of those advancing transformative agroecology in Cuba and the Caribbean. Margarita has over a dozen articles published in peer-reviewed journals, book chapters, and grey literature. Our Agroecology, Our Future is her first documentary.

### **PARTNERSHIPS**

We realize that our commitment to protecting our food and agricultural systems through climate, land and labor justice is not one we can afford to carry out our own. Creating a sustainable future for generations to come will require intentional collaboration and meaningful partnership across movements. That is why in 2024 we invested heavily in the following community and philanthropic partnerships.



#### **Blue Deer Grants**

Inspired by Wixárika tradition, the Blue Deer is recognized as an ancestral teacher whose role is to draw people to the path of knowledge and remembering our roles as stewards on this earth. It reminds us of the importance of being in right relationship with the land and all that it provides us. We began the Blue Deer Grants Program through deep conversation with the NDN Fund (an initiative of NDN Collective), with the shared goal of supporting Indigenous peoples working to ensure community climate resilience through ancestral agricultural practices, traditional medicine, and storytelling. Blue Deer Grants do just that. This invite-only initiative offers funding for critical strategic narrative work led by displaced and diasporic Indigenous communities, with the aim of fostering a deeper sense of place and belonging through land stewardship, ancestral agriculture and traditional medicine. Through this partnership, we have moved \$50,000 to four inaugural Blue Deer Grants recipients: River Rose Re-membrance, The Palestine Heirloom Seed Library (PHSL), Freedom Community Clinic (FCC) and Sol Root Farmer Collective.



#### <u>Right Relations For Our Climate</u> <u>Future</u>

In February 2024, Wildseeds Fund and <u>Animal Agriculture Reform</u> co-hosted a compelling discussion on decolonizing approaches that are catalyzing the shift away from factory farmed products and heavily processed plant-based foods, through business and agricultural alternatives to factory farming, and advocating to end factory farming. Lucille Contreras of <u>Texas Tribal Buffalo Project</u>, Jessica Swan of <u>Agri-Cultura Network</u> and Rubi Orozco Santos of <u>La Semilla Food Center</u> shared effective strategies that address climate justice and agriculture reform via cultural respect and preservation, with emphasis on Indigenous systems and landbased practices. From organizing to narrative approaches, each speaker highlighted the significance of sacred plants, food as medicine, and respect for the ecosystem and all relations.

# **PARTNERSHIPS**



#### Food, Land and Liberation Series

Wildseeds Fund and Castanea Fellowship launched Food, Land, and Liberation, a four-part series exploring structural change through power shifts, narrative reshaping, and liberated systems. The 2024 debut, Re(building) Systems for Our Collective Liberation, examined fascism, democracy, and the ties between land, food, and systemic forces. The Castanea Fellowship is rooted in supporting the power and movements of leaders in the food system. With a main mandate of cultivating and uplifting the good, they find the joy, the beauty, and the new way forward to creating the world rooted in justice we all yearn to build.



#### SENTIENT

While visiting Mexico City in 2023, Esperanza, met Jimena Suárez Ibarrola, the founder of <u>SENTIENT</u>, a Mexican vegan fashion house. This connection grew into an organic collaboration resulting in the <u>Semilla Collection</u> – a stunning line of fashion that takes meaningful climate action. SENTIENT is donating 5% of proceeds from the Semilla Collection to support Wildseeds Fund's mission. The Semilla Collection embodies regenerative practices and ethical fashion. Using biodegradable, plant-based leathers made from food waste, SENTIENT champions sustainable agriculture and animal welfare. This binational partnership not only respects and supports the necessary and difficult work of farmworkers, farmers and frontline organizers but also recognizes that the United States and Mexico are intertwined in history and a shared future.



#### **Reverse RFP**

Our <u>Reverse RFP</u> offers an opportunity to shift power from the ground up and partner together to mobilize collective resources for our work. This is a partnership with <u>The National Black Food & Justice Alliance</u> (NBFJA), <u>HEAL (Health, Environment, Agriculture, Labor) Food Alliance</u>, and <u>Rural Advancement</u> Foundation International.

Each of our organizations lead systems, policy, and social justice work, and because we believe in mutual aid, we developed the Reverse RFP. Its purpose is to ensure that resource mobilization is led and formed by our communities as they have long centered self-determination and understand what is needed in this moment and beyond. In the fall of 2024, we invited foundations and other resource holders to submit proposals in support of our collective work. We are asking for multi-year general operating investments, with a range between \$2M - \$10M. Learn more.

#### **OUR SUCCESS WITH FUNDRAISING**

Wildseeds Fund began its journey in 2012. We started as a collaborative of funders deeply committed to ensuring the success of communications strategies for organizations working toward systems change in food and agricultural systems. In addition to resourcing this important work, we have encouraged funders to place communications strategies of organizers and movement organizations as a priority. **Since 2012, we have partnered with fifteen funders, including our ongoing founding funders. In 2024 alone, we welcomed five new funders into the work of Wildseeds Fund.** 

From the beginning, our work has been twofold:

- 1) Maintain true partnership with and support to grassroots organizations fostering critical change through the lens of climate, land, and labor justice, and
- 2) Increase our grantmaking capital to ensure an expanded impact within our communities.

This approach has created space for nontraditional "food funders" to recognize the value in our work. We continue to seek opportunities that invite diverse capital partners to help advance our mission. This has ranged from initiatives directed to impact investors such as our Reparative Fee Program to partnering with the corporate sponsor, SENTIENT, who is contributing a percent of sale proceeds from the vegan fashion line, Semilla Collection, we collaboratively created.

Since welcoming our inaugural Executive Director, our revenue has nearly doubled! This increase in funding enables us to sustain our grant ranges each year, offer additional multi-year grants and increase our capacity building to our Partner Network. In 2024, we witnessed an unprecedented demand for our grant programs with \$15.8MM in proposals. We continue to work creatively to meet this need and invite funders committed to trust-based philanthropy to partner with us.



**Federation of Southern Cooperatives** 

### RESOURCES

Each year, we offer Wildseeds resources to help funders better understand the value of our work. This year, however, it feels most important to support the wellbeing of our most vulnerable communities, namely migrant essential workers (whether documented or undocumented) who are being targeted on a national scale like never before.

We believe in the power of community to protect one another. So, we've compiled this list of invaluable resources for immigrant communities that we encourage you to explore and pass along.

- <u>Undocumented Workers' Rights</u> It is important for undocumented workers to be informed about the protections they have from discrimination, unfair wages, harassment, and disclosure of citizenship status. This page provides more detail about the rights and remedies for undocumented workers.
- Know Your Rights Toolkit Immigrant Legal Resource Center Advocates and community members can work together to fight messages of fear and panic by helping community members learn about their rights and how to protect themselves from ICE. The Immigrant Legal Resource Center has created these materials to educate the community and prepare individuals for possible encounters with immigration authorities.
- Red Cards/ Tarjetas Rojas Immigrant Legal Resource Center All people in the United States, regardless of immigration status, have certain rights and protections under the U.S. Constitution. The ILRC's Red Cards help people assert their rights and defend themselves in many situations, such as when ICE agents go to a home.
- <u>Find local immigration resources</u> A robust and growing list of resources provided by Advocate Resource Center which connects the advocate community to trainings and materials from national experts.
- Resource Library: Mental Health Informed Immigrant Mental health services and resources for immigrant communities.
- <u>California Rapid Response Networks</u> An actively updating list of California rapid response networks specifically for immigrant communities. It includes guidance from the Immigrant Defense Project and Immigrant Legal Resource Center.



# OUR PEOPLE

#### **Esperanza Pallana, Executive Director**

Esperanza was raised in California where she spent her childhood in the Bay Area, the Central Valley and the Tuolumne mountains. She has worked with nonprofits for over 20 years with an emphasis in leadership, systemic change, and policy advocacy. Her priority is to use the power of movement-led investments, cultural organizing and storytelling to strengthen the network of land-based practitioners who are fostering political leadership and community economic power through the lens of ancestral ecological practice. As Executive Director of Wildseeds Fund, a movement-led participatory grantmaker, Esperanza is committed to community-controlled capital structures, narrative shift and emboldening transformative food and agricultural systems change.

#### Shavaun Evans, Director of Programs and Movement Support

Shavaun, based in Louisville, KY, has over 15 years of experience in food systems, cooperative economics, and communications strategy, all rooted in justice, collective decision-making, and movement building. At Wildseeds Fund, she manages the participatory grantmaking process and works with movement trainers to provide communications training to grantee partners. Previously, she served as Interim Co-Director of the New Economy Coalition, supporting 210 member organizations, and colled grassroots advocacy at the National Sustainable Agriculture Coalition, securing federal wins for sustainable farmers. Shavaun is an Equity in Philanthropy fellow and a member of the Justice Funders Liberatory Governance cohort.

#### **Sabrina Torres, Storytelling Content Manager**

Sabrina Torres is a Los Angeles native with a master's degree in journalism, specializing in visual craft, from Columbia University (2023). Sabrina honed her expertise in visual storytelling, creating impactful narratives through film and media. Her work has been featured in publications like Rolling Stone, and during her time at Columbia, she developed a short documentary that showcased her skill in producing powerful, cinematic content. Sabrina is also the Chief Cinematography Officer and Executive Storytelling Producer for Anahjavi media, a creative production company she cofounded with two graduate school classmates. Passionate about amplifying underrepresented voices, she is excited to bring her experience and creative vision to Wildseeds Fund, advancing its mission to support emerging leaders and changemakers.



#### Current Members:

**Megan Saynisch,**Steering Committee

**Rubi Orozco Santos,**Grants Advisor

**Juan Santiago,**Grants Advisor

**Edna Rodriguez,** Grants Advisor

**Onyx Ramirez,**Steering Committee &
Grants Advisor

**Adam Hymans,**Steering Committee

**Masika Henson,** Steering Committee & Grants Advisor

**Chris Griffiths,**Steering Committee

**LaVon Colhour,**Steering Committee

**Sarah Bell,**Steering Committee

# GRATITUDE

In line with the sentiment of this year's impact report, Tlazocomati, we extend deep thanks and gratitude to each of the frontline leaders and community organizers who we feel so deeply honored to call our grantee partners. Your work and your commitment to our communities is vital now more than ever.

We equally extend thanks to all of the generous funders who continue to believe in the Wildseeds Fund and make our work possible. The work we do collectively is placing wellbeing and sustainability as a priority over political and corporate greedy profiteering. In doing so, we are honoring the contributions and resilience of our ancestors. Together, we are fighting for a bold vision for the future. The one we need. The one generations to come deserve.

#### **2024 FUNDERS**













Clarence E. Heller Charitable Foundation









#### It is undeniable that the future of our movements are at a critical juncture.

Authoritarianism is on the rise. And so many of the rights we've worked so hard for are being stripped away. There is a sense of collective fear that is permeating so many of our communities. And as a result, many funders may be tempted to give less and cave into the pressures of the current moment. At Wildseeds Fund, we are rooting more deeply into community and leaning into the wisdom of our ancestors who overcame so much and sowed the seeds of freedom and justice that are sprouting today. Just like wildseeds, their dreams flourish despite the conditions, adapt to new climates and terrains, and offer us a glimpse into what is possible.

We, at the Wildseeds Fund, plan to continue doing this work no matter what. We remain committed to our mission of advancing frontline organizations and narratives that build power and embolden transformative change to our food and agricultural systems through climate, land and labor justice.

But we cannot do this on our own. We need partners who are willing to listen to community leaders, support their visions, and give to their work. We seek to raise additional grantmaking capital toward our effort of resourcing movement infrastructure and strengthening communications and networks for small farmers and frontline food system workers who continue to ensure communities across the U.S. are nourished, despite significant federal funding setbacks. Consider partnering with us and even giving in new ways. We invite funders to consider participating in our Reverse RFP. We invite impact investors to participate in our Reparative Fee Program. These are some of the diverse ways that you can support our work. You can also support us by introducing the Wildseeds Fund to new funder partners in your network. It all helps.

We invite you to reach out to our Executive Director, Esperanza Pallana, to start the conversation. We thank you again for believing in us and supporting the Wildseeds Fund. We are immensely proud of our accomplishments from this past year.

In community, Wildseeds Fund

