

EQUITY AMPLIFIER

Asset Funders Network's **Equity Amplifier for Economic Security (EA)** is a new series highlighting organizations or nonprofits focused on building economic security/asset building in communities of color. EA's intent is to:

- **Amplify** the voices of organizations led by people of color.
- **Reduce** systemic biases and barriers within philanthropy.
- **Encourage** AFN membership to broaden and deepen their commitment to supporting economic security and asset building strategies that target diverse communities.

EQUITY AMPLIFIER IS GENEROUSLY SUPPORTED BY JPMORGAN CHASE & CO., METLIFE FOUNDATION, AND TRUIST FOUNDATION.



Where are you headquartered?

Dallas

What is your organization's mission or vision?

Our mission is to motivate underprivileged adult learners to obtain the education, career, and financial training necessary to be self-sufficient. Reducing barriers and increasing access to career opportunities will help restore dignity and improve quality of life. We envision a world where every person has the same opportunities to succeed, regardless of race, age, gender, or background. Everyone has the potential to achieve great things, and we are committed to creating a level playing field for all.

Which area(s) of service BEST describes your organization?

Small (nonprofit) business support and economic development.

Does your organization identify as a BIPOC led? What does that look like within your organization?

Our organization is a BIPOC-led organization. Our staff and board are 95 percent Black, with the remainder being of Hispanic origin.



Provide an example of a program or initiative that your organization is spearheading that works to advance economic opportunity and prosperity for BIPOC communities?

Our GED preparation, college enrollment, and career readiness programs are designed for underprivileged minority populations to empower BIPOC individuals with the skills needed for economic stability.

How does your work impact communities and populations that are historically marginalized, underserved and/or under-resourced?

By providing access to education, career training, and financial resources, we open the doors to opportunities for individuals in these communities to achieve economic self-sufficiency.

Name one thing funders need to be cognizant of when connecting or partnering with BIPOC led or organizations and communities?

To recognize that BIPOC communities come from diverse backgrounds, cultures, and experiences and to approach these partnerships with a willingness to understand the unique needs of our communities.

What are some specific barriers or biases from within philanthropic organizations that you believe are hindering BIPOC led or BIPOC serving organizations in accessing adequate funding or support?

Some barriers that hinder BIPOC-led or serving organizations include lack of representation, implicit bias, limited networks, misaligned funding criteria, and lack of capacity-building support.



[AES LITERACY INSTITUTE](#)

HOW FUNDERS CAN GET INVOLVED

As a benefit of AFN membership, funders may nominate local nonprofits focused on building economic security/asset building in communities of color to highlight as part of the EA series, allowing your organization to showcase innovative models and best practices to help build a more secure future for diverse communities. [Click here](#) for more information or to nominate an organization or nonprofit led by people of color for the AFN EA.

Funders who wish to learn more about AES Literacy Institute, visit alihsedu.org.