

Grantmakers Advancing Economic Equity

## SPOTLIGHT

**PROFILE | SEPTEMBER 2023** 

### **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.

# Cooperative Economics Alliance of NYC



#### Where are you headquartered?

Across NYC's 5 boroughs

#### What is your organization's mission or vision?

The Cooperative Economics Alliance of New York City (CEANYC) strengthens and expands community-led, democratically-controlled initiatives — from worker, financial, and consumer coops to community land trusts and gardens, mutual housing, and low-income housing co-ops. Our goal is to build an economy based on values of social and racial justice, ecological sustainability, cooperation, mutualism, and democracy. CEANYC members, who are often siloed from each other, come together through our education, networking, capacity building, and leadership development initiatives to build relationships among oppressed communities of low-income people, people of color, women, immigrants, and youth. CEANYC's work builds the connective tissue between our people, our issues, and our organizations.

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

Leadership development.

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

CEANYC is an organization in which the majority of the Board of Directors are women of color, and the staff team is majority women of color.

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

We recently launched our 2023 Cooperative Leadership Intensive, which includes strong representation from many cooperative sectors and NYC neighborhoods of color that have been historically redlined. How does your work impact communities and populations that are historically marginalized, underserved and/or under-resourced?

We increase the visibility of - and deepen the skills within - NYC's uniquely rich cooperative landscape, allowing co-ops to strengthen and expand the work they are already doing.

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

It is key for impacted communities to define their own struggles, priorities, and solutions.

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?

The narrow focus on funding economic development that adheres to a traditional (and extractive) business model, or stays within the "normal" lanes for service and advocacy organizations.



#### **Social Media**



@gocoopnyc



<u>ceanyc</u>

#### **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. <u>Click here</u> for more information or to nominate an organization or nonprofit led by people of color for the AFN EA.