As a senior citizen, I was going to physical therapy to assist with my walking. Then COVID happened. I had a car accident. I was struggling. This fund gave me emotional strength to believe and have hope again.

ADOLPH, BRF RECIPIENT
Facing these strange times, it is difficult to be certain about anything. This true act of kindness was contagious; I encourage us to be kind to one another on a daily basis. Kindness creates character and change.

NAHAILA, BRF RECIPIENT
$1,369,000+ raised

14,300+ individual donations

8 craft breweries participated in the Black is Beautiful campaign

100% volunteer-driven by more than 300 volunteers

Funded 2,300+ Black Portlanders across five counties and counting

Received 10,200+ applications for assistance
OUR IMPACT BY THE NUMBERS

TOTAL FUNDED: $723,269.81

- Groceries: $221,860.00
- Rent: $160,442.85
- Electrics & Water: $138,398.19
- Phone & Internet: $33,619.85
- Small Biz Support: $34,550.00
- Student Loan: $34,649.57
- Transportation: $15,303.85
- Medical: $15,650.00
- Credit Card: $11,680.00
- Logistic Costs: $18,900.00
- Warm Meal: $21,574.50
- Legal Fees: $100.00
- Child Care: $1,900.00
- Miscellaneous: $10,841.00
- Financial Assistance: $3,800.00

Resilience Fund
WHY BLACK RESILIENCE FUND WAS FOUNDED

Our nation is grappling with the storms of a global pandemic, headline after headline of suffering, and centuries of unresolved injustice. Our systems are so broken. Where do we even begin fixing them?

To us, the answer is clear. We start by taking care of our neighbors.

Last month we founded the Black Resilience Fund to foster healing for our community. We provide immediate relief from financial burdens for Black Portlanders, helping with a warm meal, groceries, or an unpaid bill.

The novel coronavirus has sent shockwaves through our community, and Black Portlanders are some of the hardest hit due to the ongoing impacts of gentrification, police brutality, and economic violence.

We are living through an unprecedented, challenging time. But even in the most difficult moments we can rise up, work together, and make a difference.

By supporting the Black Resilience Fund, we are fighting for Black financial freedom. We empower our neighbors by providing resources quickly, judgment free, and trusting that they know what they need to live their best lives.

We are building an inclusive movement that embraces our beautiful Black diaspora. We welcome elders, immigrants, LGBTQ2S+, multiracial, all shades and shapes of Black, because we all have the right to exist and thrive.

Thanks to your support, the Black Resilience Fund raised more than $1,000,000 in less than 30 days. We've built a mutual aid network with over 300 hundred volunteers to deliver food boxes, complete home repairs, and more. Already we've seen the real and immediate impact we've made in the lives of hundreds of Black Portlanders.

We are living in the era of 'I Can't Breathe,' and yet we've witnessed powerful stories of resilience from neighbors we've directly helped. Our actions are showing the entire country what healing can look like.

The work is far from over—but you have given us renewed belief in exactly how much is possible.

Together, we can be the breath of fresh air we need to foster hope, resilience, and healing.

With Gratitude,

cameron whitten & Salomé Chimuku
Co-Founders, Black Resilience Fund

WHY WE CHOSE RESILIENCE

This year has fueled a painful, but important conversation about the need for healing within our communities.

Every week, we interview dozens of BRF recipients. These are intimate moments with people from all walks of life—large families, single parents, and young people living on their own for the first time.

We hear stories of adversity. Losing work due to COVID. Waiting on unemployment. Having childcare payments have doubled or tripled.


But we also hear countless stories of courage and strength. Despite the challenges, our neighbors are focused on solutions and improving their lives. The financial relief we provide serves as a catalyst for the resilience they’ve had all along.

BRF is not your ordinary organization. Usually, people facing hardship are interrogated within an inch of their pride to receive the bare minimum of social assistance. But at BRF, we don’t interrogate, we don’t demand to see proof. When people finish their intake interviews, we commonly hear, "that's it?"

Dignity and respect aren’t always prioritized in relief efforts—but because of our lived experiences—we understand that mental and emotional strength is as important as financial assistance. We keep showing up, day after day, as a reminder to our community that we love them.

Thanks to your support, the Black Resilience Fund raised more than $300,000 during July. Due to the hard work of our dedicated volunteers, this month we nearly tripled the number of Black Portlanders we’ve supported. And we continue to create a positive impact that will last far beyond these trying times.

In the past, we didn’t think this kind of community building was possible. But after seeing hundreds of volunteers organized and immediate aid offered to thousands of Portlanders in need, we now know differently.

Anything is truly possible.

With Gratitude,

Keesha Dumas and O’Nesha Cochran
Co-Directors of Community Relations,
Black Resilience Fund

OUR RESILIENCE IS INSPIRING

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With Gratitude,

Keesha Dumas and O’Nesha Cochran
Co-Directors of Community Relations,
Black Resilience Fund
ABOUT BLACK RESILIENCE FUND

OUR MISSION:
Black Resilience Fund is an emergency fund dedicated to healing and resilience by providing immediate resources to Black Portlanders.

» blackresiliencefund.com
» info@blackresiliencefund.com
ABOUT BROWN HOPE

OUR MISSION:
Brown Hope leads community-grounded initiatives to make justice a lived experience for Black, Brown, and Indigenous people in Oregon.

» brownhope.org
» hello@brownhope.org

The Black Resilience Fund is in the process of becoming a formal program of Brown Hope, a 501(c)3 charitable nonprofit.
We need healing.
We need justice.
And that requires action.