

Jinny Chalmers Fund for Education Justice

Jinny's Legacy: Carry It On!

January 20, 2023

On what would have been Jinny Chalmers' 73rd birthday, we know she would be proud of the progress we have made to build the Chalmers Fund as an action-oriented memorial to her visions for excellent, inclusive education and racial justice.

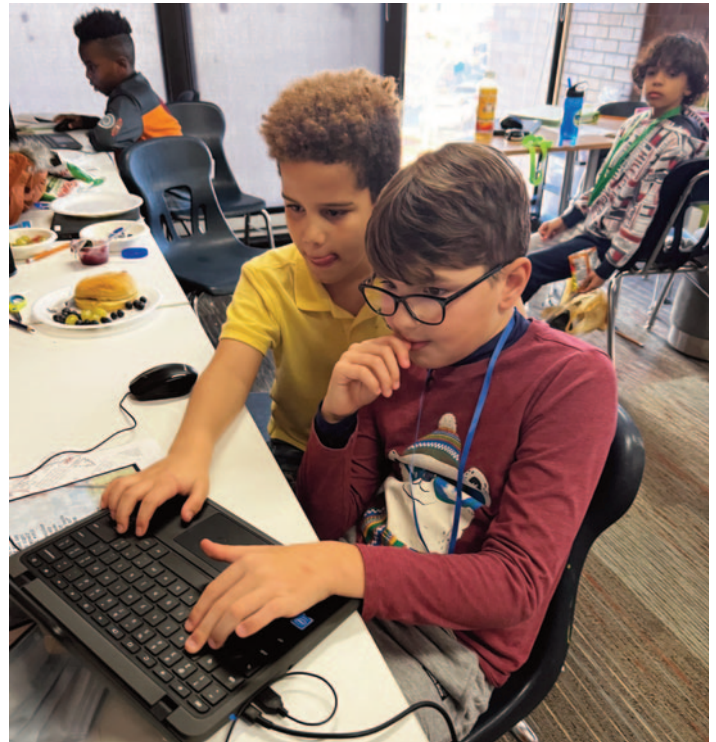
We have concluded our second year of operations, having raised funds from more than 125 donors in 2022. These donations have helped us continue Jinny's work by awarding grants to 12 projects. Five grants were made to organizations we had previously funded and seven were to new projects.

We are proud that we have both deepened and expanded the reach of our contributions. You can read about our grantees and their work in this report.

With your continued help...

The Jinny Chalmers Fund will remain in a strong position in 2023, as we go forward with our mission of assisting projects that carry on Jinny's legacy.

Visit <https://www.jinnychalmers.org/donate> to make a tax-deductible donation.



Jean Charles Academy

Hundreds Honor Jinny at Inspiring Service

COVID-19 caused a 21-month delay but last August we finally were able to host a memorial service for Jinny. More than 300 family members, friends, students and colleagues gathered at Roxbury Community College to honor Jinny and share stories.

The service movingly wove memories of Jinny's personal life with testimony about her professional impact and the profound influence she had on so many people's lives, including students, teachers and parents.

It was a day to mourn, honor and celebrate Jinny's life, and we thank all who were able to attend, whether in person or through livestream.

Remembering 'Chalmers Moments'

"Jinny honored me with my first teaching opportunity many years ago. I learned to take risks, to be myself, to make mistakes, to ask for help, to listen closely to children and speak up for others and myself. She was small and mighty. A fierce and humble human being, whose energy would permeate the air and excite children and adults to match her love for learning. I will carry her light with me for the rest of my life."

– Cinthia Colón, Teacher

We Are Inspired by Our JCFEJ Grant Awardees



Boston-area students at Hurricane Island

Dudley Street Neighborhood Initiative

JCFEJ provided funds for DSNI's Dudley Math Trail project, to promote early math and language development by helping adults and kids to discover, explore and enjoy math everywhere.

Learn More about [DSNI](#)

Hurricane Island Center for Science and Leadership

JCFEJ provided funding for a full scholarship for eight students from Boston area schools to attend immersive science summer programs with this Maine-based organization.

Learn more about [Hurricane Island](#)

Building Audacity / Jean Charles Academy

A third-grade student was the recipient of a JCFEJ-funded scholarship at this dual-language project-based school that centers the experiences of Black, Latinx and students and families of color.

Learn more about the [Jean Charles Academy](#)

The Young People's Project, Inc.

Funds from JCFEJ contributed to the YPP Teacher Cadet Partnership, which trains high school and college students to become Math Literacy Workers who annually engage 30 Boston middle school students in learning that will prepare them for Algebra 1 and open the door to STEM careers.

Learn more about [TYPP](#)

The City School

JCFEJ funds helped to expand the City School's Pathways to Change program, which offers three career pathways to youth to develop as educators, organizers and advocates. The project serves mostly BIPOC, queer, trans/gnc youth ages 14-19, living in Boston.

Learn more about The City School-[Pathways to Change](#)



The Young People's Project, Inc.

St. Stephen's Youth Programs

The SSYP received JCFEJ funding for its Parent Mentor Program, which places parents in classrooms to work with students, develop their own leadership and advocate for education justice at the school and district level. The grant will help make it possible for St. Stephen's to expand the number of schools and neighborhoods where parent leaders are organizing.

Learn more about [SSYP-PMP](#)

Trauma and Learning Policy Initiative

JCFEJ funds helped to further this organization's work with students, families and school staff to transform school cultures to become trauma-sensitive, anti-racist, healing centered learning environments.

Learn more about [TLPI](#)

First Teacher

JCFEJ funds helped support a First Teacher pilot program working with students who are also parents. First Teacher is a community of parents and caregivers preparing children to be school- and world-ready, given the reality of racism.

Learn more about [First Teacher](#)

Massachusetts Advocates for Children

JCFEJ funding is helping the MAC to expand its Racial Equity and Access Program (REAP), which is working to create an educational resource for Boston Public Schools students addressing racial trauma.

Learn more about [MAC-REAP](#)

Boston Public Schools Office of Equity

The JCFEJ provided funding for the Office of Equity's LGBTQ Taskforce and its Wellness Champions program, which recruits school-based staff to work to create school spaces that center the needs of Black and brown LGBTQ+ school community members.

Learn about the [Office of Equity](#)



St. Stephen's Youth Program parents meet with Boston Schools officials.

Trinity Boston Connects

JCFEJ funding assisted with TBC's Sole Train project, which enables students to train with adult mentors to complete a long-distance goal race in a non-competitive fashion. Sole Train is a restorative running community that serves as a resource for youth of color to improve their physical health, enhance their overall wellbeing, build social emotional learning skills, and strive to reach their goals.

Learn more about [TBC Sole Train](#)

Massachusetts Asian American Educators Association

JCFEJ provided funding for a MAAEA program to help Asian American youth organize a media and social media campaign that highlights their specific unmet educational needs. Using survey data, MAAEA describes the troubling experiences of Asian American high school students, which is the racial group least likely to feel a sense of belonging; to turn to an adult in school for help; or to think of their education as culturally relevant.

Visit the [MAAEA Facebook](#) page

Jinny Chalmers Fund *for Education Justice*

Justice for Children and Families *About Jinny Chalmers*

Widely known as principal for 20 years of Boston's Young Achievers Science and Math K-8 Pilot School, Jinny Chalmers devoted her entire adult life to the pursuit of justice for children and families within the education system.

Jinny championed racial justice and excellent, inclusive education for students of all abilities. This became the mission of Young Achievers, where Jinny viewed families as equal partners with teachers in the education of their children. Her collaborative leadership philosophy was the centerpiece of her every-day work.



With her ability to harness her passion for racial and social justice and put her ideas into practice, Jinny was a true change-maker.

Tragically, on November 17, 2020, Jinny Chalmers died in a traffic accident as she rode her bicycle a few miles from her Dorchester home. She was 70 years old.

Jinny left behind a loving family, legions of friends and a large community of colleagues, students and families that will always grieve the loss of her visionary leadership, her energetic, problem-solving spirit and her generous heart.

The Jinny Chalmers Fund for Education Justice was founded to continue her work.

Be part of the Chalmers Fund!

Big societal change is hard work and never stops. We need your support so that our resources can continue to fund worthy community efforts.

The Jinny Chalmers Fund for Education Justice accepts tax-deductible contributions through its affiliation with the Boston Women's Fund, a 501(c)3 nonprofit organization.

To learn more about the Chalmers Fund and donate online, please visit:

<https://www.jinnychalmers.org/donate>

Or mail a check made out to:

Boston Women's Fund/Jinny Chalmers Fund
678 Massachusetts Ave., Suite 700
Cambridge, MA 02139