Dear Friend,

“I’m stunned, but I am ready. Our ancestors have prepared us well.” These were the words that Judith Le Blanc, Director of the Native Organizers Alliance, shared recently at the Facing Race Conference. One election does not define a nation, rather it sheds light on the work that remains. At Headwaters Foundation for Justice, we believe that our communities and grantee partners have the strength, resilience, and wisdom to build power for a multi-racial, multi-ethnic, multi-generational, and cross-class movement for equity and justice.

Over the past year, we have witnessed powerful communities take on the fight for a $15 minimum wage; win a union for retail janitorial workers in the Twin Cities; and stand in solidarity with water defenders. And, during the campaign season, Donald Trump blazed a trail of fear, anger, and hate through his rhetoric and actions. At Headwaters Foundation, we consider the election results a call to action. We ask you to stand with us and defend our neighbors who have been targeted with racism and xenophobia; to organize alongside grassroots activists who are fighting against transphobia and misogyny; and to advance a vision of a just and equitable Minnesota.

Please consider making a gift to our year-end fundraising campaign. Headwaters Foundation’s board of directors has committed to matching every gift — dollar for dollar — during the month of December, up to $80,700.

At every stage during the past year, Headwaters has been called to action. Our donors and our grantee partners have demanded that we strengthen our commitment to communities of color. We know that real change is possible when communities are organized and supported. We know that progress does not happen in 12-month increments, and long-term support is not only necessary, it is strategic. That is why I am excited to announce that in January 2017, Headwaters Foundation for Justice will launch the New Majority Fund, which will provide two-year general operating grants to organizations led by and for communities of color.

For more than three decades, Headwaters has amplified the power of community to advance equity and justice. With your help, we will continue to provide financial support and capacity building to organizations that are changing our state and our country.

Thank you for your commitment to equity and justice for all.

In Solidarity,

David Nicholson
Executive Director

P.S. Please visit us at www.headwatersfoundation.org/give to make your meaningful gift.
Dear Friend,

I am proud to share our Fiscal Year 2016 Annual Report. Together we have achieved so much. In 2016, we raised more money from individuals, supported more volunteers, and made more grants than we ever have before. We traveled across the state, and learned what makes Headwaters great and what we can do better to serve our communities. None of this was possible without you.

And yet, we know that we must do more. Black people continue to experience violence at the hands of the people sworn to protect them. Water defenders are steeling themselves for the harsh winter weather as they protect rivers and lakes, as well as sacred lands where American Indian ancestors are buried. Muslim people struggle to shift the hearts and minds of their neighbors who’ve succumbed to Islamophobic rhetoric. Asian Americans are working to create access to our country’s democracy.

Our legacy was built by people who were never satisfied with the status quo; people like you. As I reflect on all that we have accomplished together, I am inspired by what is possible.

Because of your support, Headwaters Foundation for Justice is amplifying the power of leaders and communities to advance equity and justice.

In Solidarity,

David Nicholson
Executive Director