# ANNUAL REPORT 2025



*Image: LOF Grantee Sounds Academy*

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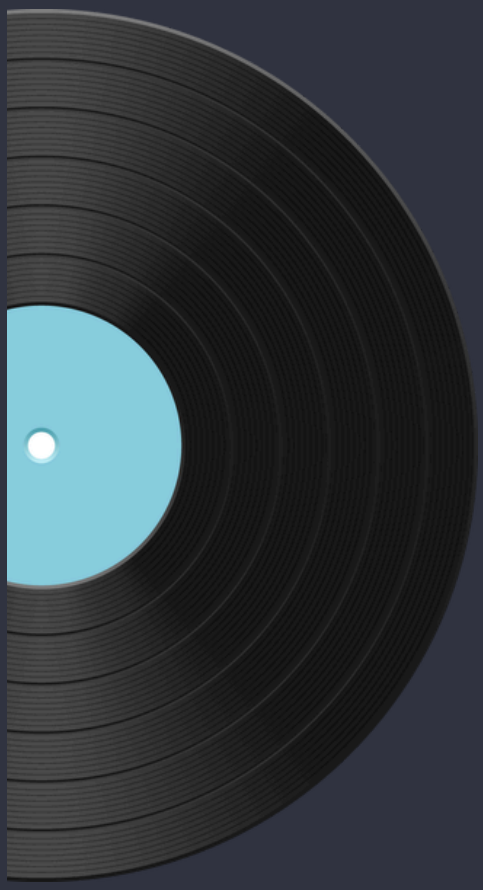


*Image: RAVE Foundation*



# RE-INTRODUCING OURSEVLES

## A NEW ERA OF CHANGE



**GLORIA GOERES**
Executive Director

Hello Friends!

2025 marked my first year as Executive Director for the Looking Out Foundation. It has been the honor of my life, and I am thrilled by how much we accomplished together.

In 2025, LOF sent over $1.8 million in grants to 46 incredible organizations working to create change around the world. We also activated on the ground to show up for communities across the U.S and Mexico.

Looking Out Foundation was created by Brandi and The Twins in 2008. It started as a grassroots movement for change, and we intend to keep it that way even as our impact and the band's success grows. We do our work through 3 main channels that you will learn more about in this report: awarding grants, engaging community, and creating powerful partnerships. This year, LOF experienced a revamp. We brought on new team members, gave ourselves a digital makeover, and launched new efforts, both online and in-person, to expand our movement.

This was our largest year of impact yet, and it would not have been possible without our partners, new and old. They are true collaborators who have worked with us to reach shared goals for the greater good. We make greater change when we work together. This year at LOF is a testament to that power of togetherness and joy.

I am so grateful for the way this community of changemakers has welcomed me into the fold, and I look forward to continuing our progress in 2026. Together, we are *Making Music Mean More!*

WARMEST REGARDS,




# PILLARS OF CHANGE



## AWARDING GRANTS

We use grassroots fundraising to send support to nonprofit organizations across the globe. This year, we held two grant application periods: one in May and the other in November. Each application was vetted by our team for alignment with our donor community's values and the causes they care about most.

## ENGAGING COMMUNITY

Fans are the foundation of our Foundation. Our volunteer coalition goes beyond the dollar to provide support on the ground. This year, we activated for our communities across the country: from the soccer pitch in Seattle to the dusty cliffs of Red Rocks Amphitheatre. Through fundraising, awareness campaigns, and a whole lot of laughter- we made music mean more together!

## POWERFUL PARTNERSHIPS

More change is possible when we work together. LOF works alongside other nonprofits, artists, corporate sponsors, and more to increase our impact. In 2025, we continued our partnership with Children in Conflict and the War Child Alliance. We also began new collaborations alongside the Elton John AIDS Foundation and We Are Moving the Needle.

# AWARDING GRANTS

This year, LOF hosted two grant cycles. During the cycle, nonprofit organizations with 501(c)(3) status can apply for support.

Each application is reviewed by our team, and each organization is vetted through an in-depth process to ensure their work is aligned with the values of Looking Out Foundation and our community of donors. We make sure to do so with an equity-based lens, prioritizing smaller, community-based organizations that have less access to larger funding streams and are led by the same populations they serve.

Grants are then delivered without strings attached. We trust our grantees to use funds as they are needed most to defend the rights and joys of the communities they support.

In 2025, we supported LGBTQIA2+ orgs, arts and music programs, food programs, and more.



*Image: LOF Grantee, Elk Run Farm*

**2**
Grant Cycles

**$1.8M**
Dollars Granted

**46**
Organizations Supported

# MEET OUR 2025 GRANTEES

## FROM LGBTQ+ JOY, TO HEALTHCARE ACCESS AND MORE - HERE ARE A FEW OF OUR RECIPIENTS



*Image: LOF Grantee Brave Trails*

- Brave Trails empowers LGBTQIA2S+ youth by connecting them to their people, place, and passion. Through transformative leadership summer camps, family camps, backpacking trips, mental health services, and year-round leadership programs.
- Brave Trails has impacted the lives of over 2,000 LGBTQIA2S+ youth across 50 U.S. states and 17 countries. Each year, they provide more than $125,000 in financial aid to ensure that every camper has the opportunity to attend.

**BRAVE TRAILS**

California and Maryland

Grant Amount:

**$10,000**




- Equality Florida is the largest civil rights organization in the state of Florida working to defend the rights and joys of the LGBTQIA2S+ community.
- In addition to funds, LOF invited Equality Florida to join us at Mothership Weekend Festival this year. We also co-hosted an Instagram Live event to educate the public on allyship and ways to take action against homophobic policies.

**EQUALITY FLORIDA**

Florida

Grant Amount:

**$30,000**

# BUT WAIT... THERE'S MORE




*Image: LOF Grantee The Theater Bug*

## THE THEATER BUG

Tennessee

Grant Amount:

**$20,000**

- This organization provides affordable performing arts programs year-round for all ages. When there is a cost, they provide financial assistance to ensure all children who wish to participate can do so.
- Throughout the year, they offer an original musical and play written by the staff, an original production written by one of their student playwrights, a fully produced concert, a festival of original student-written ten-minute plays, and a variety of specialty workshops for skill development and education in the arts.



*Image: LOF Grantee Bridgercare*

## BRIDGERCARE

Montana

Grant Amount:

**$5,000**

- Bridgercare is the largest grassroots family clinic in the state of Montana. They offer empowering and trustworthy reproductive healthcare for all people.
- They use sliding scale pricing so that anyone can afford their services, which include annual exams, mental health support, birth control, menopause care, STI testing, gender affirming care, and more!

# ENGAGING COMMUNITY





*Image: Rave Foundation*

**3**

Coalition Activations

**47**

Volunteers Activated

**130**

New Applicants

## FROM SEATTLE TO FLORIDA, FROM MEXICO TO COLORADO: OUR VOLUNTEER COALITION SHOWED UP IN 2025!

Looking Out Foundation has a small staff, and our work would not be possible without the support and enthusiasm of our incredible volunteer coalition. This year, we worked to expand our volunteering program to new locations and needs beyond our traditional opportunities on the road with Brandi and the band. Volunteers applied, trained, and activated for multiple organizations across the country. These moments of connection are vital to our movement and foster a sense of hope and connection.

We also expanded our programming to include multiple forms of community gatherings to learn how to take better care of ourselves and each other. This included LOF's many additions to Brandi's Girls Just Wanna Weekend Festival program in Riviera Maya, Mexico. We invited our grantee, Psydeh to lead a craft workshop in honor of the indigenous women they support. We also co-hosted a day of service with artist August Ponthier to support Mexican students.

# BEING HUMAN (TOGETHER)



*Image: Rave Foundation*

## KICKING OFF FOR MARY'S PLACE

Together with the Rave Foundation and REIGN FC, Looking Out volunteers hosted a kit-packing event to support families experiencing homelessness in Seattle. These kits went on to help children supported by Mary's Place (a Seattle nonprofit) to start the school year off strongly!

**1,000**
Kits packed

**11**
Volunteers






## YOU AND (US) ON THE ROCK

After a year with no U.S tour, we needed a reunion. Our community came together in Colorado at Red Rocks Amphitheatre to share ideas, raise funds for LOF, and help send needed aid to children in Gaza.

**$200,000**
Raised

**18**
Volunteers



*Image: LOF Grantee Outright International*

# POWERFUL PARTNERSHIPS

Our work is based in the power of music and collaboration. In 2025, we worked with other nonprofits and corporate sponsors to push our impact even further. Some of these partnerships, such as those with Propeller and Children in Conflict, represent longstanding relationships that we continue to foster. Others, like those with Procter & Gamble, represent new beginnings that are bringing our work to new heights.

## COLLABORATIONS FOR CHANGE

- A new partnership with Procter & Gamble this year has marked the beginning of a new chapter in change for us as a foundation. Through their generosity, we have been able to provide record-breaking grants to 5 LGBTQ+ rights organizations: GLAAD, The Trevor Project, Sage, Outright International, and CenterLink.

- Following the release of Elton John and Brandi Carlile's Grammy-Nominated album *Who Believes in Angels?*, LOF proudly announced a special partnership to Make Music Mean More with the Elton John AIDS Foundation (EJAF), supporting their work to drive progress in the global HIV response and ensure compassionate care reaches those who need it most.

**$1.1M**
for LGBTQ+ grantmaking

**$350k**
sent to HIV/AIDS prevention

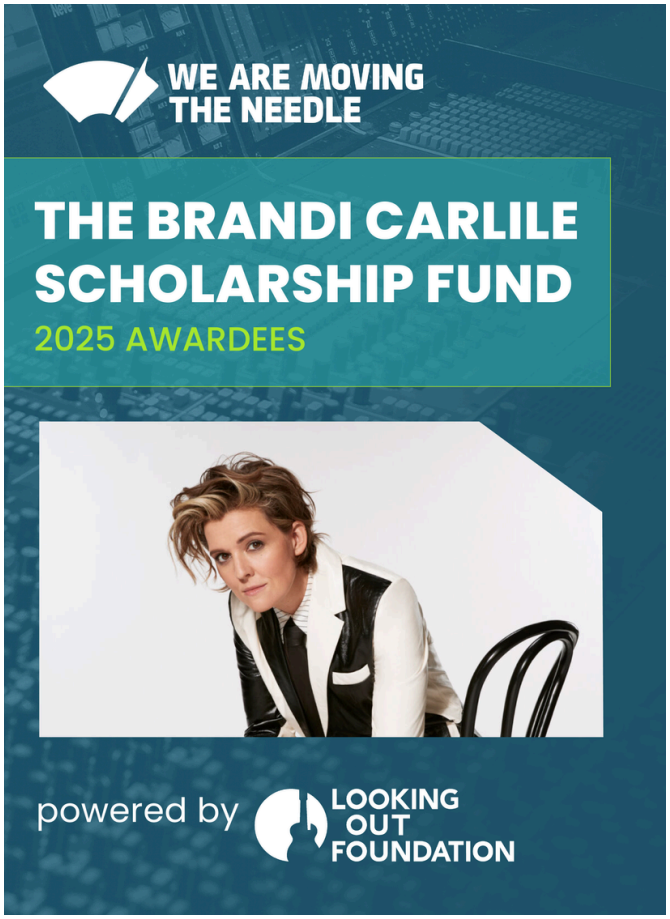
# NEW PARTNERS

## AND OLD FRIENDS

* This year, we launched the Brandi Carlile Scholarship Fund alongside our newest partner, We Are Moving the Needle. These scholarships are given to students who may otherwise face obstacles in accessing higher education.

* These scholarships supported 4 students pursuing higher degrees in music.

**$50,000**
in scholarships for future music-makers




One of the pieces of our work we are proudest of is our ability to build partnerships that last. These are not one-time actions; they are sustained, collaborative movements that create exponential impact on the organizations and communities they serve. These relationships have allowed us to respond in real time to emergencies and build a sense of trust between our community of fans and other organizations that are making the world a better place.

* Through her role as an Ambassador for Children in Conflict, Brandi has worked to defend the right of every child to have a childhood. LOF provides ongoing support to CIC to aid in their efforts serving children in conflict-affected areas. They, in turn, provide reliable information and methods for the best way to make an impact on some of the world's worst crises.

**$85k**
sent to Gaza and beyond

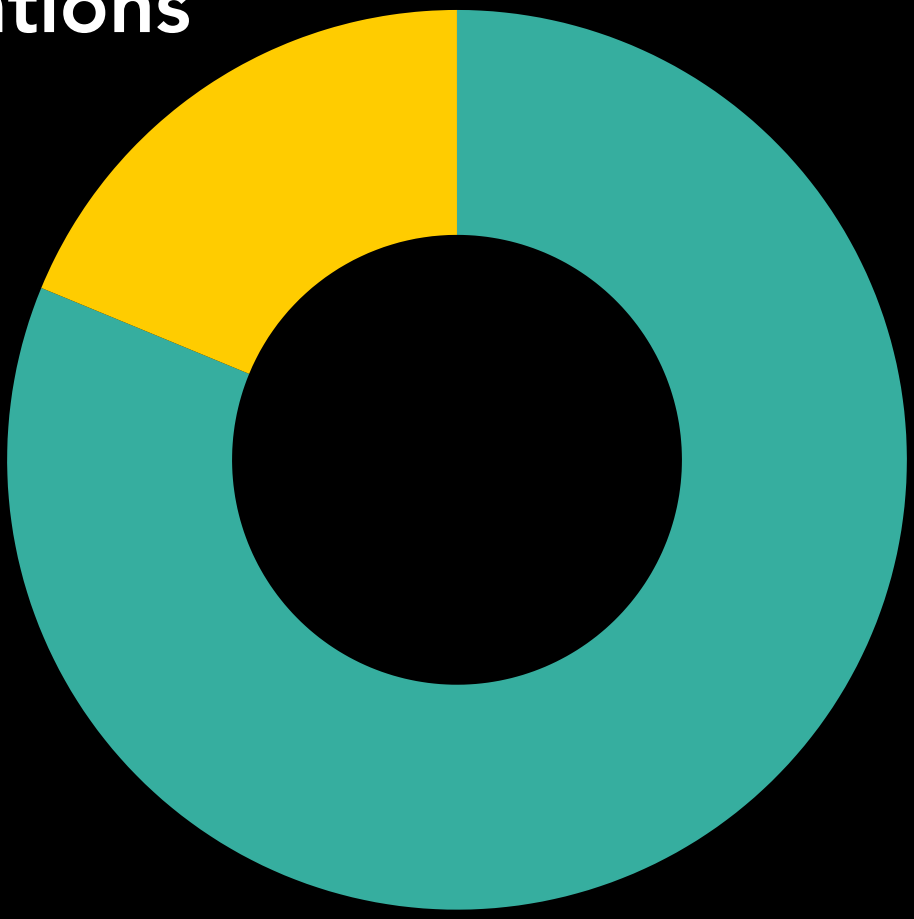
CHILDREN IN CONFLICT

* Through our partnership with Propeller, we are able to increase our fundraising and give donors once-in-a-lifetime experiences in return for their support.

**$496k**
raised through sweepstakes

# FINANCIALS

$425,756.61
operations



$1,843,911.54
grantmaking

**$1.8M**
**GRANTED**

**$76.31**
**AVG. DONATION**

# GOING BEYOND THE DOLLAR



While we rely on generous donations as a nonprofit, we recognize that making a monetary donation is not always possible. LOF now highlights ways to go “Beyond the Dollar” to champion causes and take action.

## VIRTUAL PROGRAMMING

This year, Looking Out Foundation launched our virtual Gathering for Change event series.

In December, we came together with therapist Lindsay Wheeler (LMSW) for a therapeutic writing workshop. This gathering allowed participants to check in on their mental health, and learn new ways to take care of themselves and their neighbors.

Together in the Dark offered a gentle, guided space where people could write, reflect, and connect through the emotional mix that winter brings. The science supports what we already know intuitively - that connection is protective. When we create containers like this - communal, creative, low-stakes - people not only process emotion, but also experience co-regulation.




*Image: Lindsay Wheeler*

## CROWDED TABLES

In 2025, we continued and expanded our affinity program, creating safe spaces for marginalized identities and communities to come together at Brandi’s events.

These spaces are called Crowded Table Meetings and are hosted by facilitators who hold the same identity as the group they are leading.

We expanded this programming to include meetings for BIPOC and Gender Expansive individuals and also worked to create more joy-centered social spaces for community members to gather and meet each other.

## MONTHLY NEWSLETTER

Sometimes, brainstorming can be the most difficult part of activism. In 2025, we worked to ensure a more regular cadence of communication and resource-sharing with our community through a monthly newsletter.

Each month, this resource connects our community with updates on their impact, opportunities to volunteer, and additional ideas for ways to take action.



*Image: LOF Grantee Outright Vermont*

# WHAT'S NEXT

## MEETING THE MOMENT

We will continue to band together with fans, peers, and our grantee partners to foster change in ways that are nimble to the ever-changing needs of the human race and adapt to support the diverse demographics we serve in the U.S and around the world.

## HITTING THE ROAD

Next year, LOF will be joining Brandi on a tour across the U.S and Canada to activate our volunteers from city to city. For the first time, this will include days of action at our grantee locations. In our work as a foundation, it is important that our relationship with grantees goes beyond a dollar amount. We want to be partners in the truest sense and provide ongoing support through our community and connections.

In this way, we will *Make Tour Mean More!*

# CONTACT US


*Image: LOF Grantee Sounds Academy*

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MAKE *Music* MEAN MORE


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