

# holding**our**own

feminist philanthropy, politics, power

## About Holding Our Own

Holding Our Own, Inc., the women's foundation of New York State's Capital Region, was founded in 1982 as a 501(c)3 tax exempt charitable organization to create and advance feminist social and economic change. As a multiracial, multicultural foundation led by women of color, HOO occupies a unique position among New York's Capital Region's philanthropic, advocacy, and social justice organizations. We form a bridge linking many directions: connecting the various communities of color, the philanthropic community and social change work; between heterosexual and lesbian, gay, bisexual and transgender communities, and predominantly white led and predominantly people of color led organizations.

## The Sanctuary Fund

The Sanctuary Fund is a newly created donor-advised fund held in trust by the foundation.

sanc·tu·ar·y

'saNG(k)CHoo, erē

*noun*

noun: **sanctuary**; plural noun: **sanctuaries**

**1.**

a place of refuge or safety.

"people automatically sought a sanctuary in time of trouble"

[refuge](#), [haven](#), [harbor](#), port in a storm, [oasis](#), [shelter](#), [retreat](#), [hideaway](#), [hideout](#)

synonyms: "the island is our sanctuary"

[safety](#), [protection](#), [shelter](#), [immunity](#), [asylum](#)

"he was given sanctuary in the embassy"

### *The Story Behind the Fund*

The Sanctuary Fund was created this year through a small gift from Carmen Rau and Jennet Jones-Rau on behalf of those who provided them sanctuary following a disaster. In June 2013, this family was abruptly forced to leave their home when a tree fell on it leaving the couple and

their three children moving from hotel to hotel and room to room for the next few weeks. A small fundraiser was held by generous and supportive members of the activist and political community which raised enough money to cover the deposit on a temporary home. This fund was created as a gesture of gratitude and acknowledgement of the local community.

*The Purpose of the Sanctuary Fund*

The fund is a loan/grant fund established to finance security deposits to women and families in our community who find they need to leave their homes without notice. This could be as a result of a disaster, a divorce, domestic violence or any other emergent need. The definition of "sanctuary" speaks for itself. The fund benefits women and their families who do not have access to other sources of support. To maintain the fund's balance and continue making loans/grants to many community members over time, we encourage loans over grants with the pledge of replenishing the fund within the means of the recipient.

*All contributions to the fund are tax deductible. To make a contribution, make checks payable to Holding Our Own, Inc. and indicate "Sanctuary Fund" in the memo area.*