



BEAM

'24 ANNUAL
REPORT



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WE ARE BEAM

WE BUILD ECOSYSTEMS OF CARE



BACKGROUND

BEAM builds eco-systems of care for Black and exploited communities. We train, fund and resource alternative wellness and care systems through a network of therapists, healers, wellness practitioners and community leaders across the world.



MISSION

BEAM's mission is to eliminate the barriers Black people face when accessing or staying connected to emotional healthcare and healing. BEAM achieves this through healing justice-based organizing, education, training, grantmaking, and advocacy.

"CARING
FOR MYSELF IS NOT
SELF-INDULGENCE, IT IS
SELF-PRESERVATION, AND
THAT IS AN ACT OF
POLITICAL WARFARE"

-AUDRE LORDE

JOSEPH
BEAM
ACTIVIST,
WRITER &
POET



OUR WORK



TRAINING & HEALING SPACES

BEAM trains community members in healing-informed mental health peer support practices, focusing on everyday individuals such as teachers, parents, activists, barbers, stylists, and students. We also develop healing justice-informed wellness tools that community members can use to support their circles.



GRANT MAKING & MUTUAL AID

BEAM partners with and provides resources to grassroots movements and community-based organizations across the country, offering funds and tools to support Black community wellness.



MOVEMENT BUILDING

BEAM supports grassroots movements and community-based organizations by centering healing practices in their leadership, services, and community engagement.

STAFF MEMBERS

YOLO AKILI ROBINSON

FOUNDER & EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR

KHADIJAH R. BARBER

FINANCE & OPERATIONS MANAGER

JESSICA JOHNSON

DIRECTOR OF PEOPLE & OPERATIONS

NATALIE PATTERSON

DIRECTOR OF TRAINING & PROGRAMS

JOËLLE DUSSEK

ASSOCIATE DIRECTOR OF TRAINING & PROGRAMS

AMANDA POOLE. PH.D

EXECUTIVE ADMINISTRATOR

SKYE BARCLAY

CREATIVE PROJECT MANAGER

NOELLE FOLDEN-MCDOWELL

DIRECTOR OF FINANCE

LATRYCE BUTLER

GRANTS MANAGER

AS OF DECEMBER 2024



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PSY.D., LCSW**
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MIRACLE JONES
BOARD MEMBER
DIRECTOR OF POLICY & ADVOCACY, 1 HOOD

LETTER FROM THE BEAM LEADERSHIP TEAM

DEAR BELOVED COMMUNITY

2023 ANNUAL REPORT

This past year has been one of devotion, movement, and deepened connection even in the midst of rising authoritarianism and political disruption. As BEAM's leadership team—made up of the Directors of Training, Finance, People & Operations, and our Executive Director—we're proud to share what we've nurtured and built together in 2024.

We entered this year, as in every year, with a multi-year strategy to make healing more tangible, more communal, and more accessible. Our virtual and in person training on crisis skills, healing justice and mental health reached people all over the world; more than 1300 people joined us. Through "The Year of Practice," we gathered in person in five cities— Los Angeles, Atlanta, Detroit, Baltimore and Houston—to offer healing experiences and trainings in collaboration with local partners. These gatherings affirmed what we've always known: when resourced, our communities have the power to heal.

In addition to expanding access to our training, we deepened our grantmaking—investing over 200K into our informal network of grassroots mental

health organizations and families struggling with their mental health across the country. We also made sure these same organizations were resourced with our training, and did mass mailings of workbooks and tools to help them further implement the work.

Internally, we restructured teams and invested in the people who hold this work with us. We anchor our internal practices in the same liberatory axioms that guide our healing spaces, embodying our core assumptions and centering care. We deepened our care for staff through tangible shifts: raising our salary floor and creating a new space to nurture culture and connection across the team in order to internalize the same love and integrity we offer our communities.

Each step we took this year was rooted in a commitment to supporting our folks in the face of increased divestment from public health infrastructure. What we accomplished in 2024 is a testament to our love for our communities and our belief in what is possible when we lead with tenderness and strategy, side by side. We will continue to care for our folks where other systems fail. And we will build and sustain alternatives that help us rest and restore, so we can continue to resist.

In gratitude and solidarity,
Jessica, Natalie, Noelle, and Yolo

Jessica E. Johnson *Natalie* *Noelle* *Yolo*



HEAL & LEARN ACROSS AMERICA

1,280+

**TOTAL PARTICIPANTS TRAINED ON
HEALING JUSTICE SKILLS**

In 2024, we aimed to maintain the same energy, but with added layers. A key part of this year's strategy was recognizing the need for more facilitators and additional training opportunities to sustain our movement-building efforts. We brought on six dynamic facilitators and developed a two-month-long training process to kick off our 2024 training season.

As part of this, we launched "Heal and Learn," day-long experiences in Baltimore, Detroit, and Houston. These events were wildly successful, and we had the privilege of meeting incredible healers, leaders, and community members.

**CLICK THE IMAGES TO
WATCH THE VIDEOS**

▶ **HOUSTON**



▶ **DETROIT**



▶ **BALTIMORE**



EXPANDING HEART SPACE HEALING CIRCLES

We continued our Heart Space healing circle work in Los Angeles, partnering with Black Being, a nonprofit and wellness space dedicated to promoting physical, mental, and emotional well-being through practices and programs grounded in culture and ancestral wisdom.

We also launched our second hub city, Atlanta, with monthly in-person experiences at Constellations, a cultural space rooted in social and civic movement work. Additionally, we began laying the foundation for the expansion of Heart Space and healing circles across the country by developing a thoughtful curriculum designed to certify community members in our method.



LOS ANGELES



ATLANTA

VIRTUAL

460+

COMMUNITY
MEMBERS

Overview
Video



SHOWING UP WITH BLACK MASCULINITY (RE)IMAGINED

Black Masculinity (Re)Imagined grew through gatherings like “Worthy”, an afternoon dedicated to unpacking masculinity tool-sharing and training with barbers. Taking place in Los Angeles, we helped community members process emotions and receive resources to take back their shops.

Mental Health
Training for Black
Barbers



165+
COMMUNITY
MEMBERS



BLACK WELLNESS INNOVATION FUND

A funder collaborative that supports innovative, Black-led wellness work in Black communities across the country.

\$90,000

IN GRANTS AND SUPPORT DISBURSED
TO GRASSROOTS MENTAL HEALTH
EFFORTS ACROSS THE COUNTRY.

GRANTEES

Darkness RISING Project (Raleigh, NC)	Black People Die By Suicide Too (Hughesville, MD)
WalkGoodLA (Los Angeles, CA)	Advance OC (Tustin, CA)
chosen • kin (Los Angeles, CA)	Black Space HQ (Milwaukee, WI)
Cactus in Bloom (Pasadena, CA)	ThriveSS (Decatur, GA)
Peel Dem Layers Back (Cleveland, OH)	



Announcement
Video

GRANTEE SPOTLIGHT REBUILD

Grants support REBUILD, which pairs formerly incarcerated individuals with peers to help them get access to mental health care and gives them 10 free therapy sessions.



SOUTHERN HEALING SUPPORT FUND

A community-driven fund that provides financial support to Black mental health and healing practitioners, as well as collectives, to implement innovative healing and support strategies across the Southern U.S.

\$24,000

IN GRANTS AND SUPPORT DISBURSED ACROSS
THE SOUTHERN UNITED STATES TO
GRASSROOTS WELLNESS EFFORTS



Announcement
Video

GRANTEES

Sweet Hearts Inc (Atlanta, GA)

The Social Justice Center (Charlotte, NC)

Zepp Wellness Center (Orlando, FL)

GRANTEE HIGHLIGHT

Sweet Hearts Inc. received funding to support the Healing Hearts Circle of Support, a peer support space for Black mothers coping with the unimaginable pain of losing their children. In many Black communities, systemic barriers prevent access to mental health care and support services. The Healing Hearts Circle of Support seeks to bridge this gap by offering culturally competent care and providing a safe space where Black mothers can find the support they need to heal.



HURRICANE HELENE RELIEF FUND

\$7,000

IN CASH STIPENDS GIVEN TO 70
FAMILIES IN GEORGIA AND NORTH
CAROLINA

Hurricane Helene had a devastating impact on the southern United States. This fund focused on supporting families in the states of North Carolina and Georgia.

Many areas were devastated, and even in neighborhoods where power and water have been restored, families faced countless unexpected expenses. Spoiled food, emergency supplies, medical costs, and home repairs added up — taking a significant toll on their mental health in an already difficult time. BEAM rose to the moment to support these communities with financial resources to ease the stress of this natural disaster.

PARENT SUPPORT FUND

CHECK OUT
EVALUATION

\$58,500

IN CASH SUPPORT DIRECTLY GIVEN TO PARENTS LIVING
WITH MENTAL HEALTH CONDITIONS OR SUPPORTING
CHILDREN WITH MENTAL HEALTH CONDITIONS.



“ My goodness! I am so thankful to BEAM, the gift card hit right on time. I was able to see my psychiatrist (\$150) and therapist (\$100), which I allowed me to get current on my medication. I was able to get healthy groceries for me and my daughter. It was such a blessings to be able to rest and have space to breathe, and to get into a better mental space.”

-Parent Support Fund Recipient

HEALING JUSTICE SCHOLARSHIP

\$1,000+
IN VALUE

CHOSEN APPLICANTS RECEIVED UP TO \$750

Many of our community organizers lacked the resources to take time off for training, so we addressed that by providing funding for movement leaders to attend. BEAM offered scholarships for organizers to participate in our trainings and apply what they learned to their work. These organizers are on the ground, tackling issues such as voting rights, reproductive justice, trans rights, abolition, racial justice, disability justice, and healing justice.

TRAININGS INCLUDED:

Black Mental Health & Healing Justice Peer Support Training

Black Masculinity (Re)Imagined

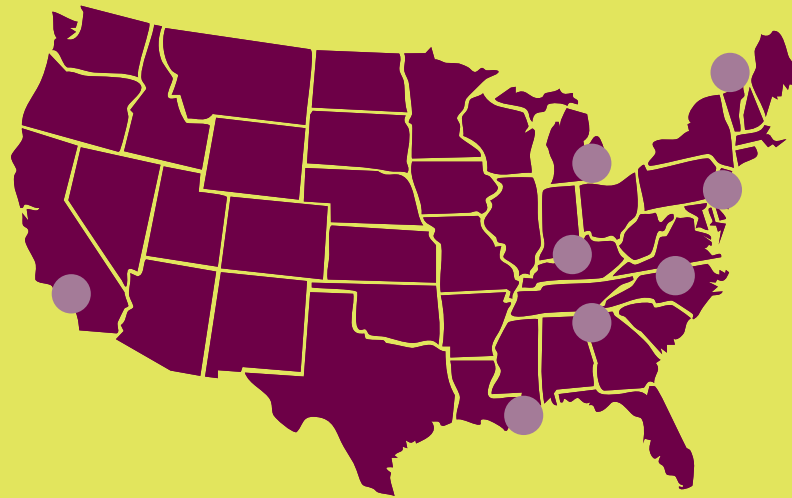
Emotionally Intelligent Leadership Training



BEAM SPONSORED COMMUNITY PROGRAMMING

We are honored to support and strengthen
Healing Justice-centered movement work
focused on healing, care, harm reduction, and
peer support.

3000+
MAILED
RESCOURCES



California, Georgia,
Louisiana, New York,
North Carolina, Michigan,
Texas, and Montreal



Here are some initiatives we supported:

2024 Rustin Lorde Breakfast (GA)

StaceyFest: Disability Love and Legacy
Celebration (CA)

Hope the Mission - Juneteenth Event (LA)

Miseducation of Brown Girls Summit (NY)

Mahogany Project's Autumn Mental Health &
Wellness Fair (TX)

Black Beauty Roster Creators Summit (CA)

The Brotherhood: Black Men and Boys

Health, Wellness, and Empowerment (CA)

WalkGood Film Festival (CA)

Thrive SS (GA)

Hitha Healing House (MI)

North Atlanta DBT (GA)

Dream House Wellness Foundation (LA)

Brothers of the Desert (CA)

BACH Therapeutic Counseling Services (LA)

Aging and HIV Institute (CA)

Revolution Psychotherapy (NC)

Black Healing Centre (Montreal)

Black Being (CA)

Eldorado Ballroom (GA)

True Men Barbershop (CA)

Constellations Club (ATL)

Good Neighbor (MD)

DEAR BLACK FOLKS #YOUBELONGHERE

The “Dear Black Folks” affirmation series was designed to disrupt public spaces by offering messages of radical love for Black people. Each affirmation speaks to the unique challenges different Black communities face and fosters reformatory dialogue that combats the narratives of self-hate rooted in patriarchy, sexism, transphobia, and homophobia.



RECAP
VIDEO





DEAR BLACK FOLKS

#YOUBELONGHERE

12,985,834

IMPRESSIONS IN ATLANTA, BROOKLYN,
HARLEM, LOS ANGELES, AND OAKLAND

200+

SUBWAY STATIONS

400+

BILLBOARDS



BEAM
BLACK EMOTIONAL AND
MENTAL HEALTH COLLECTIVE

DEAR BLACK TRANS YOUTH

Your identity is yours to define.
You are deserving of self-love
and a constellation of community
that protects you and holds you in dignity.
We are forever proud of you
and your glorious and radiant light.

#YouBelongHere

WRITTEN BY: UZO SEYMOUR & YOLO AKILI
ILLUSTRATED BY: RICHARD FORD III



BLACK HEALING REMIXED

CORPORATE SPONSORS

 lululemon

healthline

HARRY'S



TALENT & SPEAKERS:



**TABITHA
BROWN**

Actress, Vegan
Foodie & New York
Times Bestselling
Author



**COURTNEY
B VANCE**

Stage, Film, and
Television Actor



**DR. ROBIN
L. SMITH**

Psychologist and
#1 Bestselling
Author



**DEVIN
MICHAEL
LOWE**

Founder and
Executive Director
Black Trans Travel
Fund



**NATALIE
PATTERSON**

Director of Training
and Programs
BEAM



**YOLO AKILI
ROBINSON**

Founder and
Executive Director
BEAM



**KHADIJAH
RBZ**

Host and
Meditation Guide
BEAM



**DJ SHAUN
ROSS**

BLACK HEALING REMIXED



300+

CARE KITS DISTRIBUTED

320

PARTICIPANTS

\$3,000

IN CASH TO BLACK PARENTS

HEALING ACTIVATIONS:

BUILD YOUR OWN BOUQUET



Create your personalized bouquet by choosing blooms that speak to you.

KIDS FUN ZONE



Toys, arts & crafts, and video stimulation childcare will be provided for children ages 10 and under.

PARENT SUPPORT FUND



We've got special gifts and surprises for all our parents! Come through to learn more—light bites and beverages will be provided.

COLORING STATION



Release stress by drawing and completing our special Black Healing Remixed coloring pages and under.

SOCIAL MEDIA PRESENCE

1,000,000+

IMPRESSIONS ACCROSS ALL PLATFORMS

Through our social media platforms, we've been able to connect directly with people invested in Black healing and liberation, and boost attendance at both virtual and in-person events.



PRESS HIGHLIGHTS

BLAVITY™

'Counsel Culture' Trailer: Nick Cannon's Podcast-Turned-Talk Show To Premiere In June On Prime Video And Amazon Freevee



BEAM, South LA Communities Celebrate Black Business Month With 'Decolonizing Therapy'

ESSENCE

How Black Women Can Prioritize Wellness This Election Season



BEAM – Revolutionizing Black Emotional and Mental Health Care



Community Care promotes revolutionary healing in Melanated communities



How the Mental Health Terrain will be Impacted by the Next Presidential Administration

Word In Black

5 Innovative Programs Supporting Students' Mental Wellness



BEAM's Black Healing Remixed is back, LA!



Webby Winner The Chi x BEAM Partnership



LEARN MORE ABOUT HOW BEAM SHOWED UP DURING THE 2024 ELECTION CYCLE FOR PEOPLE IN ATLANTA GEORGIA DEALING WITH ELECTION ANXIETY

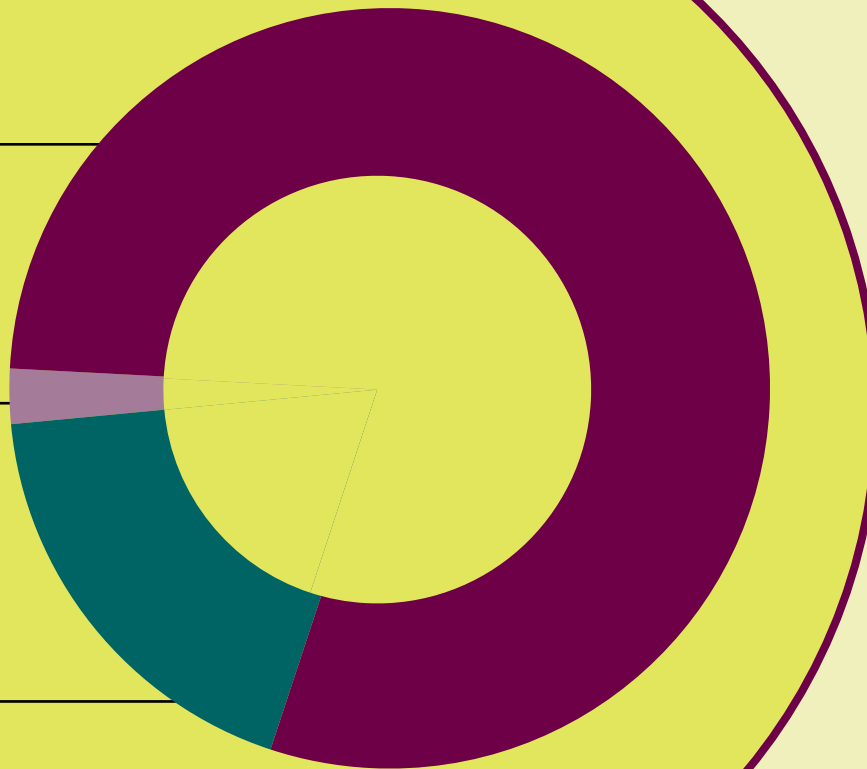
FINANCIAL UPDATE

BEAM continues to experience strong financial growth, thanks to the committed support of individuals, corporations, foundations, and our community. This growth allows us to expand both our reach and impact.

79%
GRANTS

3%
SERVICE REVENUE

18%
DONATIONS



2024 REVENUE (UNAUDITED)

Grants: \$2,645,000

Service Revenue: \$83,397

Donations: \$604,533

2024 DONATIONS

Donations- Corp: \$319,317

Foundation: \$182,114

Individual: \$103,103

2024 EXPENDITURES

TOTAL EXPENDITURES: \$3,161,194.46

ADMIN: 25%

PROGRAM: 75%

FUNDER GRATITUDE

A heartfelt thank you to all of our incredible supporters—both listed and unlisted. We are deeply grateful for your investment in our work and the vision of BEAM. Your support means the world to us.

CORPORATE PARTNERS

His & Hers
Marin Community Foundation
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NCAA

FOUNDATIONAL SUPPORT

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Blue Shield of California
California Community Foundation
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