

Silicon Valley Give Lists – FAQs

What is Magnify Community?

[Magnify Community](#) is a nonprofit initiative dedicated to building a movement to invest in Silicon Valley nonprofit organizations. We power local philanthropy to make Silicon Valley a better place for all of us. We're advocates, connectors, and catalysts who shine a spotlight on Silicon Valley's hidden needs and the high-performing community nonprofits who are making a difference here.

Our work was inspired by the groundbreaking [Giving Code](#) report on philanthropy and nonprofits in Silicon Valley. We aim to make local giving easy, effective, joyful, and rewarding.

What are the Silicon Valley Give Lists?

The [Silicon Valley Give Lists](#) are an initial prototype of one tool Magnify Community is developing to make it easy and rewarding for Silicon Valley philanthropists to give locally. (Learn more about the other tools [here](#)).

The Silicon Valley Give Lists are curated portfolios of nonprofit organizations that have been pre-vetted by the Sobrato Family Foundation, and draw from that funder's existing grantee portfolio. These lists provide a rapid "on-ramp" to local giving for donors who would be interested in giving more in their backyard, but aren't sure where to start and don't have time to engage in major research on local organizations and issues on their own. They are not intended to be comprehensive, but rather serve as an entry point.

What themes do these Silicon Valley Give Lists address?

Each Silicon Valley Give List is a list of up to 10 nonprofits, organized around a common theme. Our initial themes are:

[Housing and Homelessness](#)

[Essential Needs](#)

[Impact Lab/Data-driven](#) (cross-issue)

[Social Justice](#) (cross-issue)

Why did you select these issues? What about all the other important issues facing our community?

The Silicon Valley Give Lists initiative is part of a broader Magnify Community effort to help donors identify local giving opportunities in Silicon Valley. Two of these lists focus on specific, critical needs in Silicon Valley today: housing/homelessness and poverty. The organizations in the Social Justice and Data-Driven/ Impact Lab lists cover a range of issues, and the distinct themes they address were selected to test different types of offerings to appeal to different types of donors.

We recognize that some donors may be more engaged in giving to organizations focused on systems change/equity. Some may be drawn to organizations that are highly focused on learning and impact measurement, like those who graduated from the Sobrato Impact Lab, an 18-month cohort training program, in which Sobrato grantees improved their measurement systems and worked to create a culture of learning within their agencies.

We are very aware of the many other important issues facing our community – and the many other high-impact organizations addressing the topics covered by our Give Lists. We are starting with a limited pilot so that we can test the approach.

Are the organizations featured in these Give Lists the only nonprofits Magnify Community is highlighting for donors?

No! We encourage donors to give to organizations that spark their passion and serve the local community, whether or not those organizations are part of these lists. We will be testing multiple strategies to highlight a variety of local nonprofits, funded by a wide range of donors. Magnify Community believes that a thriving community requires a diversity of effective nonprofit organizations, addressing a spectrum of issues, and using a variety of strategies to drive impact locally.

Why is this limited to Sobrato grantees? Will you be adding additional organizations, new topics, or grantees of other foundations?

We are launching this partnership with the Sobrato Family Foundation because this foundation has earned the trust and respect of the local community through its broad and enduring commitment to a range of local organizations, and because of its expert approach to due diligence in vetting nonprofit organizations. We are also developing other navigational tools which will complement these efforts, and

enable us to highlight other nonprofits and topics.

As we learn from this partnership, we will also make changes to these lists to reflect our learning, ideally expanding to additional topics and including more nonprofits as well. If this pilot is successful, we could also partner with other foundations.

How do I get my organization included in your lists?

We are actively listening to community members to understand local needs and surface opportunities for donors. There is no application process for inclusion on a Silicon Valley Give list, or in any other tool developed by Magnify Community. We encourage local donors to give to local nonprofits, whether or not those nonprofits are on one of these lists.

If my organization is not on your Give Lists now, how do I get on your radar?

The team at Magnify Community brings years of experience working in nonprofits, and deep connections to the community. We hope to continue to learn and discover more of the powerful work led by our local nonprofits.

To send us material about your organization, please reach out to Aude Anquetil, our Director of Strategic Partnerships at aude@magnifycommunity.com. We will showcase the work of local nonprofits as it aligns with the interests expressed by the philanthropists who are engaged in our mission.

Will you share what you learn from the pilot of these lists?

Yes. We are focused on learning from this effort, and are developing a plan for sharing our learning from the results in 2020.

Learn more about Magnify Community on our [website](#) and our [FAQ](#).