

# NETWORK Annual Report 2022

Founded by Catholic Sisters in 1972, in the spirit of the Second Vatican Council, NETWORK is an inclusive, national, Catholic advocacy organization open to all who share our values, working to achieve equity and justice for everyone. Grounded in Gospel values and the Catholic social justice tradition, NETWORK transforms our society by shaping federal policies that achieve racial, economic, and social justice; serve the common good; and honor the dignity of all.



Dear NETWORK Supporters,

When the first staff members opened NETWORK's doors in April 1972, they had a vision of a more just and equitable society. They answered a call to do their part in bringing that vision to fruition through a new ministry — a political ministry in Washington that would make our country a more just and welcoming place. As NETWORK's leaders in 2022, we hear that same call. We are convinced that NETWORK's mission is as critical today as it was 50 years ago.

Last year, our staff organized dedicated activists across the nation to protect democracy, trained multi-issue voters to vote for the common good, and helped to pass transformational policies in the Inflation Reduction Act. For months, NETWORK activists supported these pro-worker and pro-family policies, flooding phone lines, visiting congressional offices, and making their presence heard online, and in the media. We did all this while celebrating our 50-year justice ministry with community building, advocates trainings, and the launch of our 50<sup>th</sup> Anniversary Endowment Campaign.

2022 was also an extraordinary year for building the future of our mission: thanks to the overwhelmingly generous support the NETWORK community (including the nearly 1,000 donors to the Endowment Campaign), we had our biggest fundraising year in NETWORK history! While in 2022, our expenses outpaced external revenue for both organizations, careful stewardship of our reserve funds allowed us to meet mission and achieve our goals. We are blessed to now have the opportunity to responsibly leverage our new \$5 million Endowment Fund to sustain our ministry for years to come.

Thank you for your participation, engagement, and support of our shared political ministry in 2022. NETWORK is well positioned to work for federal policies that prioritize racial equity, caring for Earth, and improving the wellbeing of all people and communities.

We are blessed to be on the journey with you, toward just, equitable, and thriving communities.

In Solidarity,

Joan F. Neal, Deputy Executive Director and Chief Equity Officer  
Mary J. Novak, Executive Director



(top) Joan F. Neal leads a conversation with Robert P. Jones of the Public Religion Research Institute and Fr. Bryan Massingale of Fordham University during the April 9 event *White Supremacy and American Christianity*.

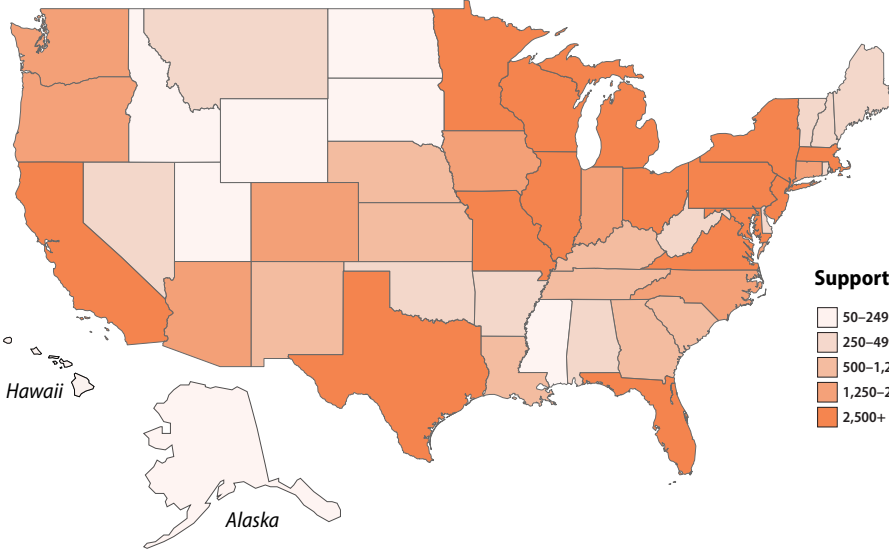
(middle) On June 15, 2022, NETWORK advocates organized a prayer vigil for reparations at a parish in Cleveland, Ohio. Rev. Traci Blackmon, Associate General Minister of Justice & Local Church Ministries for The United Church of Christ, spoke at the vigil: "Reparations is about the church and the people and the society moving from charity to justice."

(bottom) At the Leadership Conference of Women Religious Assembly in St. Louis on August 12, LCWR honored all of NETWORK's living leaders, left to right: Mary J. Novak, current executive director; Sr. Simone Campbell, SSS; Sr. Kathy Thornton, RSM; Sr. Nancy Sylvester, IHM; and Sr. Carol Coston, OP. LCWR honored NETWORK with a gift to the NETWORK Endowment of \$100,000.

NETWORK is two organizations with one mission: NETWORK Advocates is a 501(c)(3) tax-deductible organization and NETWORK Lobby is a 501(c)(4) organization. The two sister organizations work closely together to further our movement for justice and peace.

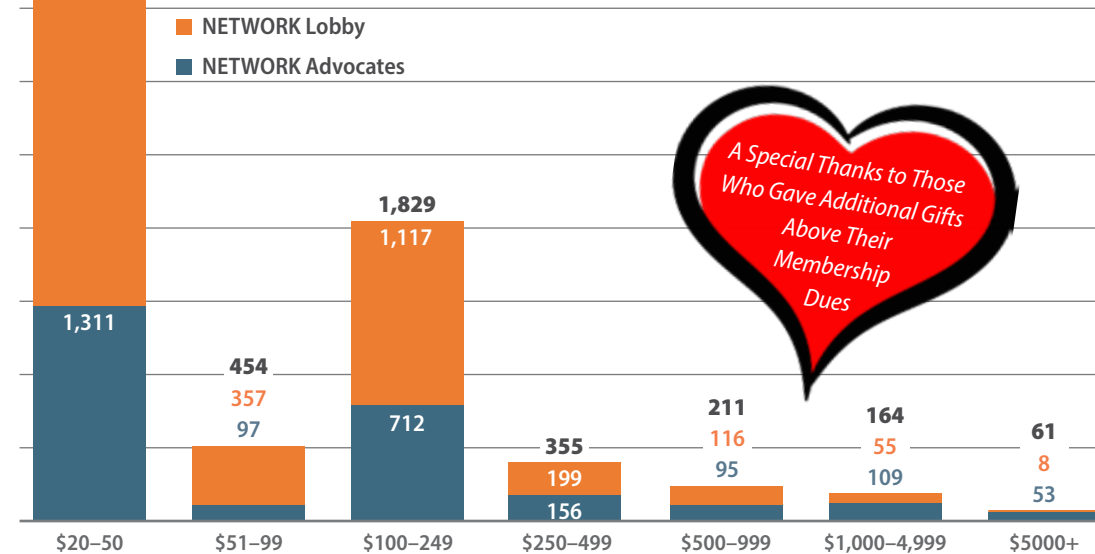
# OUR NETWORK Community

We were honored to have more than **94,000** supporters across the country in 2022



## Thanks to our 6,950 members\* in 2022

\*Basic Membership is \$50 (\$20 if senior, student, or limited income)



**1,696** first-time donors

*A Sister-Spirit welcome to our newest members!*

**534** GEMs

People who participated in the **Giving Every Month** program

**2,603** Loyalty Society

People who have given consecutively for five years or more

## Our Work By The Numbers

**3,148,914** emails sent to NETWORK supporters in **162** email blasts

**364,412** visits to the NETWORK websites by **112,979** visitors  
**189,338** NETWORK text messages sent to advocates

**29,539** Connection issues mailed to NETWORK members

**810,890** calls to Members of Congress

**132** blog posts published to the NETWORK website

**83** sign-on letters, bill endorsements, and vote recommendations supporting/opposing legislation

**847** press hits highlighting NETWORK's work/positions

**235** press hits highlighting NETWORK's work/position

**37** press releases

**21** op-eds placed

**58,337** TOTAL FOLLOWERS ON NETWORK'S SOCIAL MEDIA PLATFORMS

**11,519** Twitter

**965** Instagram

**28,451** NETWORK FB

**17,402** Nuns on the Bus FB

**373** meetings with Congressional policymakers (including **112** by our NETWORK Advocates)

**29** published letters to the editor

**24** workshops for high school and college students

**7** reparations vigils

**POPE FRANCIS VOTER TOUR**

**7** town halls for Spirit-Filled Voters

**5** site visits

**4** multi-issue voter workshops at colleges and universities

# Bread & Roses

~ SOCIETY ~

Members of NETWORK's Bread and Roses Society play a vital role in building the justice movement for many years to come. By planning to remember NETWORK in their will or estate plans, members will make substantial, enduring commitments to our community's long-term work to create a society that promotes justice and the dignity of all in the shared abundance of God's creation.

For more information on how to make a planned gift to NETWORK, please contact us at [development@networklobby.org](mailto:development@networklobby.org).

- |  |                          |                        |
|--|--------------------------|------------------------|
| Alice and Robert Beezat                  | Mary and Calbert Hubbard | Linda Rich             |
| Kim <sup>+</sup> and Stephen Benoit      | Lyn Kirkconnell          | Barbara and Brian Roos |
| Margaret Betz                            | Alice Kitchen            | Jean Sammon            |
| James Biechler                           | Dr. Norma LaSalle        | Imelda Smith           |
| Carol Ann <sup>+</sup> and Lee J. Breyer | Anne Laurance            | Rev. Charles Topper    |
| Dawn Calabia                             | Sarah Marin              | Bernadette Tourtual    |
| Derek Coelho                             | Elizabeth Morancy        | Carol Watchler         |
| Susan Doherty                            | Fr. John Oesterle        | Francine Wickes        |
| Albert Eisch                             | Rosemarie Pace           | Amy and Stephen Zeder  |
| Jean Hamann                              | Suzanne Polen            | Dr. Jerome Zurek       |
| Jane Houtman                             | Bernadette Powell        |                        |
| Irma and Robert Howarth                  | Noraleen Renauer         |                        |

<sup>+</sup> deceased

## IN MEMORIAM

We honor the memory of those whose estates supported NETWORK in 2022. We also recognize those who passed in 2022 and were remembered through gifts from relatives and friends.

We are honored to be entrusted with their legacies, which sustain this work for many years to come.

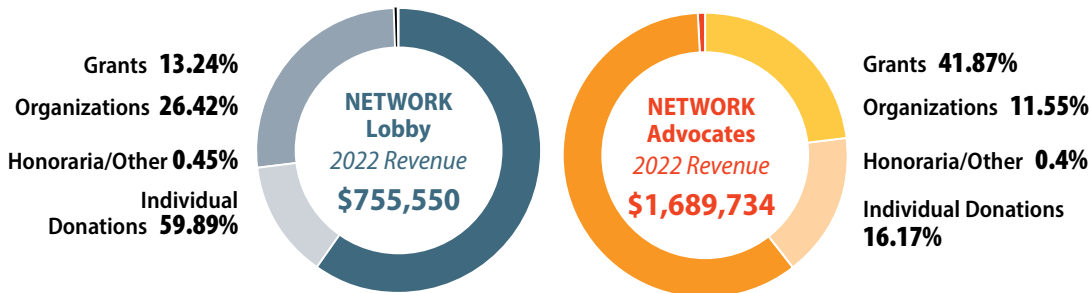
### Estate Gifts

- Michael Reilly
- William Starr

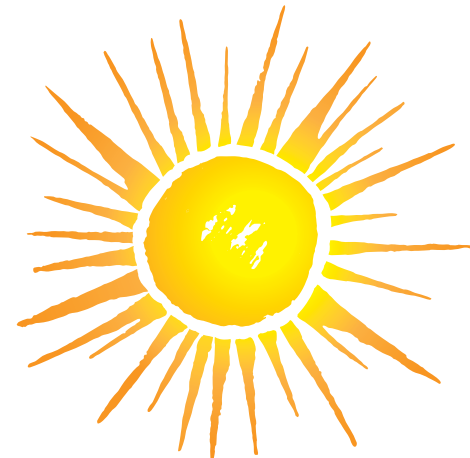
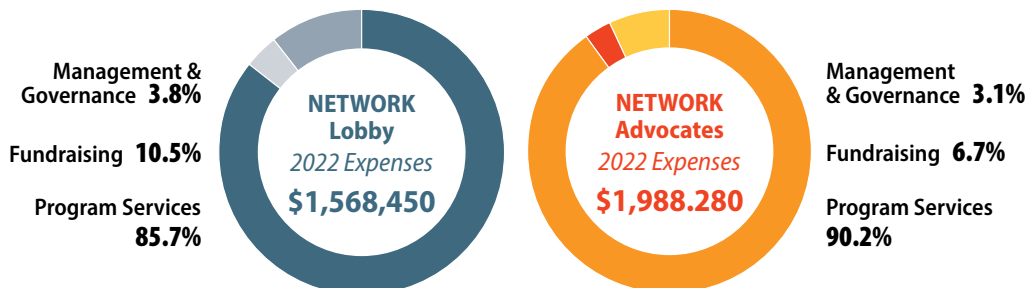
### In Memory

- Anthony Albergate
- Marie Braun
- Sr. Rosemarie Burke, SIW
- Madeline Cain
- Margaret Christensen
- David Fleming
- Stuart E. Graham II
- Joan Kelly
- Eileen Lebow
- Grace Lyons
- Therese Maxwell
- Sr. Miriam Provo, OSF
- Edouard Rocher
- Barbara Sides
- Louis F. Smith
- Dan Ward
- Barbara Winchester

## Where Our Financial Support Comes From



## How Your Financial Support Impacts Our Mission



# Our 50<sup>th</sup> Anniversary Year in Action



(L) NETWORK Grassroots Outreach and Education Coordinator Colin Martinez Longmore speaks to college students at University of Detroit Mercy about becoming a Pope Francis voter during NETWORK's Pope Francis Voter Tour.

(R) President Joe Biden presented the Presidential Medal of Freedom to NETWORK's former executive director, Sr. Simone Cambell, SSS.



(L) Srs. Carol Coston, OP and Josita Colbert, SSND tear up the dance floor at the NETWORK Justice Ablaze 50th Anniversary Gala in DC in April 2022.

(R) On February 15, 2022, NETWORK hosted an Intergenerational Dialogue, bringing together young justice-seekers and older Sister advocates as part of NETWORK's 50<sup>th</sup> anniversary.



NETWORK Government Relations Advocate Jarrett Smith joins in a rally outside the White House urging the Biden administration to create an H.R.40 commission to study reparations.



NETWORK advocates delivered NETWORK's 2021 voting record to the office of Rep. Mike Levin (D-CA).



On July 27, 2022, members of the NETWORK Government Relations team stood beside the "Golden Calf of Greed" outside the U.S. Chamber of Commerce offices. They joined in protest against the unjust influence of large corporations over the negotiations that ultimately resulted in the Inflation Reduction Act.



NETWORK Lobby for Catholic Social Justice  
NETWORK Advocates for Catholic Social Justice

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