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Date: May 4, 2022 at 4:54:11 PM PDT
To: Angela Waters Austin <angela@oneloveglobal.org>, Audrena Redmond <audredmond@gmail.com>, Melina Abdullah <docmellymel@gmail.com>, Karlene Griffiths Sekou <revkarlene@gmail.com>
Subject: **Checking-in: BLMSF**

Hello Angela, Audrena, Melina, and Karlene,

I am looking forward to attending the next IAC meeting. Please let me know if I can share additional availability as I can be flexible. While we are figuring out that next meeting I want to inform you that I have been in touch with BLMGNF through Shalomyah Bowers.

Tides is incredibly proud of our partnership with you all and we are proud of the work you have all done in stewarding the fund and in the intentionality of the grants made from the BLMSF; we look forward to supporting your future efforts with the BLM Support Fund at Tides. The most recent grant for BLM Grassroots, to build the capacity of BLM Grassroots and to support black-led grassroots efforts with training and organizational development in order to engage in advocacy efforts, education, and mobilizing volunteers, is exactly what the purpose of the fund is meant to support. We look forward to continuing to support your work through BLM Grassroots as you build and nurture the grassroots BLM movement. While we realize that the purpose of the fund is not restricted to a specific type of activity, we do believe that the fund is intended to support a range of local groups. With that in mind, we believe that the significant remainder of BLMSF should go to support grassroots groups via direct grants from the fund.

As you know, in the Summer of 2020 BLMGNF moved to create the BLMSF at Tides in order to de-centralize governance over the unprecedented funds raised for the BLM movement. I am reaching out today to offer our support to help facilitate future discussions your IAC group may engage in with BLMGNF about BLMSF going forward. Ideally, your organizations could meet and discuss future options with the BLMSF. Our hope is that we can help balance BLM Grassroots' capacity building needs, direct support to other Black-led locally-based organizations, and honor the effort BLMGNF put forth in soliciting donations for BLMSF.

We recognize that BLMSF and BLMGNF may not be in alignment and in a space for productive communication. In this situation, we would like to suggest that future correspondence and discussion with your IAC group and BLMGNF be supported by a third-party, perhaps a mediator that we might recommend. With this option your groups will be able to determine a path forward rather than one perceived as prescribed by Tides. Of course, we can discuss this further and if you are interested, we would be happy to suggest a professional to support your discussion.

In partnership,
Tiffany

Tiffany M. Abuan

Please note, Tides staff is working remotely until further notice as we [do our part](#) to flatten the curve and slow the spread of COVID-19.

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