

FOR SUCH A TIME AS THIS: COLLECTIVE STRENGTH, POWERFUL IMPACT.

2016 ANNUAL REPORT



Greater Boston
Interfaith Organization

About GBIO

WHO WE ARE

The **Greater Boston Interfaith Organization (GBIO)**, founded in 1998, is a broad-based organization that works for the public good by coalescing, training, and organizing people across religious, racial, ethnic, class, and neighborhood lines. Membership consists of 39 institutions in greater Boston representing more than 45,000 individuals. GBIO organizes people and institutions at neighborhood, city and, state levels.

By engaging thousands of people in identifying important problems, and by providing proven methods for conducting its work, GBIO has built and demonstrated collective strength to achieve a wide variety of purposeful goals. As times change, so, too, do the issues GBIO selects.



NATIONAL AFFILIATION

GBIO is affiliated with the Industrial Areas Foundation (IAF), the nation's first and largest network of multi-faith citizen organizations. Today, the IAF is made up of 65 organizations working in cities and metropolitan areas across the country and internationally, on issues ranging from health care to education to housing.



“Today, the IAF is made up of 65 organizations working in cities and metropolitan areas across the country, and internationally on issues ranging from health care to education to housing.”

GBIO works most closely with the 20 IAF organizations operating in the East, Midwest, and Southeast that have joined together to form Metro-IAF. Those organizations have accounted for the construction of thousands of units of affordable housing, pioneered work on health care reform, transformed dilapidated and underperforming urban area schools, and gained a whole host of other victories.

FOR SUCH A TIME AS THIS...

In shaping our social justice agenda, GBIO builds on our members' stories and those of our faith traditions. One story from the Book of Esther resonates powerfully today.

During a troubled time long ago when many Jews were exiled in a foreign land, the King Ahasuerus, took as his wife a woman named Esther. Queen Esther was Jewish, but the King didn't know. Haman, one of the King's key advisers, hatched a plan to kill all the Jews in the land, and secured the King's permission to proceed.

Esther's cousin, Mordecai, learned of the plan, and managed to get word to Esther, whereupon she began to agonize about how she could respond.

And then, God's spirit made its way to Mordecai, helping him find the words to encourage her to engage: "Who knows?" Mordecai said to his cousin, the Queen... "Who knows? Perhaps you have come to your royal position **for such a time as this?**"

As history is told, Esther did act—she told her own story, speaking truth to power, and saved her people. The Biblical story speaks of kings, queens and viziers. Today we have senators, state representatives and city councilors.

To those holding public positions, we invite you to listen for the questioning voice in these unsettling days: "Who knows? Perhaps you have reached your position of power **for such a time as this?**"

And truth be told, that voice that inspires us to act now is not just for elected officials. It's for all citizens. It's for us.

“Who knows GBIO? Perhaps we have built our position of power for such a time as this?”

For this, in fact is a critical time. It is a time to resist bigotry and a time to remember our faiths' call to welcome strangers and refugees. It is a time to seek fairness in access to housing, healthcare, education, and in criminal justice reform. It is a time to reduce violence.

It is a time to be what GBIO has been since our founding: Black, White, Latino/a, Asian, Urban, Suburban, Jewish, Christian, Muslim, multi-dimensional people of faith who hear each other's stories of injustice and concern and who join together to tell a better story of what could be, versus what is.

Perhaps, GBIO, we have built our power for such a time as this.

- Are we moved to engage and share our stories of injustice?
- Are we emboldened to seek justice through engaging with public leaders?
- Are we prepared to make specific and strategic asks that will bring about the changes we so deeply desire?

– Reflection from GBIO President, Rev Burns Stanfield, Fourth Presbyterian Church



HIGHLIGHTS OF 2016

The Greater Boston Interfaith Organization (GBIO) organized two large significant PUBLIC ACTIONS:

- In May more than 900 people gathered at historic Old South Church in Boston to fight for affordable health care, criminal justice reform and affordable housing. The gathering brought together Massachusetts Chief Justice Gants, Boston Chief of Housing Sheila Dillon, and several City Councilors who pledged support for GBIO's work.
- In December, GBIO brought together more than 2,600 people, along with United States Senator Elizabeth Warren and City of Boston Mayor Marty Walsh, at the Islamic Society of Greater Boston Cultural Center in Roxbury to stand against the hate speech, incivility, and violence that took place in the fall. Clergy and laity from Christian, Jewish, and Islamic congregations were united in their call for greater tolerance.

During 2016 GBIO led four major ISSUE CAMPAIGNS:

Affordable Housing VICTORY.



By organizing in 27 congregations, and committing to obtaining more than 3,500 "Yes" votes, GBIO made a significant contribution to passage of the Community Preservation Act ballot initiative in November. That initiative may unlock funds of \$16-20 million per year for affordable housing, historic preservation and parks in Boston. (See page 8 for more information.)

Criminal Justice Reform VICTORY.



For years GBIO has advocated reform of the criminal justice system, to make the system fairer. This year the legislature passed, and the Governor signed, legislation that makes vehicle operators with certain prior drug convictions eligible for immediate license reinstatement. In addition, the legislature initiated a comprehensive study of the state's criminal justice system. (See page 10 for more information)



Reducing Gun Violence VICTORY.



GBIO has been part of a campaign with over 100 state and local jurisdictions to make guns safer. In January 2016 President Obama acted on this call by directing the Department of Justice to develop smart-gun specifications that can be used to stimulate development of safer new technologies. (See page 12 for more information.)

Health Care Cost Containment VICTORY.



GBIO was instrumental in passage of the 2012 law that directs health care providers and insurance companies to limit costs. Excessive prices charged by a few providers are a major contributor to high costs. This year the legislature set up a Special Commission to investigate "price variation," as the issue is known, and GBIO decided to monitor the work of the Commission. (See page 14 for more information.)

Impact Fund FUNDRAISING



In the third year, the GBIO 2016 Impact Fund Campaign raised \$76,730 from from 361 individual donors. (See page 16 for more information.)

Growth



Our extensive campaign work and ambitious goals necessitated the hiring of a second full time organizer. The need to advocate for social justice in greater Boston is likely to increase in 2017 and beyond.

HOW WE WORK

Although no rigid pattern governs our work, GBIO typically acts in an iterative cycle:

- We **listen** by bringing people in our member institutions together to share stories about issues that will affect the quality of our lives, our families and our communities. Choosing to focus on issues we all can support;
- We find and **develop leaders** in our member institutions, creating cross-institutional teams that work to build and refine issues, potential actions and timing of the strategy to affect change;
- We **identify themes**, looking for issues of common interest across our membership, then do more focused research on these issues, identifying opportunities for relevant timely, effective action;
- We **build strong relationships** through cross-institutional issue teams. We develop strategies and propose them through periodic Delegate Assemblies across the entire GBIO membership. There we affirm consent for moving forward on specific actions;
- We **act** through GBIO Actions where we gather key public and/or private decision-makers to listen to members' stories, define specific solutions, and negotiate with those decision makers;
- We **celebrate success**: we follow issues, often for years, maintain connections with and accountability from our allies and public officials, and celebrate the collective accomplishments of GBIO;
- We **evaluate** continuously to grow, develop and improve leadership.



Twenty years after its founders first met, GBIO has fulfilled the promise to work across historic barriers to effectively promote social justice on an increasing number of issues.



A HISTORY OF GROWING STRENGTH AND IMPACT 1998-2016

GBIO was founded by a group of 45 clergy and community leaders who first met in January 1996, motivated by a desire to transcend historic divisions in Boston, particularly around race and class. They sought to create an organization bridging the region's historic divides and thus provide a vehicle to build relationships and act together on common interests in powerful ways.

In November 1998 GBIO held a founding assembly with more than 4,000 people from across Greater Boston. The *Boston Globe* wrote that the launch of GBIO was, for many, "an extraordinary display of reaching across racial, economic, ethnic, and religious boundaries to try and work for the common good."

Affordable Housing

GBIO's earliest focus was on **affordable housing**, and its first major victory came in 2000 when the group collected more than 125,000 signatures and advocated for the state's Affordable Housing Trust Fund. To date more than \$310 million has been invested in the Fund, providing over 17,700 units of affordable housing statewide.

In 2011, GBIO obtained a commitment by the state to render eligible for **public housing** Haitian immigrants in the state under Temporary Protective Status. GBIO also helped increase the number of ESL classes offered, particularly for Haitian immigrants.

Education

Education was also an early priority. GBIO worked with Mayor Menino and the Boston School Committee in 2002 to secure \$2 million in funding for school textbooks, which were so scarce many students could not bring them home to study. In the more recent past GBIO, in an effort led by GBIO-member Roxbury Presbyterian Church under the leadership of first Pastor Hurmon Hamilton and then Pastor Liz Walker, organized parents, students, faculty, administrators and community members to re-make the Dearborn middle school. We are transforming the school into a 6th to 12th grade STEM (Science, Technology, Engineering and Mathematics) Academy in the heart of Roxbury. The old run-down building has been demolished and with a \$72 million commitment from the state and city a new state-of-the art building is under construction.

Success built on success, allowing lay leaders, clergy, and member congregations to increase GBIO's capacity to organize and act on a growing and varied number of issues, often with great impact. (See graphic below.)

Financial Literacy

As shown on the graphic GBIO began its Moving from Debts to Assets **financial literacy** program in 2004. The program concluded last year, after graduating 996 participants in a total of 51 classes. Citizen's Bank was an essential partner in this effort.

Health Care Reform

Notable victories have been in **health care**, where GBIO's organizing, as part of a coalition, resulted in Massachusetts' universal health care law, passed in 2006, as well as a 2012 law that was the first in the nation requiring medical providers and insurance companies to keep the growth of medical costs to limits linked to growth in the state's economy.

As a result of GBIO's work, almost one-half million people in Massachusetts gained health coverage under the state's pioneering 2006 universal health care law, saving lives while also helping reduce growing inequality between rich and poor.

GBIO also helped organize Haitian **Certified Nursing Assistants**, who were essential providers of care in nursing homes, but who were often treated badly by their employers. As a result of GBIO's work, in 2004 then Attorney General Thomas Reilly issued an unprecedented Advisory to the nursing home industry clarifying the civil rights of nursing home workers, and industry leaders were also required to attend training sessions about how to properly protect these rights.

Aging with dignity

In 2008, GBIO's **Aging with Dignity** campaign worked with the Massachusetts Office of Elder Affairs to create better systems, including a new website resource, to guide families with aging parents.

In 2009 and 2010, also as part of the **Aging with Dignity** campaign, GBIO's congregations in Newton worked with city officials (1) to restore public funding for certain transportation services enabling options for seniors to get to the doctor, visit their loved ones in nursing homes, to buy groceries and attend religious services, and (2) to improve Newton's website for senior services.

Gun Violence

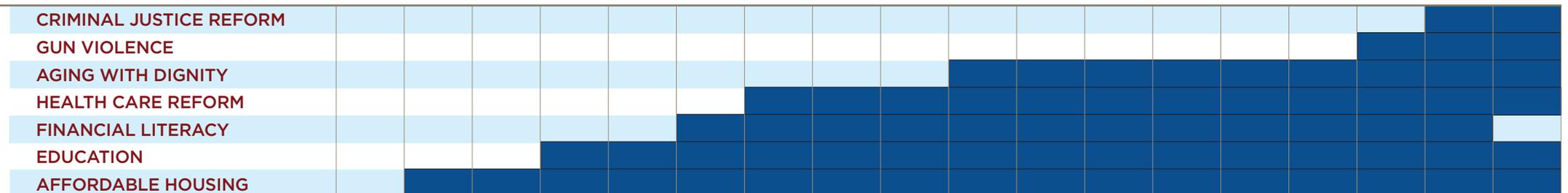
In 2014 GBIO helped pass a strong gun control law in Massachusetts, and in 2016 Rev. Dan Smith, a member of GBIO's Strategy Team, traveled to the White House to discuss President Obama's "smart gun" initiative with other local leaders, leaders from our sister organizations in MetroIAF and Administration staff. The federal administration then issued a directive to various agencies of the federal government and military to draw up specifications for the manufacture of "smart guns".

Criminal Justice Reform

In 2016 Gov. Baker invited GBIO to attend the signing ceremony for a criminal justice Registry of Motor Vehicles bill, in recognition of the organization's efforts supporting the bill.

1999 2000 2001 2002 2003 2004 2005 2006 2007 2008 2009 2010 2011 2012 2013 2014 2015 2016

GBIO has addressed more issue areas over the years



HOUSING AND THE COMMUNITY PRESERVATION ACT (CPA)



“Ever since its creation in 1998, GBIO has been engaged in campaigns to increase affordable housing in Greater Boston, one of the most expensive areas in the nation.”

Ever since its creation in 1998, GBIO has been engaged in campaigns to increase affordable housing in Greater Boston, one of the most expensive areas in the nation. In 2016, after extensive research, GBIO joined allies in the Yes for a Better Boston CPA Campaign. GBIO organized support for the Community Preservation Act ballot initiative in Boston, designed to increase funding for affordable housing, as well as parks & recreation and historic preservation, by leveraging our greatest source of power: organized people. We organized dozens of congregational teams, which we envision mobilizing again in future electoral work, into a Get-Out-The-Vote campaign to assure passage of the initiative on the November 2016 ballot.

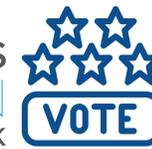
In November, through the work of GBIO and other allies, the CPA ballot initiative was approved by an overwhelming 74% of voters. This reversed the failure of the CPA ballot initiative back in 2001. This victory provides about \$20 million/year to be spent on affordable housing, parks and recreation, and historic preservation. Through its work on the CPA campaign, GBIO positioned itself to participate in decision making about how the money is allocated and committed. During the next phase of the affordable housing campaign, GBIO will work on implementation, to ensure funds go toward both affordable rental units and new channels for affordable homeownership.

GBIO'S FIRST GET OUT THE VOTE (GOTV) CAMPAIGN CPA ACTIONS BY THE NUMBERS

6 EARLY VOTE ACTIONS

3,513+ YES VOTES COMMITTED!

198 GBIO LEADERS INVOLVED IN GET OUT THE VOTE WORK



87 SHIFTS COVERED BY GBIO AT POLLING PLACES ON ELECTION DAY: 74% YES TO 26% NO

27 CONGREGATIONAL TEAMS WITH DEDICATED CONGREGATIONAL CHAIRS

As a result of its work on affordable housing, GBIO generated several articles in the Globe and team member Jumaada Smith spoke on GBIO's behalf in several other media (including TV and radio).

JUMAADA A.H. SMITH AFFORDABLE HOUSING TEAM CHAIR

Jumaada Smith, J. D. is the Affordable Housing Team Chair. A member of St. Katharine Drexel Parish in Roxbury and Dorchester and Smith is also an affiliate member of Grant A.M.E. in Boston. As a resident of Boston she is led by her faith to chair the GBIO Affordable Housing Team to help sustain the Boston neighborhoods she knows and loves. To assist in GBIO's affordable housing work, she brings her faith, clarity and former work in government, law, health care, business, and education. Smith sees the importance of eradicating the displacement of so many families due to gentrification. As a community leader with deep family ties in Boston, she desires to preserve extended families within the neighborhoods they have called home for years. For Smith, addressing the housing crisis is about the future of Boston, the one envisioned for families now and for generations to come including her great-granddaughter. *"I want her to live in Boston, go to college here, and have her raise her family here."*



CRIMINAL JUSTICE REFORM VICTORY

The GBIO Criminal Justice Reform Team was instrumental in a victory repealing the Registry of Motor Vehicles sanctions on drivers licenses. Under the old law anyone convicted of a drug crime, whether or not related to driving, had his/her license suspended for five years and in addition had to pay a fine of at least \$500 to have it reinstated.

On May 12, 2015 1600 members of GBIO met with Gov. Baker, Speaker of the House DeLeo, Attorney General Maura Healey and Boston Mayor Martin Walsh. At this action Speaker DeLeo agreed to move ahead with CJ reform by (1) calling for a comprehensive study of the state's criminal justice system and (2) committing that meaningful and comprehensive legislation to reform the MA criminal justice system would be a priority in the upcoming session of the legislature. After the action the GBIO team got to work organizing a widespread phone calling campaign, targeting constituents' district legislators and asking them to move the bill forward to repeal the RMV Sanctions, as well as support other initiatives.

In the Spring of 2016, the House approved this bill, it went to a conference committee and both the House and Senate drafted a final version. Gov. Baker signed it shortly afterwards, and invited GBIO to be present in recognition

of our efforts in getting it passed, along with other community advocates.

With this victory behind us, In Dec 2016 GBIO delegates ratified a four point platform for comprehensive Criminal Justice Reform:

- 1. Repeal Mandatory Minimums for Drug Offenses**
- 2. Pretrial and Bail Reform**
- 3. Eliminate Excessive Post-Release Fees and Fines**
- 4. Eliminate Excessive Time in Solitary Confinement**

CRIMINAL JUSTICE REFORM



GBIO's organizing for criminal justice reform resulted from a set of city-wide, congregational house meetings in 2014. Congregants were asked what their most pressing issues were, and repeatedly what came to the surface was criminal justice reform. Under Criminal Justice Chair Beverly Williams' leadership, a team was organized that began researching the issues, bills, past legislative activity, the political landscape, as well as potential alliances with other advocacy groups, including civil rights and legal aid organizations working on these issues.

BEVERLY WILLIAMS CRIMINAL JUSTICE REFORM TEAM CHAIR

Member of Bethel AME Church, and a lifelong resident of Boston (including Roxbury and Dorchester, communities which have seen their share of prevalent challenges within the criminal justice system) was driven to chair the criminal justice team of 11 members to bring about criminal justice reform. Her passion for this work is deeply rooted in personal experiences of continually seeing families and communities, including her own, destroyed by infrastructures designed to disempower certain populations of people, particularly Black, Latino, and poor men and women. A retired public middle school teacher, she also knows too well that these practices start early on, and the school-to-prison pipeline is part of this system. While teaching she always told her students to give back to the community and she models this every day.



GUN VIOLENCE: DO NOT STAND IDLY BY

GBIO has joined with our regional parent organization, Metro IAF, on a campaign to curb gun violence and save lives, all without jeopardizing the ability of law-abiding Americans to buy and own firearms.

GBIO believes two specific actions, if taken by gun manufacturers, will significantly reduce the deaths and injuries related to firearms:

- Invest in developing safer guns, e.g., guns that cannot be fired by children or if stolen; and,
- Stop doing business with dealers who are known to be responsible for the majority of guns retrieved at crime scenes.

Public funds are used to purchase 40% of guns sold in the United States, including purchases by the US military as well as local and state law enforcement agencies. The “Do Not Stand Idly By” campaign seeks to use Americans’ leverage as taxpayers, in an alliance with governmental gun purchasers, to pressure firearms purchasers and demand that the gun manufacturers take action now, rather than standing idly by while innocent people are hurt or killed due to gun violence.



“ We need gun manufacturers to take action now, rather than standing idly by while people are hurt or killed due to gun violence. ”

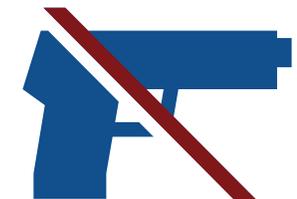
Our campaign has grown to include representatives in over 100 state and local jurisdictions around the country. Police Chiefs, Sheriffs, Governors and Attorneys General have joined our Gun Buyers Research Group, asking manufacturers to respond to a Request for Information (RFI) about their safe gun development and distribution practices.

GBIO played an instrumental role in the 2014 passage of a major piece of statewide gun safety legislation that gave Massachusetts some of the toughest laws in the country. Building on this momentum, GBIO secured local commitments from Attorney General Maura Healey, Boston Mayor Martin Walsh and public officials in Cambridge, Somerville, Newton, Brookline, Wellesley and Newburyport in 2015. Boston Police Department Commissioner William Evans also signed on with his support and a pledge to participate in developing specifications for safer, more trackable guns.

In January 2016, President Obama heard and acted upon our call by directing the Department of Justice to develop smart-gun specifications that could be used to stimulate development of new technology.

In May 2016, GBIO Strategy Team member Rev. Daniel Smith joined other Metro IAF and civic leaders for a meeting at the White House to discuss the President’s initiative with Administration staff. In September, Rev. Smith attended a Smith and Wesson shareholders meeting to hand-deliver the RFI to CEO James Debney.

In November 2016, the U.S. Department of Justice’s smart-gun specifications were finalized and published. We will continue to work with a growing Gun Buyers Research Group to demand that the gun manufacturers take these actions now. In the wake of our new political reality, we are also laying the groundwork for a longer-term shareholder strategy with our *Do Not Stand Idly By* partners.



HEALTH CARE COST CONTROL

GBIO's work to increase access and reduce costs of high quality medical care for the citizens of Massachusetts began in 2002, and achieved a major success in the passage of the Massachusetts Health Care Reform Act of 2006. But the enormous cost of health care today—more than \$20,000 per family in Massachusetts — demands our continued efforts.

Our work has continued with:

The passage of Chapter 224, in 2012—legislation that made ours the first state to commit to reducing the annual growth of health care costs by:

1. Setting a benchmark for capping increases in medical costs at the expected growth of the state economy; and

2. Creating the Health Policy Commission (HPC) to regulate medical care costs.

The importance of Chapter 224 and the HPC are demonstrated in the following incidents:

- When Partners HealthCare, Massachusetts' largest and most expensive hospital system, attempted to buy another high cost hospital, South Shore Hospital, the HPC determined that the transaction would increase medical costs in the state by \$58 million per year. Although Partners attempted to work with Attorney General Martha Coakley to bypass the HPC findings, GBIO submitted comments to Superior Court Judge Sanders along with other hospitals and insurers and ultimately persuaded the judge to not approve the sale.
- An HPC study of the Children's Hospital's \$1 billion expansion proposal indicated the potential for significant cost increases if the new beds proposed were used for patients who would otherwise be treated by lower-priced providers. GBIO President Burns Stanfield, and Health Care Team Chair Rabbi Bob Orkand signed a letter to the Commissioner of the Department of Public Health asking that the plan's approval be delayed until this potential harm was resolved through the creation of adequate protective conditions. The State ultimately conditioned approval on Children's commitment that the expansion would not result in increased costs to Massachusetts consumers.

Price Variation: In 2016, there was a new attempt to reduce the gap between the significantly higher prices charged by certain high cost hospitals, and those charged by many lower cost and community hospitals, for care of comparable quality and outcomes. This practice drives up medical costs. Instead of a ballot initiative in 2016, requiring a reduction in price differentials, the state created a commission to study the issue. GBIO continues to monitor its findings.

In 2017, the health care team will work on strategies addressing:

- The threat to the Federal Affordable Care Act
- "Cost shifting"—The growing practice to shift increasing health care costs directly onto consumers' "out-of-pocket" expenses by increasing deductibles, co-pays, and out-of-pocket maximum caps;
- Lack of parity for mental health care services—Federal and state laws require insurance coverage to treat the costs of, and the access to, mental health care services in a manner equal to that required for other physical health care services. But there continues to be a failure in implementation.

BONNY GILBERT HEALTH CARE TEAM CHAIR

Gilbert is an active member of Temple Sinai of Brookline, where she also serves on the social justice committee, and she and her family have been residents of Brookline for over 30 years. Gilbert does not have any professional connection to health care. But she and her husband have been paying for health care insurance and health care services for themselves and their 3 children for many, many years. As her children's needs for medical care, including mental health care services, increased, Gilbert and her husband were stunned by the dramatic increase in their out-of-pocket expenses for insurance and care, and overwhelmed by the complicated roadblocks that the health care system would throw in their way. Gilbert is not one to suffer in silence, and when she talked about these challenges to others, she found that she is far from alone. So Gilbert felt compelled to get involved in the health care team to help bring about truly affordable and accessible care, including mental health care, for her family and her community.



GBIO IMPACT FUND

In 2014, GBIO launched the GBIO Impact Fund to raise money from individual donors in our congregations and in our communities who wanted to do more to support



**IN 2016 WE RECEIVED
OVER \$76,730 FROM OVER 361
INDIVIDUALS AND FAMILIES**

We are also grateful to our generous corporate sponsors, who in 2016, donated \$38,500. Beth Israel Deaconess Medical Center, Centene Management Company, Lahey Clinic Foundation, Boston Private Bank and Blue Cross Blue Shield of Massachusetts.

IMPACT FUND INDIVIDUAL DONORS

Each year we conduct an Individual Donor Campaign. We are grateful for the support of our 2016 donors.

Zachary Abdu-Glass
Leah Abrahams
Ashley Adams
Pamela Adelman
Jessica Adler
Judith Curtis Adler
Victoria Adler
Megan Allen
Beth Altman
Maryann Amodeo
Anonymous
Joseph Antony
Floyd and Sharalyn Arntz
David Arond
Frances Martha Avrin
Marya Axner and Mark Niedergang
Molly Bajgot
Nesli Basgoz
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Tammy Kallman
Louis and Marcia
Kamentsky
Elizabeth Kaplan
Elizabeth M. Kendrick
Alice and David Kidder

HOW CAN I GIVE?

Members of GBIO have been working hard, but we have the potential and the power to do much more.

Please consider a tax-deductible donation so that we can continue to build people power.

Consider a recurring gift installment every month by giving online at www.gbio.org. Or you can mail your contribution using the envelope provided. **Thank you for considering a contribution to GBIO.**

Amy Kirsch
Michael Klau
Jonathan Klein and
Amy Schottenfels
Ruth Klepper
Ann Kliman
Elizabeth Kline
Naomi Kling
Larry and Barbara Koff
Jaden Kohan
Chuck Koplik and
Sue Tafler
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William Reed
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Dan Romanow and
Andrew Zelermyer
Jill Lofchie Romanowski

Dan Rome and
Cynthia Shulak-Rome
William Rosenfeld
Brian Rosman
Nathan Rothstein
Judith Rottenberg and
Harry Bochner
Cindy Rowe
Wendy and Bob
Russman-Halperin
Sister Maryanne Ruzzo
Tim Sanchez
Sanctuary Boston Inc
Philip Sandler
Michael and
Nancy Sandman
Saul Schapiro
Karen Schorfheide-Ray
Rashid Shaikh
Mitchell Shames
Alan Shapiro
Alan and Stacie Shapiro
Enid Shapiro
Barbara Shatkin
Cynthia Shulak-Rome
Harry Shulman
Ann Shumway
Elyse and Todd Shuster
Mir Shuttari
Mir and Rafia Shuttari
Lynn Shyevitch
Lily Siegel
Julie Silberman
Jen Silverman
Angel Simpson
Rev. Daniel Smith
Jumaada Smith
Matt Soffer
Marjorie Sokoll
Emily Sper
St. Peter's
Episcopal Church
John Stainton
Rev. Burns Stanfield
Katherine Stansifer
Priscilla Stein
Ellen Steinbaum
Judith Steinbergh
Phill and Susan Stern
Anne Stevens
Francine Stieglitz
Nancy and Mark
Stockford/Huston
Ellen Stone
Emily Stone

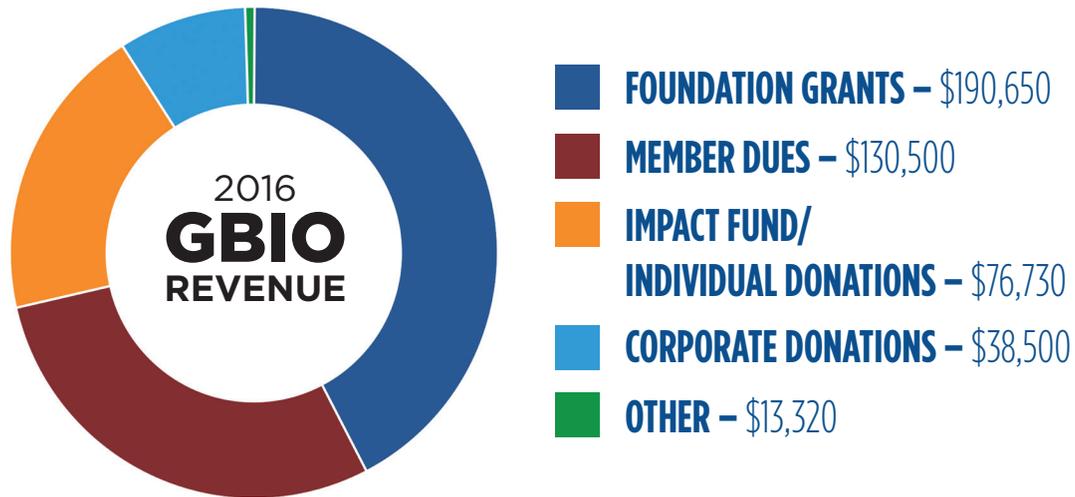
Allegra Stout
Alan Strauss
Jennifer Stuart
Jessica Sullivan
Kenneth Sweder
Erin Taylor
Temple Israel: Rabbis
Zecher, Soffer, Jacobson,
Gubitz, Friedman,
Mehlman, and
Cantor Einhorn
Vernon Thomas
Carolyn Thompson
David Trimble
Maria Truslow
Tom Tufts
Roberta Upshaw
Yusufi Vali
Trudi Veldman
Rabbi Andy Vogel
Steve Vogel
Deborah Waber
Rhoada Wald
Carol Walker
Andrea Walsh
Andy Ward
Margaret Warner
Esther Weil
Susan Weil
Amy Weinberg
Roslyn Weiner
Kathy Weinman and
Cameron Kerry
Jane and Robert Weiss
John and Abby Weiss
Adam Weiss
Rev. Donald Wells
Donald Wells
Debbie and Mike
Wengrovitz
Rev. Pamela Werntz
Sylvia Wheeler and
Steven Reckhow
Carolyn White
Hope Whyte
Beverly Williams
Elizabeth Williams
Bettina Winter
Merle Wolofsky
Henry Wolstat
Joyce Wolf Zakim
Beverly M. Zibrak
Linda Ziffrin
Jeff Zinsmeyer
Andy Zucker

GBIO FINANCES

HOW WE ARE FUNDED

GBIO is funded by dues from member groups, individual donations, corporate donors and foundations. The current annual budget pays two professional staff members who guide and serve the member organizations. The budget also funds the training of our volunteer leaders each year and covers expenses associated with operating issue campaigns.

GBIO does not accept government funds so that it can remain autonomous and politically independent.



ORGANIZERS



Larry Gordon
Lead Organizer



Kathleen Patrón
Organizer



Fran Early
Volunteer Organizer

2016 Strategy Team

Serving as GBIO's Board of Directors, leaders from our member organizations are elected to serve three-year terms on the Strategy Team. The Strategy Team authorizes the initiation of new issue campaigns, reviews the progress of current campaigns, and attends to financial and structural aspects of the organization.

MEMBERS

Ms. Brandy Allan	Roxbury Presbyterian Church, Roxbury
Ms. Barbara Berke	Temple Israel, Boston
Dr. Jeanette Callahan	Bethel AME Church, Jamaica Plain
Rev. Rainey Dankel	Trinity Episcopal Church, Boston
Rev. John Edgerton	Old South Church, Boston
Ms. Suzan El-Rayess	Islamic Society of Boston Cultural Center, Roxbury
Ms. Abby Flam	Temple Emanuel, Newton
Min. Dieufort Fleurissant	Voice of the Gospel Tabernacle, Mattapan
Ms. Bonny Gilbert	Temple Sinai, Brookline
Ms. Fran Godine	Temple Israel, Boston
Rev. Ray Hammond	Bethel AME Church, Jamaica Plain
Dr. Paul Hattis	Congregation Dorshei Tzedek, Newton
Mr. Chuck Koplik	Temple Isaiah, Lexington
Ms. Nahma Nadich	Jewish Community Relations Council, Boston
Ms. Faith Perry	Church of the Covenant, Boston
Rev. Dan Smith	First Church, Cambridge
Ms. Jumaada Smith	St. Katharine Drexel Catholic Parish, Roxbury
Mr. Yusufi Vali	Islamic Society of Boston Cultural Center, Roxbury
Ms. Beverly Williams	Bethel AME Church, Jamaica Plain

The Strategy Team authorizes the initiation of new issue campaigns, reviews the progress of current campaigns, and attends to financial and structural aspects of the organization.

A big thank you to the team that created this year's annual report:

GBIO Leaders Andy Zucker, Abby Flam, Barbara Berke, Chuck Koplik.

Special thanks to Hanson Dodge:

Jonathan Gundlach, Betty Strigens, Damian Strigens and Kevin McGeen

2016 Member Organizations

Dues paying member organizations make up the leaders that create and shape our issue campaigns. Their leaders participate in Greater Boston Interfaith Organization activities in a variety of ways, depending on their interests, talents and passions.

Current Member Organizations

Beth El Temple Center, Belmont
Bethel AME Church, Jamaica Plain
Church of the Covenant, Boston
Congregation Dorshei Tzedek, Newton
Dorchester Bay EDC, Dorchester
First Church Boston
First Church in Cambridge, Congregational, UCC
First Parish, Cambridge
Fourth Presbyterian Church, South Boston
Hillel B'nai Torah, West Roxbury
Hope Central Church
Hyde Park Presbyterian
Islamic Council of New England
Islamic Society of Boston Cultural Center, Roxbury
Jewish Alliance for Law and Social Action
Jewish Community Relations Council of Greater Boston
Keke Financial Group
Lutheran Church of the Newtons
Moishe Kavod House, Boston
Nehar Shalom Community Synagogue

Old South Church, Boston
Resurrection Lutheran Church, Roxbury
Roxbury Presbyterian Church
St. Mary's Episcopal, Dorchester
St. James Episcopal Church, Cambridge
St. Katharine Drexel Parish, Roxbury
Temple Beth Elohim, Wellesley
Temple Beth Zion, Brookline
Temple B'nai Brith, Somerville
Temple Emanuel, Newton
Temple Isaiah, Lexington
Temple Israel, Boston
Temple Shalom of Newton
Temple Shir Tikvah, Winchester
Temple Sinai, Brookline
Trinity Church, Boston
Union Church of Waban
University Lutheran Association of Boston
Workmen's Circle

Are you interested in becoming a GBIO member?

Is your organization interested in joining GBIO?

Email us at GBIOLeaders@gmail.com and we'll get in touch with you.



Greater Boston
Interfaith Organization

Contact Us

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Fran Early, Volunteer Organizer, Fearly295@aol.com 617.794.9471

Learn More

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