



On behalf of the Hill Snowdon Foundation Board and Staff, I want to say how deeply honored and humbled we are to receive this prestigious award from NCRP. This year marks the tenth year since the Hill Snowdon Foundation became a staffed, independent foundation and 15 years since we decided to focus on community organizing as our core grantmaking strategy. That the Foundation received this award is in recognition of a visionary and extraordinary Board of Trustees who truly internalizes the values of social justice and partnership and also in recognition of one of the most amazing staff teams in all of philanthropy. I would also like to thank our families for all their support, love and inspiration.

Although we received the award, we are really accepting this on behalf of the organizations and people who everyday have the courage to push themselves to be leaders, force themselves to not look away from injustice, but rather run towards it to confront it.

The late great Maya Angelou said that courage is the most important of all the virtues because without courage you cannot achieve any of the others. We have the honor of witnessing this courage through the struggles of our grassroots partners every day.

COURAGE - to stand their ground against stand your ground laws and stop and frisk, and the school to prison pipeline and the multitude of ways that this society criminalizes and persecutes Black and Brown, men and boys.

COURAGE - to shout out Undocumented and Unafraid and demand an end to deportations, and a path to citizenship and dignity.

COURAGE - to demand that employers respect the work of their employees by paying a living wage and providing benefits like quality affordable healthcare and paid sick days.

COURAGE - to live under a repressive economic, social, political environment in the South but still envision and fight for freedom, equity and justice, because as the South goes, so goes the nation.

So as we accept this award and applaud the courage of the extraordinary people who fight every day to make this a better world, let us in philanthropy exhibit our own courage by funding their efforts well enough to be successful and pushing our colleagues to do likewise. If we do this, then we will not only live up to Philanthropy's Promise, but the promise of a better today and tomorrow, for all people, will be more assured.

Thank you.

