

MISSION

Hidden Leaf's mission is to expand inner awareness within social change organizations in order to enhance the effectiveness of the progressive movement. We do this by promoting transformative awareness practices—which help us still our minds and reflect on our own internal conditioning—to align our values, thinking, and actions. We believe this work of manifesting inner wisdom in the outer world is an essential pathway for advancing a more just, ecologically healthy, and compassionate society.

CORE BELIEFS

- Individual awakening is integral to social transformation.
- Social change organizations are a potent leverage point for transforming society.
- The major challenges of our times are interconnected—and so are the solutions.
- A new worldview is critical to assist us in promoting a life-affirming society.
- Fear is a major obstacle—compassion, love, and hope are its antidotes.

THEORY OF CHANGE

If deep personal and collective awareness is integrated into progressive social change organizations,

Then the leadership and effectiveness of these organizations will be greatly advanced,

Which will lead to a more just, ecologically healthy, and compassionate society.

VISION

- Transformative social change work will help us manifest a world in which:
- people are centered and empathetic;
 - organizations are enlivened by practices of mindful reflection and cooperative action;
 - progressive movements are robust and connected by effective collaboration; and
 - society is life-affirming rather than consumptive and destructive.

GUIDING PRINCIPLES

Social transformation is strongest when:

- values and actions are aligned;
- clarity of purpose and concrete vision guide our actions;
- deep intuition is accessible and trusted;
 - relationships are transparent and mutually enhancing;
 - diversity and differences are honored;
- excellence in performance is encouraged; and
- love and compassion are the core from which all actions emanate.

EXPECTED CHANGES

If Hidden Leaf and our allies are successful, justice, sustainability, peace and health will be more prevalent throughout society.

Change will manifest at all levels including:

INDIVIDUALS

- Social change agents will be healthy, vital, and self-aware. They will advocate strategically for their causes and develop robust relationships with both allies and adversaries.
- Leaders will lead with wisdom from the inside out. Their actions will be aligned with their values.

SOCIAL CHANGE ORGANIZATIONS

- Inner awareness practices will be integral to many social change endeavors. Advanced practices will serve a higher number of organizations.
- Social change organizations will function effectively, pursue their missions resolutely, and embody life-affirming and compassionate values.

PROGRESSIVE MOVEMENTS

- Organizations and movements will develop and sustain strategic alliances.
- Transformative practices will be accepted and well-used throughout progressive movements.
- Transformative social change will be a recognized field within progressive philanthropy.

STRATEGIC FRAMEWORK

GRANTMAKING APPROACH

Hidden Leaf offers grants that:

- Promote the integration of inner awareness practices into social change organizations,
- Support leadership and organizational development with a focus on awareness practices,
- Increase the depth and rigor of the inner awareness practices used by social change agents, and
- Mature the field of transformative social change.

FIELD BUILDING APPROACH

Our board and staff members:

- Provide leadership in growing the field of transformative social change,
- Conduct informal research and provide critical thinking, and
- Connect others to the work and to each other.

RESOURCE MOBILIZATION APPROACH

Our board and staff members:

- Guide and support the Seasons Fund for Social Transformation, and
- Educate and mobilize potential funders.

hidden leaf foundation

LOGIC MODEL AND
THEORY OF CHANGE

KEY DEFINITIONS

INNER AWARENESS: When a person is conscious of the internal source and motivation of her/his thoughts, beliefs and actions.

INNER AWARENESS PRACTICE: Any regular activity that helps us to still our minds and reflect on our internal conditioning—to turn our gaze inward—in order to become more centered and aware of our habitual patterns.

TRANSFORMATIVE PRACTICE: Inner awareness practice that not only helps us reflect inwardly, but also enables us to develop new ways of thinking and acting—and ultimately to change the way we show up in the world.

ORGANIZATIONAL AWARENESS: When inner awareness is honored and encouraged within an organizational setting to the extent that the collective organism has self-reflective capacity.

SOCIAL CHANGE AGENT: An individual working to bring about a more life-affirming society.

FRONTLINE ORGANIZATIONS: Issue-oriented non-profit groups working both at the community and the national policy level to bring about a life-affirming society.

PROGRESSIVE MOVEMENTS: Collective efforts to promote peace, social justice, environmental health, human rights, etc.

TRANSFORMATIVE ORGANIZING: A new model of social justice organizing that integrates personal and spiritual awareness practices into community organizing techniques in order to transform power structures for the benefit of all.

TRANSFORMATIVE SOCIAL CHANGE WORK: When activists use inner awareness to support their efforts to promote systemic structural changes toward a positive society.

SOCIAL TRANSFORMATION: When our collective actions are aligned with our highest values such that human culture is just, peaceful, ecologically balanced, and enlivened by spirit.

LIFE-AFFIRMING SOCIETY: A just, peaceful, ecologically healthy, purpose-driven, compassionate society.

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