

# The Kroger Co. Foundation

2023 Report

ZERO  
HUNGER  
ZERO  
WASTE  
by Kroger

Kroger

FOUNDATION



# An Update from the President

In 2022, as we continued to navigate a post-pandemic world along with rising inflation and economic uncertainty, The Kroger Co. Foundation stepped up to support our communities in big and small ways. Year after year, our long-standing commitment to give back meaningfully remains constant.

We focus on providing support that helps create communities free of hunger and waste, foster a more equitable and inclusive society, enhance economic mobility through education, and—when disaster strikes—provide relief to communities in need.

Our key areas of focus:

- Kroger's Zero Hunger | Zero Waste impact plan remains the focus of foundation giving, with nearly 60% of funds dedicated to driving both social impact and environmental sustainability.
- The Racial Equity Fund actively directs grants—more than \$5.7 million to date—to non-profit organizations that are building more equitable and inclusive communities.
- We continue to invest in the next generation of learners with scholarship programs. In 2022, Kroger Scholars awarded scholarships to 120 students who are dependents of Kroger associates. In addition, five young women in the Greater Cincinnati area were awarded \$25,000 in scholarships through The Game Changers Scholarship Program, supported by The Kroger Co. Foundation and P&G.
- We also support direct response and disaster relief efforts in our communities when needed most.

Reflecting on our communities' hardships, experiences and challenges during the last several years, I continue to be inspired by our grantees, who are tirelessly working to create a better world for all. At The Kroger Co. Foundation, we'll continue to play our part in creating a better future.



*Keith G. Dailey*

**Keith Dailey**  
President, The Kroger Co. Foundation  
Group Vice President of Corporate Affairs, Kroger



## Board of Directors

The foundation's board of directors include the following Kroger leaders:

Vice President: **Tim Massa**,  
Senior Vice President & Chief  
People Officer

Secretary: **Colleen Lindholz**,  
President, Kroger Health

Treasurer: **Mafaz Maharroof**,  
Vice President of Strategic  
Planning, Finance

Director: **Jody Kalmbach**,  
Group Vice President, Product  
Experience

Director: **Laura Gump**,  
Houston Division President

Executive Director: **Patty Leeseemann**,  
Head of Philanthropy

# Our Mission

We're on a mission to uplift the communities we call home. We focus our philanthropic efforts on building stronger communities and supporting neighbors in need.

Established in 1987, The Kroger Co. Foundation, Kroger's private foundation, aligns community investments and grants with the company's Purpose—to Feed the Human Spirit™. The foundation is dedicated to making a difference at national, regional and local levels.

## 2022 Highlights

**\$8M**

in grants to 321 non-profit organizations

**60%**

of grants supported hunger relief and sustainability

**19%**

of grants supported diversity, equity and inclusion initiatives

## Cumulative Impact

**\$5.7M**

in Racial Equity Fund grants for our communities since 2020

**\$4.5M**

in scholarships awarded to children of Kroger associates since 2008

## Financials<sup>1</sup>

| Assets, Liabilities & Net Assets | FY 2021       | FY 2022       |
|----------------------------------|---------------|---------------|
| Total Assets                     | \$129,746,054 | \$119,937,604 |
| Total Liabilities                | \$0           | \$0           |
| Net Assets                       | \$129,746,054 | \$119,937,604 |

| Summary of Revenue & Expenses        | FY 2021      | FY 2022                  |
|--------------------------------------|--------------|--------------------------|
| Total Revenue, Gains & Other Support | \$11,177,456 | (\$659,100) <sup>2</sup> |
| Grants and Charitable Activities     | \$12,717,500 | \$7,962,695              |
| Management and Administration        | \$1,051,956  | \$1,186,655              |

M = million

1. Financial data updated to reflect Form 990 filings.

2. Changes YoY are due to no additional contributions from Kroger and decline in investment returns.

## Direct Response and Disaster Relief

Our communities count on Kroger to be a trusted and compassionate partner in both good and challenging times. We have a long history of leading with our heart at national and local levels, providing support when needed most. The foundation supports the American Red Cross Annual Disaster Giving Program at the \$500,000 level to enable preparedness and quick response in the wake of natural disasters and other emergencies.

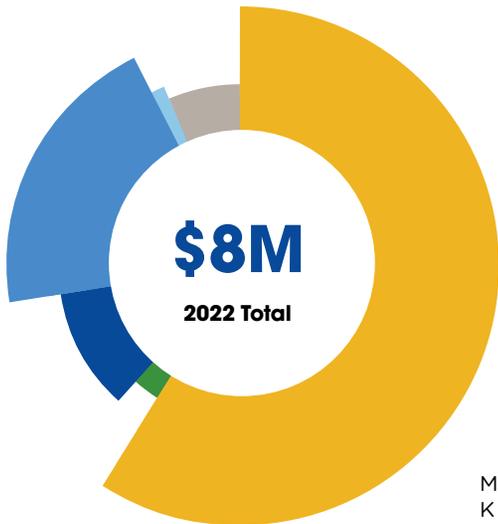
We often direct additional support as needed for meals and access to essential services when disaster strikes our communities. In 2022, the foundation directed grants to support local recovery efforts from tornadoes in Kansas, Ohio and Texas. In response to flooding in Eastern Kentucky, a foundation grant to Volunteers of America Mid-States helped local organizations coordinate flood relief.



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# Funding Overview

Foundation grants help advance the company’s strategic priorities, including our Zero Hunger | Zero Waste impact plan. We are committed to helping communities in the following focus areas:



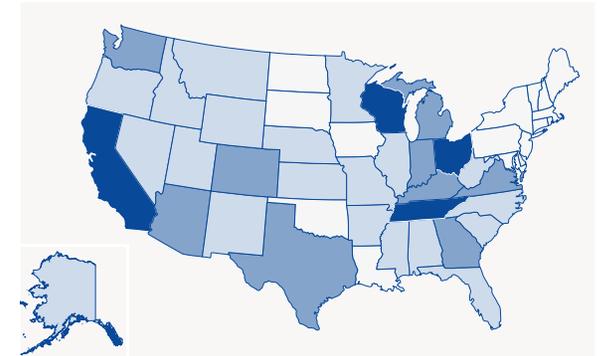
M = million  
K = thousand

## Total Giving in 2022: \$8M in grants<sup>3</sup>



\*Includes support for our nation’s active-duty military service members and programs to advance health and nutrition.

## Geographic Focus



## Funding Range



### Congressional Hunger Center

#### Developing Future Leaders in Food Security

The foundation supports the Bill Emerson National Hunger Fellowship, a program of the Congressional Hunger Center. This one-year fellowship aims to tackle hunger by connecting emerging leaders with organizations fighting hunger at national, state and local levels. The foundation has supported two Bill Emerson National Hunger Fellows each year since 2017.

In 2022, Lauren Drumgold of New York City worked with Chicago Food Policy Action Council in Chicago, IL, and Rajitmeet Singh of Los Angeles worked with UC Irvine Fresh Basic Needs Hub in Irvine, CA, to improve food security through advocacy, public policy and capacity building.



### Kroger Scholars

#### Awarding \$4.5M in Scholarships since 2008

In 2022, the foundation provided scholarships to 120 students who are dependents of eligible Kroger associates and pursuing a two- or four-year college degree or vocational certificate. Of all scholarship recipients, 98% were children of hourly Kroger associates.

*“I do not have enough ‘thank yous’ to say to the program sponsors for awarding me with this scholarship again! This scholarship means another year of college for me. This past year has been extremely rough on me and my family as my father has had to go to the hospital multiple times. This program and scholarship, however, have put hope back into me that I can do anything. I want to obtain my degree in hopes of giving back both to my family and in a similar way to others like me in the future. Thank you!”*

**Chelsea Nelson**  
Kroger Scholar 2022

3. Additional \$300K for Kroger Scholars reflected on Form 990 filings as a scholarship expense.

# Racial Equity Fund

The foundation's Racial Equity Fund aims to help expand opportunities for underrepresented groups across the United States. To date, the fund has directed a total of \$5.7 million in grants to non-profit organizations advancing meaningful change at the national and local levels. We continue to support and engage with earlier grantees in addition to supporting new organizations and initiatives.



## 2022 Highlights

### Zero Hunger | Zero Waste Innovation Challenge

In collaboration with the Thurgood Marshall College Fund, we hosted a second Zero Hunger | Zero Waste Innovation Challenge. The 2022 event was an in-person, three-day business pitch competition with 36 students from Historically Black Colleges and Universities (HBCUs) across the country. At the end of the competition, the foundation awarded a total of \$74,000 in scholarships for students.

### Game Changers Scholarship Program

Working together with Procter & Gamble (P&G), the foundation launched the inaugural Game Changers Scholarship Program to promote educational opportunities for women of color. Through this collaboration, we awarded \$25,000 in scholarships to five young women of color in the greater Cincinnati area in 2022. Based on the program's success, we plan to direct 23 scholarships of \$2,000 to diverse female students in 2023.

### Support for The Asian American Foundation

The foundation directed a \$1 million grant from the Racial Equity Fund to support the operations of The Asian American Foundation (TAAF) during Asian American and Pacific Islander (AAPI) Heritage Month. TAAF is a convener, incubator and funder committed to accelerating opportunity and prosperity for the AAPI community. The organization supports non-profit programs and advocates committed to AAPI causes, including those who are mobilized against hate and violence.



## Impact in Numbers

2022 Racial Equity Fund grants enabled:

**1,483**

students and community members to strengthen their innovation, entrepreneurial and financial literacy skills

**2**

grantees to improve the financial stability and overall capacity of nine other local organizations

**5**

tuition scholarships for students at HBCU LeMoyne-Owen College in Memphis

**45**

police departments engaged through the Urban League's Center for Social Justice to address the use of force in Cincinnati communities

# Join Our Journey



To request a grant, please visit  
[thekrogerco.versaic.com/login](http://thekrogerco.versaic.com/login)

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FOUNDATION

