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Only 3.6% of Grant Funds Awarded to Minorities
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According to the startling report, "Investing in a Diverse Democracy: Foundation Giving to Minority-Led Nonprofits," released by Greenlining Institute in January 2007, only 3.6% of grant funds were awarded to minority-led organizations. In an effort to understand how foundations are empowering minorities to be active in public policy discussions that affect their daily lives (water, energy, transportation, housing, education), Greenlining conducted a study, which analyzed three groups: national private foundations, California private foundations and California community foundations. The report shows that out of the top twenty-four national private foundations who awarded grants by race, 1.7% were awarded to African Americans, 1.0% were awarded to Asian/Pacific Islanders, 1.6% were awarded to Latinos, 0.7% were awarded to Native Americans and 2.7% were awarded to multi-cultural nonprofits. The study also reported that one of the largest California-based private foundations-- Moore -- ranked at the bottom, with a percentage of 0. John C. Gamboa, Executive Director of Greenlining Institute, stated that 5 out of 35 foundations obliged their request for grant information. Gamboa says that it is imperative for minorities to participate in more issues than immigration, affirmative action, welfare, etc. "This is only possible if our communities are provided the same opportunities and resources to learn, grow, and make mistakes that our predominately white counterpart organizations have received from foundations," says Gamboa.

In order to read the entire report, "Investing in a Diverse Democracy: Foundation Giving to Minority-Led Nonprofits," please visit www.greenlining.org