

WHERE'S THE PORK?

MAPPING \$2.3 TRILLION IN FEDERAL GRANTS (FY2017-FY2019)





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(FY2017–FY2019)**

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“OpenTheBooks is doing the work I envisioned when the Coburn-Obama bill became law. Their innovative app and other tools are putting sunlight through a magnifying glass.”

U.S. Senator Tom Coburn, MD

Washington, D.C. | March 11, 2014

Dedicated to Dr. Tom Coburn

OpenTheBooks Honorary Chairman

Rest In Peace - March 28, 2020

OUR REPORT MADE POSSIBLE BY:

The “Federal Funding Accountability and Transparency Act of 2006”

Sponsors: Sen. Tom Coburn (R-OK) & Sen. Barack Obama (D-IL)

(Public Law 109-282, 109th Congress)

“Is the spending in the public interest or the special interest?”

– U.S. Sen. Tom Coburn, MD

“I know that restoring transparency is not only the surest way to achieve results, but also to earn back the trust in government...”

– U.S. Sen. Barack Obama

JUST HOW MUCH FEDERAL WASTE, DUPLICATION AND WEIRD OR UNNECESSARY SPENDING ARE YOUR TAX DOLLARS FUNDING?

The ever-rising federal debt will soon surpass \$27 trillion – at least \$82,000 for every person in the U.S. Just how much federal waste, duplication, and weird or unnecessary spending are your tax dollars funding?

It's hard to know where to begin, but here are some starters.

Delving into the trillions of dollars in annual spending, we found federal grants funding sex education for prostitutes, puppet festivals, a climate change youth corps, religious hookers, alien detection, a social media war on tanning beds, and virtual book clubs in Afghanistan.

That's just the tip of the iceberg.

The feds doled out 2 million individual grants totaling \$2.3 trillion during fiscal years 2017-2019, the most recent years on record. This means, on average, each grant exceeded \$1 million. Not every federal grant is wasteful, but there are plenty that are highly questionable.

We discovered that politicians in both parties can't wait to spend your money: pork barrel spending is absolutely bipartisan. However, in the top 10 grant-receiving congressional districts, Democrats represented eight while two were represented by Republicans.

Health & Human Services (HHS) was the biggest porker by far – doling out roughly \$4 of every \$5 in federal grants. The total grant tab at HHS was \$1.5 trillion.

But, HHS wasn't the only wasteful spender. Twenty-one other federal agencies doled out more than \$1 billion in grants – and many of these agencies went off-mission in doing so.

Furthermore, we found for-profit companies and non-profit charities – both foreign and domestic – are all gaming the federal grants system. For example, we highlighted Fortune 100 companies, Ivy League colleges, the United Nations, the World Health Organization, and many more.

HOW DO WE REIGN IN THIS INSANITY?

Doing so will require well-informed taxpayers to demand answers:

- ❓ With \$27 trillion in national debt, how can congressional leaders argue there's nowhere to cut?
- ❓ Why is the federal government granting taxpayer dollars to asset-rich organizations that don't need the money?
- ❓ Why are leaders from both parties participating in these wasteful practices?

WHO WE ARE

American Transparency ([OpenTheBooks.com](https://www.openthebooks.com)) is a public charity. We do not accept government money. Our oversight reports present hard data so citizens, media, think tanks, politicians, and watchdogs can "follow the money." Hard facts are non-partisan and enhance the public discourse.



SCOPE & METHODOLOGY

Our Open the Books federal oversight report – *Where's the Pork?, Mapping \$2.3 Trillion In Federal Grants* – quantified federal grant-making expenditures and surveyed the givers and receivers of these grants during fiscal years 2017-2019.

Our auditors acquired the line-by-line federal grant transactions via the “Federal Funding Accountability and Transparency Act of 2006.” The data file consisted of nearly two million individual transactions.

Only data disclosed by the federal government was used in the creation of this report. To the extent that the government made mistakes, we have replicated those errors.

FLASHBACK: THE BROOKINGS INSTITUTION WASHINGTON D.C.

THE BROOKINGS INSTITUTION BASED IN WASHINGTON D.C. IS A TOP CENTER-LEFT, PUBLIC POLICY THINK TANK.

In 2017, our auditors found that Brookings [amassed nearly \\$20 million procuring contracts and grants from 50 federal agencies](#) – including

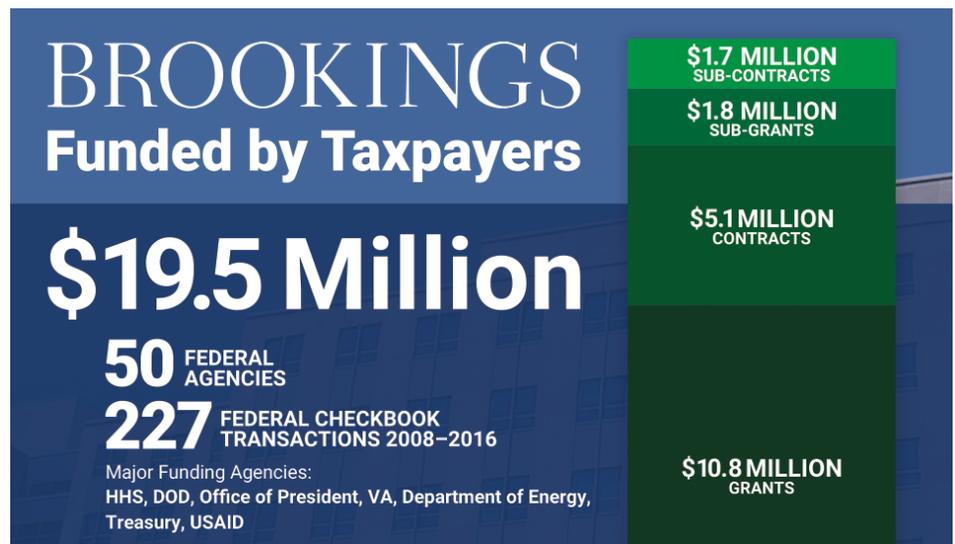
the Office of the President during the Obama administration (fiscal years 2008-2016). U.S. taxpayer-paid contracts and grants funded partisan advocacy projects and papers despite Brookings having [assets](#) of \$496 million (IRS 990, FY2014).

Brookings Senior Fellow Jonathan Rauch shockingly argued for “honest graft” in “The Case for Corruption” [published](#) by *The Atlantic* in 2014.

In December 2016, Brookings wrote the white paper on [how-to impeach](#) Donald Trump using the never-used Emoluments Clause and published it *before inauguration*.

In July 2020, FBI records showed that a Brookings fellow helped research the discredited Steele Dossier and the Brookings CEO helped [distribute](#) the final report. The Steele Dossier helped FBI agents convince the FISA court to issue wiretaps on the Trump presidential campaign in summer 2016.

Forbes For more information, read our research published at Forbes, [here](#).



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TOP 10 TAKEAWAYS

1 SUMMARY

Federal agencies awarded 1,999,811 grants for **\$2.3 trillion** (FY2017-FY2019). The average award during this period was **\$1,128,088**.

GRANT AMOUNT BY YEAR			
YEAR	TOTAL GRANT FUNDING	NUMBER OF GRANTS	AVERAGE GRANT AMOUNT
2017	\$713,058,436,039	649,741	\$1,097,450
2018	\$771,170,291,218	675,646	\$1,141,382
2019	\$771,733,854,274	674,424	\$1,144,285

Source: Federal Checkbook Data Compiled by openthebooks.com via Freedom of Information Act

2 PORK BARREL SPENDERS

Democrats held eight and Republicans held two of the top ten grant-receiving congressional districts. Among the top fifty grant-receiving districts, the Democrats held thirty seats and Republicans held twenty.

3 WASTE EXAMPLES

Hookers For Jesus (**\$530,190**); space alien detection (**\$549,974**); tai chi classes in senior centers (**\$671,251**); a “walk and talk” mobile app for Latinas (**\$1.4 million**); and creating outdoor gardens at schools (**\$1.6 million**). Taxpayers funded story time at laundromats (**\$248,200**); webcast-livestreamed eclipses (**\$1.9 million**); and sex education for prostitutes in Ethiopia (**\$2.1 million**).

4 TOP AGENCIES

Department of Health and Human Services (HHS) distributed **\$1.5 trillion** in grants – which was approximately seven of every ten dollars. Twenty-one other agencies awarded **\$1+ billion** in grants.

AGENCIES AWARDING OVER \$1 BILLION IN GRANTS	
AGENCY	TOTAL GRANT FUNDING
DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH AND HUMAN SERVICES (HHS)	\$1,542,790,883,045
DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION (DOT)	\$192,822,781,765
DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION (ED)	\$135,826,847,780
DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE (USDA)	\$110,808,526,323
DEPARTMENT OF HOUSING AND URBAN DEVELOPMENT (HUD)	\$64,422,645,055
AGENCY FOR INTERNATIONAL DEVELOPMENT (USAID)	\$35,201,732,943
DEPARTMENT OF HOMELAND SECURITY (DHS)	\$31,974,917,974
DEPARTMENT OF LABOR (DOL)	\$23,135,246,534
NATIONAL SCIENCE FOUNDATION (NSF)	\$21,246,387,117
DEPARTMENT OF DEFENSE (DOD)	\$18,510,643,740
DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE (DOJ)	\$14,556,258,855
ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION AGENCY (EPA)	\$12,782,824,266

Source: Federal Checkbook Data Compiled by OpenTheBooks.com via Freedom of Information Act

AGENCIES AWARDING OVER \$1 BILLION IN GRANTS (CONT.)

AGENCY	TOTAL GRANT FUNDING
DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR (DOI)	\$12,590,537,713
DEPARTMENT OF ENERGY (DOE)	\$9,216,495,170
DEPARTMENT OF STATE (DOS)	\$6,784,645,158
DEPARTMENT OF VETERANS AFFAIRS (VA)	\$5,473,148,909
DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE (DOC)	\$5,423,235,610
NATIONAL AERONAUTICS AND SPACE ADMINISTRATION (NASA)	\$3,256,284,674
CORPORATION FOR NATIONAL AND COMMUNITY SERVICE (CNCS)	\$1,945,532,903
DEPARTMENT OF THE TREASURY (TREAS)	\$1,267,971,243
MILLENNIUM CHALLENGE CORPORATION (MCC)	\$1,182,840,493
BROADCASTING BOARD OF GOVERNORS (BBG)	\$1,053,823,353

Source: Federal Checkbook Data Compiled by OpenTheBooks.com via Freedom of Information Act

5

UNITED NATIONS (UN)

59 agencies and entities of the UN received \$11.8 billion in grants from nine federal agencies during the three-year period.



8

FORTUNE 100

Ten companies received a combined **\$271.5 million** in federal grants (2017-2019). The top companies included **General Electric (\$114.5 million)**, **United Technologies (\$51.9 million)**, and **Boeing Corp. (\$27.4 million)**. Collectively, these three companies spent **\$174 million** lobbying Congress (2014-2017).

6

WORLD HEALTH ORGANIZATION

received an increase in funding during the first three-years of the Trump administration (2017-2019) vs. the first-three years of the Obama second-term (2013-2015): \$1.4 billion vs. \$1.1 billion (inflation adjusted).



9

TOP FOR-PROFITS

The top receiver was **Amtrak (\$5 billion)**. Amtrak's revenues were **\$10.2 billion**; therefore, federal grants comprised half of all revenues (2017-2019).

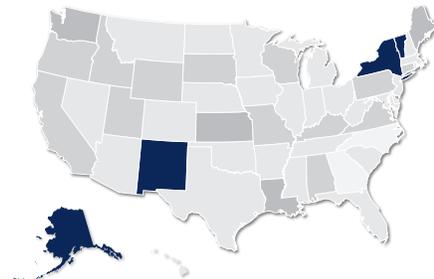
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IVY LEAGUE, INC.

The eight Ivies received **\$9.8 billion** in federal grants despite having a collective endowment of **\$140 billion** – which was up **\$20 billion** since 2016.

10

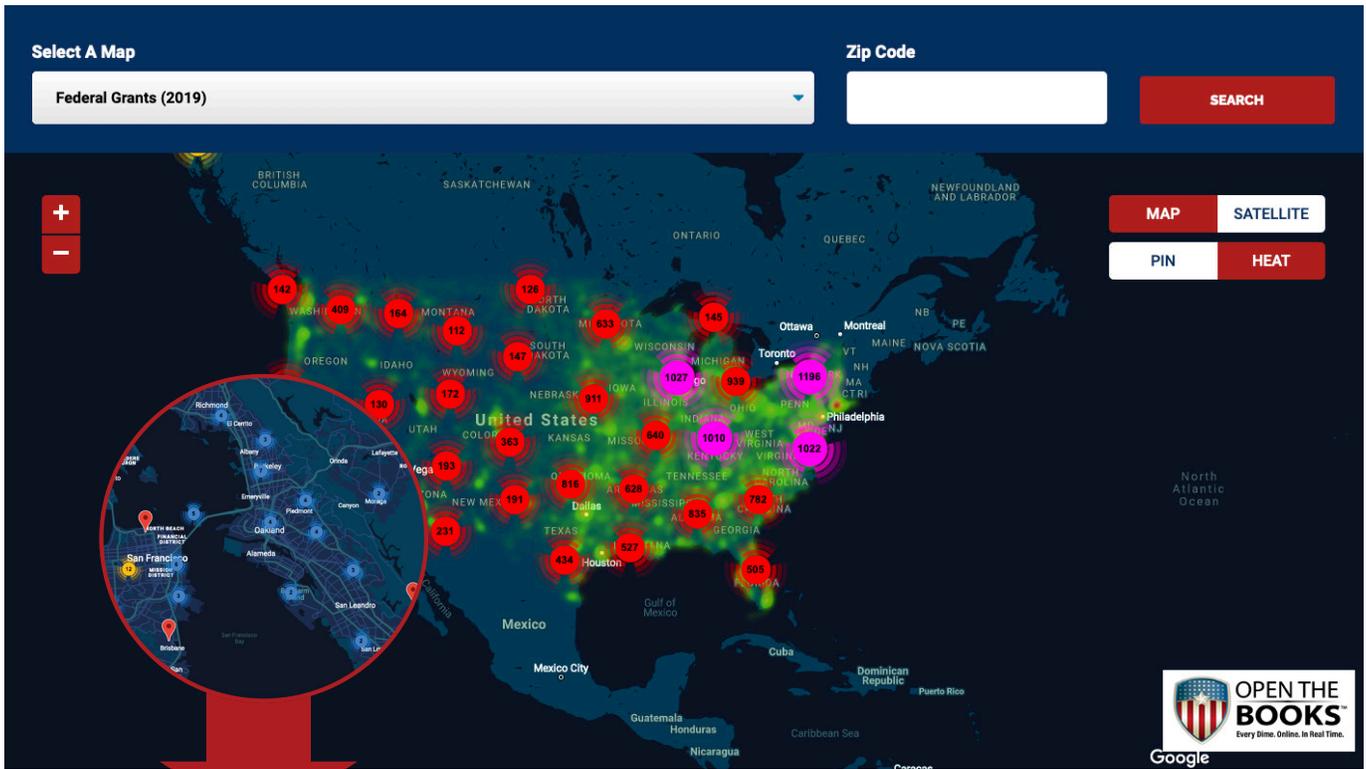
ECONOMIC SUBSIDY (PER CAPITA)



Washington D.C. received more than **\$58,000 per person**, followed by Alaska (**\$17,639**), New York (**\$10,987**), Vermont (**\$10,240**), and New Mexico (**\$9,944**). Despite the claim “taxation without representation,” DC certainly gets a lot of grants.

SEARCH BY ZIP CODE MAPPING FEDERAL GRANTS

[Search](#) our interactive map to review the grant-receivers by ZIP Code (FY2019). We mapped the latest year available so you can see who received how much. Simply click a pin and scroll down to see the results rendered in the chart beneath the map.



City	Recipient Name	Program Title	Award	Zip
OAKLAND	ALAMEDA, COUNTY OF	HIV EMERGENCY RELIEF PROJECT GRANTS	\$7,196,199.00	94607
OAKLAND	PORT OF OAKLAND	AIRPORT IMPROVEMENT PROGRAM	\$2,951,206.00	94607
OAKLAND	PUBLIC HEALTH INSTITUTE	SUBSTANCE ABUSE AND MENTAL HEALTH SERVICES PROJECTS OF REGIONAL AND NATIONAL SIGNIFICANCE	\$399,985.00	94607
OAKLAND	WEST OAKLAND HEALTH COUNCIL, THE	GRANTS FOR NEW AND EXPANDED SERVICES UNDER THE HEALTH CENTER PROGRAM	\$62,402.00	94607
OAKLAND	PUBLIC HEALTH INSTITUTE	CANCER TREATMENT RESEARCH	\$49,200.00	94607
OAKLAND	BETH EDEN HOUSING DEVELOPMENT	MULTIFAMILY HOUSING SERVICE COORDINATORS	\$20,268.00	94607
OAKLAND	PUBLIC HEALTH INSTITUTE	DRUG ABUSE AND ADDICTION RESEARCH PROGRAMS	(\$49.00)	94607
OAKLAND	CITY OF OAKLAND - OAKLAND POLICE DEPARTMENT	DNA BACKLOG REDUCTION PROGRAM	(\$58.00)	94607
OAKLAND	PUBLIC HEALTH INSTITUTE	ALCOHOL RESEARCH PROGRAMS	(\$71.00)	94607

PART 1

50 EXAMPLES OF WASTEFUL GRANTS





HOOKERS FOR JESUS: \$530,190

Rep. Susie Lee (D) | Congressional District: NV-3
Department of Justice

\$530,190 awarded to [Hookers For Jesus](#) as part of a “human trafficking services project.”

Hookers For Jesus “[addresses](#) the harmful effects of prostitution, sex trafficking, and sexual exploitation linked to pornography and the sex industry. ...Hook (Outreach) Give Hope (Jesus) Heal (emotional & spiritual restoration) and Help (Transitional Assistance) for those who have been negatively affected by sex trafficking and the adult entertainment industry.”

Background: The Department of Justice faced [scrutiny](#) for their grant to Hookers for Jesus because it passed over reputable and recommended anti-human trafficking groups.

CREATING NEW ALIEN DETECTION TECHNIQUES: \$7 MILLION

Rep. Eleanor Holmes Norton (D) | Congressional District: District of Columbia
National Aeronautics and Space Administration



\$549,974 awarded to Georgetown University to [help create new methods](#) to detect alien life. Georgetown has a \$1.7 billion endowment.

The grant description states: “We will bring together theoreticians and experimentalists as an incubator for new agnostic life detection approaches; create a common training set of biotic and abiotic test substrates; establish likelihoods and thresholds with probabilistic models; and develop a broader formulation of the ladder of life.

In the process we will merge the broad and narrow ends of the life detection spectrum into a collective dialogue one that will help us synthesize prioritize evaluate and strengthen the search for life on future space missions.”

The 2019 funding was part of a [broader program](#) at Georgetown receiving \$7 million from NASA to redefine extraterrestrial life detection.

WEBCAST LIVESTREAM OF ECLIPSES: \$3,731,622

Speaker Nancy Pelosi (D) | Congressional District: CA-12
National Aeronautics and Space Agency

\$1,898,899 awarded to The Exploratorium in 2019 to “produce and disseminate from the field” a live-feed with both live-hosted broadcasts and livestreams without commentary. The organization must create sharable online materials for each eclipse and write summaries and evaluations of the project.

For these purposes, the webcast of eclipses project [received](#) \$3.7 million in funding covering multiple years.



SEX EDUCATION FOR COMMERCIAL SEX WORKERS IN ETHIOPIA: \$2.1 MILLION

Centers For Disease Control

\$2.1 million to the Family Guidance Association of Ethiopia [targeted](#) female commercial sex workers with HIV testing, counseling, education, other STI screening and treatments. Free condom distribution, family planning, and TB screening were also included.



FLASHBACK: In 2016, \$1.4 million flowed to the Prostitutes Education Project in Los Angeles, California for sex and needle education.

JOHN F. KENNEDY CENTER FOR THE PERFORMING ARTS: \$8 MILLION

Rep. Eleanor Holmes Norton (D) | Congressional District: District of Columbia
Department of Education

\$8 million awarded to the John F. Kennedy Center for the Performing Arts for “arts in education” through the Office of Innovation and Improvement.

Activities [funded](#) by the grant include: professional development for arts educators; development and dissemination of instructional materials; arts-based educational programming; and community and national outreach activities to expand partnerships among schools, school districts, and communities throughout the country.



In March 2020, the CARES ACT (coronavirus stimulus bill) earmarked \$25 million to the Center. During the past ten years, the center received \$68.3 million in federal grants (2010-2019). The Kennedy Center has total assets of \$557 million disclosed on its latest IRS 990 Informational Return.

FUNDING SCHOOL-BASED GARDENING: **\$1,635,273**

Rep. Roger Williams (R) | Congressional District: TX-25
Department of Health and Human Services



\$845,572 awarded to the University of Texas at Austin to [study](#) whether or school garden benefit student health through increased access to fruits and vegetables. The study attempts to replicate the results of a previous study (\$789,701, University of Texas, 2015) which showed a reduction in body mass index (BMI) resulting from an increase in dietary fiber within low-income Hispanic students participating in school gardening and cooking programs in Los Angeles, California.

STUDYING TAI CHI TO ALLEVIATE STRESS AND CURE DEPRESSION IN SENIORS: **\$671,251**

Rep. Ted Lieu (D) | Congressional District: CA-33
Department of Health and Human Services



\$671,251 awarded to the University of California, Los Angeles (UCLA) to [study](#) 112 generically depressed adults. 10-weeks of Tai Chi engagement along with standard antidepressant treatment reportedly resulted in improved quality of life and cognitive function. The study did not conclude whether the results were lasting or significant.

UNIDOSUS - HOUSING COUNSELING ASSISTANCE PROGRAM: **\$4,521,911**

Rep. Eleanor Holmes Norton (D) | Congressional District: District of Columbia
Department of Housing and Urban Development

\$4,521,911 awarded to Unidosus (formerly National Council of La Raza) for housing counselling and assistance programs. Unidosus, is organized as an IRS 501(c)3 charity but describes itself as an “advocacy” organization. Mission posted online: “UnidosUS advocates for Latinos in the areas of civic engagement, civil rights and immigration, education, workforce and the economy, health, and housing.”

UnidosUS claims that it’s the largest Latino nonprofit advocacy organization in America and advocates in favor of progressive public policy changes. These changes included immigration reform, a path to citizenship for illegal immigrants, and reduced deportations.

The UnidosUS “fact sheet” [states](#) that advocacy is the third pillar of their mission and posted as their description listed on their [latest](#) IRS 990. U.S. taxpayers possibly fund that advocacy: direct federal awards amount to \$41.4 million (FY2008-FY2020).

The organization lists assets of \$72 million. Last year, their net assets increased by \$6 million year-over-year while they received \$4.5 million in federal grants.

USING FACEBOOK TO STOP NON-HETEROSEXUAL WOMEN FROM DRINKING TOO MUCH: \$210,776

Rep. Maxine Waters (D) | Congressional District: CA-43
Department Of Health And Human Services



\$210,776 awarded to Loyola Marymount University to [study](#) heavy drinking and alcohol-related problems experienced by sexual-minority identifying female Facebook users in Los Angeles. The research examined an “innovative gamified personalized normative feedback intervention to reduce drinking among members of a local sexual minority women community found to frequent Facebook.”



ROBERT REDFORD’S SUNDANCE INSTITUTE: \$295,000

Rep. Bob Bishop (R) | Congressional District: UT-1
National Endowment For The Arts

\$295,000 awarded to the Sundance Institute to support documentary filmmaking and independent filmmakers through knowledge exchange, collaboration, research, and strengthening distribution resources.

The Sundance Institute’s latest [IRS 990 lists](#) \$55.4 million in assets (FY2018). However, the Institute received \$4,015,000 in federal grants since 2008 including \$5,000 from the State Department.

DANCE PERFORMANCES AT THE CITY POOL: \$25,000

Rep. Lloyd Doggett (D) | Congressional District: TX-35
National Endowment for the Arts

\$25,000 awarded to Allison Orr Dance, Inc. to raise [awareness](#) regarding the importance of city pools in East Austin, Texas: “a dance for the city pool and its people.” The dances included “skilled movement and tell the often unheard stories of the people whose work sustains our daily lives.”





COLLEGE ENTRANCE EXAMINATION BOARD: \$1,077,228



Rep. Jerry Nadler (D) | Congressional District: NY-10
Department of Education

\$1,077,228 awarded to the College Entrance Examination Board (CEEB) for “college board educational opportunities.” These grants promote “college readiness.”

The CEEB administers the SAT college entrance tests, Advanced Placement (AP) testing programs, as well as other programs. Organized with the IRS as a [public](#) charity, CEEB disclosed \$1.1 billion in net assets in fiscal year 2018, the latest year available, and year-over-year net assets increased by \$36 million.

TRAINING HIGH SCHOOL COUNSELORS IN CHINA: \$57,500

Department of State

\$57,500 provided training to high school counselors in China (FY2017-FY2018). Five private schools received the funding. One of the schools has since been converted into a Chinese public school.

The Department of State’s educational and cultural exchange overseas program provided the funding. No further details were available.



SUPPORTING THE CHICAGO INTERNATIONAL PUPPET THEATER FESTIVAL: \$15,000

Rep. Danny Davis (D) | Congressional District: IL-7
National Endowment for the Arts

\$15,000 awarded to the Arts to Blair Thomas and Company supporting the Chicago International Puppet Theater Festival, a “12-day [festival](#) across the city featuring an entertaining and eclectic array of puppet styles from around the world including marionettes, shadow puppets, Bunraku puppets, tiny toy puppets, and distinctive, innovative styles of contemporary puppetry.”

STORY TIME AT THE LAUNDROMAT: \$248,200

Rep. Eleanor Holmes Norton (D) | Congressional District: District of Columbia
Institute of Museum and Library Services (IMLS)



\$248,200 awarded to Libraries Without Borders “refine, assess, and scale partnership models between public libraries and laundromats.” The two-year project was called the “Wash And Learn Initiative” and aimed to enhance story time at laundromats.

The purpose of the grant was to develop a national “Laundry Literacy Coalition.” This new coalition would be composed of trained librarians who gathered feedback and deploy new approaches to story time at laundromats. The organization spearheading this plan, Libraries Without Borders, [received](#) \$794,000 from the Alexander Soros Foundation in 2017.

WALK & TALK SOCIAL APP FOR LATINA EXERCISE: \$1.4 MILLION

Rep. Ami Bera (D) | Congressional District: CO-7
National Institute of Health | National Institute on Minority Health and Health Disparities

\$814,950 – the second grant-funding phase – was approved by the National Institute of Health, National Institute On Minority Health And Health Disparities. Grant recipient Klein Buendel, Inc. [hopes](#) to impact Latina health by “providing them with real-time opportunities to connect socially with the goal of walking.” The company further describes the technology as a “location based app that will help Latinas connect with nearby walking partners.”

Company spokesperson, Valerie Myers: “Caminemos Juntas! will be the first app that use geo-location technology dedicated to walking with a social emphasis, for any population.”

The federal government already has a \$619,156 investment in a phase one feasibility and assessment study for this app (2015). The taxpayer funded planning included building connections and gathering input from Latina community leaders, conducting an online survey to assess Latinas’ smartphone usage for health promotion, and other activities.



Klein Buendel, Inc. has received over \$42 million in federal grants since 2008.

AGA KHAN FOUNDATION USA: \$26,371,448

Rep. Eleanor Holmes Norton (D)
Congressional District: District of Columbia
Agency For International Development



\$26,371,448 awarded to Aga Khan Foundation USA for projects in Kenya, Mali, Tajikistan, and Kyrgyzstan to build “civil society,” “community health,” and “local development.”

In other years, interesting grants included:

- \$300,000 grant to support the Aga Khan Music Initiative (2018-2019).
- \$103,000 for the Conservation of the 17th-Century Tombs of Taramati and Premamati in India. Taramati and Premamati who were two famous courtesans (prostitutes) of the era.
- \$600,000 to support the conservation project of the Noh Gonbad Mosque in Afghanistan. The entire project’s budget was \$625,127 with \$592,200 coming from U.S. aid (2018-2019).

Aga Khan is a foundation founded and chaired by His Highness the Aga Khan. Prince Shāh Karim al-Husayni, known as His Highness the Aga Khan outside Ismaili Muslim communities. Aga Khan is the 49th and current Imam of Nizari Ismailism and a British/Portuguese business magnate worth an estimated \$800 million.

HARVARD ATTENDS “DEATH & DYING CONFERENCE” IN NAPLES, ITALY: \$25,000

Rep. Katherine Clark (D) | Congressional District: MA-5 | National Science Foundation (NSF)

\$24,999 awarded to Harvard for a workshop with ten participants at a conference held in Naples, Italy, on June 23-30, 2019. The workshop was entitled ["Historical and Social Perspectives on the Life Sciences Concerning Life and Death"](#) and delved into the “question of an afterlife.”

The “international collaborative workshop,” according to the Harvard grant application, was important because “biologists and social scientists today are carefully exploring the *ambiguous boundary between life and death.*” Emphasis added.

The NSF defended their actions, noting, “this award reflects the NSF’s statutory mission and has been deemed worthy of support through evaluation using the Foundation’s intellectual merit and broader impacts review criteria.”

On their latest available IRS 990 Informational Return, Harvard disclosed \$55.1 billion in assets and paid their president \$1.7 million. Harvard is a public education charity organized under 501(c) of the tax code.



NATIONAL LESBIAN & GAY JOURNALISTS ASSOCIATION: \$540,000

Rep. Eleanor Holmes Norton (D) | Congressional District: District of Columbia
Centers For Disease Control

\$135,000 annual grant (\$540,000 over four-years) to the National Lesbian & Gay Journalists Association (NLGJA) through the program [Partnering and Communicating Together to Act Against AIDS](#). The organization used this grant for [journalism training to enhance strategies and skills in covering HIV topics](#). The NLGJA is the professional association for lesbian and gay journalists.

WINCHELLEDOM: THE WORLD THAT WALTER WINCHELL BUILT: \$650,000

Rep. Jimmy Gomez (D) | Congressional District: CA-34
National Endowment for the Humanities

\$650,000 awarded to the International Documentary Association to [produce](#) a 60-minute documentary film about “the lasting cultural impact of gossip columnist, political commentator Walter Winchell.”

From the approved grant request, “Winchell’s primary objective is to explain the 20th century to his millions of readers. The fact is, however, that historians will be unable to explain the 20th century without understanding Winchell.”

The documentary, narrated by Whoopi Goldberg, will be released in the Fall of 2020.



NEW YORK SHAKESPEARE FESTIVAL: \$365,000

Rep. Carolyn Maloney (D) | Congressional District: NY-12
National Endowment for the Arts

\$365,000 awarded to the New York Shakespeare Festival. Since 2009, the New York Shakespeare Festival has received \$1 million from the National Endowment for the Arts. After a 2017 performance of Julius Caesar featured the assassination of a leader costumed similarly to President Trump, Delta Airlines and Bank of America cut ties with the group.

The Festival had \$53 million in assets and its top three executives collectively earned \$1 million in annual compensation (FY2017).



Courtesy Tammy Shell

FUNDING A FREQUENTLY INVESTIGATED CHILDCARE FACILITY IN TEXAS: \$32.6 MILLION

Rep. Pete Olson (R) | Congressional District: TX-22
Department Of Health And Human Services

\$32.6 million funded the Shiloh Treatment Center for a variety of children's mental health services (FY2013-FY2020). The center is a private rehab facility [specializing](#) in the treatment of mental health located in Manvel, Texas. In 2019, grants amounting to \$5.5 million continued.



Shiloh [has been the subject](#) of local, state, and federal investigations and defunding efforts from a bipartisan congressional coalition. Rep. Sheila Jackson Lee (D) came out against Shiloh in 2014, [stating](#) “the abuses documented by the Houston Chronicle indicate that the Shiloh Treatment Center in Manvel should be closed because it is unsafe for any children.” Rep. Pete Olson (R), also, came out against Shiloh in 2018.

The official website of Shiloh Treatment Center, Inc. has only two paragraphs addressing these accusations, denying any wrongdoing, and claiming that they follow the law.

WORKSHOPS FOR INDIAN AND PAKISTANI JOURNALISTS: \$583,258

Rep. Ed Case (D) | Congressional District: HI-1 | Department of State

\$583,258 awarded to the East and West, Inc. for “Four, week-long journalism workshops bringing together a total 40 Pakistani and 40 Indian journalists.”

The East West Center [reported](#) that the grant helped “facilitate cross-border professional journalist exchanges through reporting trips and dialogues” and “foster long-term professional relationships among Indian and Pakistani journalists and media organizations.”

ARAB AND JEWISH YOUTH PLAYING STEEL DRUMS INDIVIDUALLY AND AS A GROUP: \$150,000

Rep. Dwight Evans (D) | Congressional District: PA-3 | Department of State

\$150,000 awarded to [Peace Drums USA](#), Inc. to “engage 150 Arab and Jewish youth in playing the steel drums individually and as a group.”

A reporter at Medium [commented](#) that this project creates a “unique interfaith initiative that promotes peace between Arab and Jewish youth in Israel/Palestine by introducing reconciliation and harmony through the shared activity of a dynamic steel drum band.”

LIKES PINS AND VIEWS: ENGAGING MOMS ON TEEN INDOOR TANNING THRU SOCIAL MEDIA: **\$3,282,739**

Rep. Ami Bera (D) | Congressional District: CO-7 | Health and Human Services

\$3,282,739 [awarded](#) to the Klein Buendel, Inc. to influence and engage mothers regarding teenage use of indoor tanning. In 2019, \$607,418 was awarded for this multi-year social media campaign.

The company [also received federal funding](#) for other indoor tanning studies and the use of social media as a tool to limit usage. Klein Buendel, Inc. has received over \$42 million in federal grants since 2008.

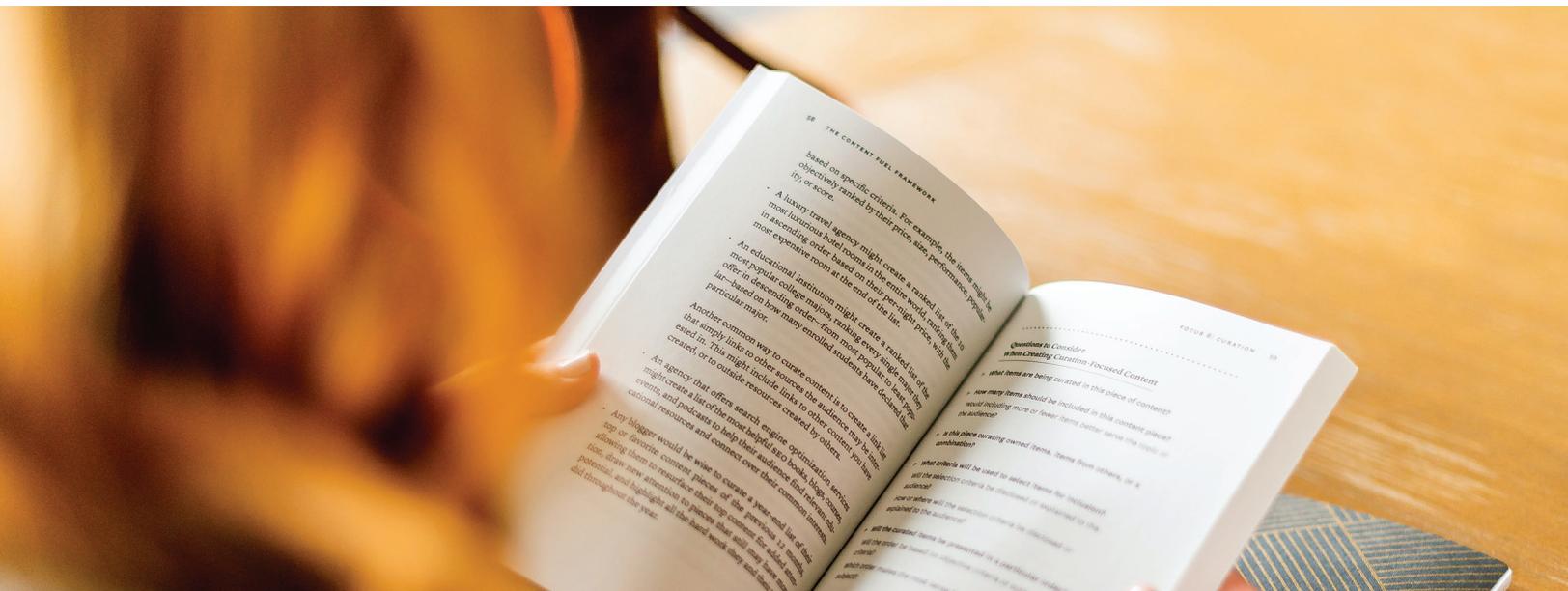


20-MONTH VIRTUAL BOOK CLUB FOR PAKISTANIS AND AFGHANS: **\$116,068**

Department of State

\$116,068 awarded to Citizens Archive of Pakistan (CAP) for a “20-month virtual book club program connecting twelve cities in Pakistan with twelve cities in Afghanistan.”

CAP, based in Karachi, claims to be a “non-profit organization dedicated to cultural and historic preservation and educational outreach.” Information on the organization or virtual book club cannot be gathered from CAP’s official website, citizenarchive.org, which is defunct as of this writing. Some information about the program can be gleaned [from fourteen tweets](#) that CAP posted since May 2020, one of which mentions that the book club will serve “360 students.”



COMIC BOOK SUPERHEROES TO FIGHT EXTREMISM: \$150,000

Department of State

\$150,000 awarded to Malo Pictures SARL to “convert a TV series into a graphic novel and create a ten issue superhero comic book addressing anti-violent extremism themes.”

NPR [reported](#) that “the story bursts off the screen—disguises, deception and victory against extremists,” and provides positive role models for the children of Jordan, -- where kids “didn't really have any, though they heard a lot about someone called Osama bin Laden.”



SIX FOREIGN POLICY THINK TANKS AND POLICY GROUPS FUNDED BY TAXPAYERS: \$16.1 MILLION

Department of State | Agency For International Development (USAID) Department of Justice (DOJ)

\$16.1 million awarded to ten foreign policy think tanks including the German Marshall Fund (\$5.4 million – State, USAID,), Overseas Development Institute (\$3.5 million-- USAID), Institute for Strategic Dialogue (\$2.3 million -- State), Association of Ukrainian Cities (\$2.2 million-- USAID), Hudson Institute (\$1.5 million – DOJ), and the Tony Blair Institute (\$1.2 million -- USAID).

The German Marshall Fund functions as a memorial to the Marshall Plan of WWII. The Overseas Development Institute and Institute For Strategic Dialogue are center-left think tanks both based in England. The Association of Ukrainian Cities is a group of 574 cities and municipal governments, which “contributes to the conceptual, legislative, financial and practical aspects of local self-government development in Ukraine.” Hudson Institute is a center-right foreign policy think tank based in the U.S. with \$36 million in assets. The Tony Blair Institute, based in England, advocates views of the former prime minister.

BATTLEVIRO: A MOBILE GAMING APP TO ENCOURAGE HIV YOUTH TO TAKE MEDICATION: \$709,338

Rep. David Cicilline (D) | Congressional District: RI-1 National Institute of Mental Health



National Institute
of Mental Health

\$709,338 awarded to Brown University to conduct a multisite randomized trial of Battleviro: a mobile gaming app designed to improve the odds that youth will take their medicine.

The [abstract](#) of the study explains that “During gameplay, [kids] fight HIV in colorful and immersive organ systems and receive adherence related text messages with game graphics.”

Brown University received the grant despite a \$4.2 billion endowment.

DIGITALIZING YALE'S BABYLONIAN COLLECTION: \$341,924

Rep. Rosa DeLauro (D) | Congressional District: CT-3 | National Endowment for the Humanities

\$341,924 awarded to Yale University to “digitalize the Yale Babylonian Collection.” The holdings of the Yale Babylonian Collection features over 45,000 objects from the early Christian Era in the Mesopotamia region. Most of objects are texts cones, prisms, or other objects inscribed with writing.”

Yale's [website](#) says the “tablets in the collection have been catalogued and described in an electronic database.”



Yale currently has an endowment of over \$30.3 billion (2019).

DRUG USE AMONG NIGHTCLUB AND DANCE FESTIVAL ATTENDEES IN NYC: \$496,223



Rep. Carolyn Maloney (D)
Congressional District: NY-12
National Institute of Drug Abuse

\$496,223 awarded to New York University to study “drug use among nightclub and dance festival attendees in New York City.”

An [abstract](#) says the study “will examine the prevalence of drug use, risk factors for use, and self-reported adverse outcomes associated with use, among nightclub and dance festival attendees.”

New York University has a \$4.35 billion endowment (2019).

METROPOLITAN MUSEUM OF MODERN ART (THE MET): \$4.2 MILLION

Rep. Jerry Nadler (D) | Congressional District: NY-10
National Endowment for the Arts and other agencies

With a \$3.6 billion endowment and \$4.4 billion in total assets, its trustees have a combined [net worth](#) of \$500 billion. In IRS tax [filings](#), the museum reported that its CEO, Daniel H. Weiss, received total compensation of nearly \$1.2 million last year.

Yet, since 2008, the organization received \$4.2 million in federal grants and \$210,000 since 2017. Last year, the Met disclosed \$342,708 spent on lobbying. This year, the organization [started a petition](#) lobbying Congress for a \$4 billion coronavirus bailout of America's museums.



The Met's funding comes from four federal agencies including the Energy Department, National Endowment for the Arts, Institute for Museum and Library Services, and National Science Foundation.

AFRICAN PARKS FOUNDATION OF AMERICA: \$2.6 MILLION

Rep. Carolyn Maloney (D) | Congressional District: NY-12
Department of the Interior, Fish and Wildlife Service

\$2.6 million awarded to African Parks Foundation of America to:

“...expand the conservation successes in Zakouma National Park (ZNP), Chad, to the greater Zakouma ecosystem (GZE), representing a ten-fold increase in wildlife habitat under improved management and protection.”

African Parks manages 18 national parks and protected areas in 11 countries covering over 14.1 million hectares in 11 African countries. Activities include: expanding law enforcement and wildlife monitoring efforts, working with communities to develop “stakeholder-based land-use plans” and “monitoring the movements and impacts of nomadic groups.”

Prince Harry, the Duke of Sussex, is the president of the African Parks Network, of which African Parks Foundation of America is a member.



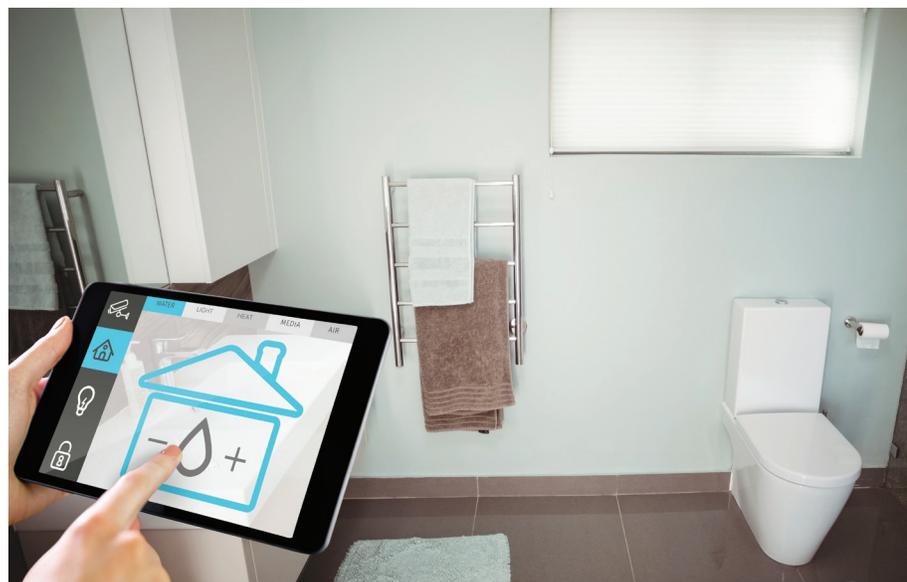
SMART TOILET AND MOBILE APP: \$142,309

Rep. David Price (D) | Congressional District: NC-4 | National Institute of Health

\$142,309 awarded to Bender Tech, Inc. to create a “smart toilet and mobile app.”

The description specifies the smart toilet is for “passively quantifying objective urinary biomarkers of dietary intake and personalizing nutrition guidance.” A recent [report](#) from Stanford Medicine says the toilet will “use motion sensing to deploy a mixture of tests that assess the health of any deposits. Urine samples undergo physical and molecular analysis; stool assessment is based on physical characteristics.”

Health advice from your potty!





CULTURALLY SENSITIVE APP TO HELP LATINOS QUIT SMOKING: \$224,989

Rep. Michael McCaul (R) | Congressional District: TX-10 | National Institutes of Health

\$224,989 awarded to Health Behavior Solutions, Inc. to create a “culturally sensitive, evidence-based, Spanish language mobile app for smoking cessation for Latino cigarette smokers.”



National Institutes
of Health

The background of the [study](#) says that, “Many believe that smoking cessation programs for Latinos should be tailored to the values and beliefs of the culture. However, randomized studies of culturally appropriate smoking cessation interventions with Latinos are rare.”

Health Behavior Solutions, Inc. is founded by Dr. Richard Brown and Jay Brown. Dr. Richard Brown is practiced in receiving government grants as research professor at the University of Texas, Austin where according to his LinkedIn he “received 17 NIH and 2 American Cancer Society-funded grants as PI, totaling over \$22 million dollars. Also served as Co-PI or Co-Investigator on 22 NIH-funded grants, totaling another \$34 million dollars.”

IMPROVING HIV SERVICE DELIVERY FOR PEOPLE WHO INJECT DRUGS IN KAZAKHSTAN: \$911,690

Rep. Adriano Espaillat (D) | Congressional District: NY-13 | National Institute of Health

\$911,690 awarded to Columbia University for the purpose of “improving HIV service delivery for people who inject drugs in Kazakhstan.”

The background of the [study](#) details that “Injection drug use remains a large contributor to the HIV epidemic in Kazakhstan, a country with an estimated 127,800 people who inject drugs,” and that the study “tests effectiveness and implementation outcomes simultaneously to provide evidence supporting the successful delivery of the Bridge intervention in needle and syringe programs.”

AIRPORT SUBSIDY AT MARTHA'S VINEYARD: \$42,901,593

Rep. William Keating (D) | Congressional District: MA-9 | Federal Aviation Administration

\$1,291,383 awarded to County of Dukes in 2019 for “airport improvements.” Martha’s Vineyard at Edgartown is a top destination for the East Coast moneyed elites and Hollywood moguls. It has been called the playground of the rich and famous.

Between 2008 and 2020, federal taxpayers provided \$42,901,593 to fund airport improvements. In 2018 alone, \$10.8 million funded the upgrades.

However, the landing fees seem [low](#), as a Boeing 737 is only charged \$400. Private air charters are a big business, with twelve charter companies listed on the airport website. The airport [hosts](#) over 41,000 flights per year.



CONVINCING JAPANESE PEOPLE THAT AMERICA IS GOOD AT SPORTS: \$50,000

Department of State

\$50,000 awarded to Kawasaki City in Japan to “invite a team or speakers from the United States to highlight to the Japanese society that America is a strong partner/leader in the field of sports.”

CRICKET LESSONS IN PUNJAB, INDIA: \$49,989

Department of State

\$49,989 awarded to the Shahid Afridi Foundation to “organize 10 cricket coaching camps in various cities of Punjab.”

Shahid Afridi Foundation is founded by and named after a famous Pakistani cricket player. The organizations’ aim is to “improve the conditions of underprivileged communities in terms of Education, healthcare service, Access to Water and Sports Rehabilitation.”





AN AMERICAN SONG CONTEST FOR HIGH SCHOOL STUDENTS IN BISHKEK, KYRGYZSTAN: \$45,000

Department of State

\$45,000 awarded to the Public Foundation Sun People to “organize an American song contest for students of secondary schools in Bishkek and regions.”

Bishkek is located in Kyrgyzstan, and according to a [US Embassy](#) account of a prior year’s contest, “This performance is the culmination of months of school, city, and regional level competitions. Over 600 students from 61 secondary schools in Batken, Naryn, Issyk Kul regions and Bishkek took part in the contest, which was organized by the Sun People Public Fund, the American Music Center in the Kyrgyz Republic, and Forum Association of English Language Teachers. Twelve winners, three from each region, will participate in a gala performance in Bishkek alongside Kyrgyz pop singers.”

ICE DRILLING AT DARTMOUTH COLLEGE: \$3,231,464

Rep. Ann Kuster (D) | Congressional District: NH-2 | National Science Foundation (NSF)

\$3,231,464 awarded to Dartmouth College for their “Ice Drilling Program”.

According to the NSF [webpage](#) on the Ice Drilling program, the goal of the project is to “lead integrated planning for ice coring and drilling and provision of drills and drilling services.” The reason is that “the subglacial realm preserves unique biological, geochemical, and geological environments. Extracting this information involves drilling and coring of the polar ice sheets, a specialized and challenging endeavor that requires extensive planning, technology, and logistics.”

Dartmouth College currently holds a \$5.73 billion endowment (2019).



YALE: TV NEWS CONSUMPTION AND POLITICAL ATTITUDES: \$666,276

Rep. Rosa DeLauro (D) | Congressional District: CT-3 | National Science Foundation (NSF)

\$666,276 awarded to Yale University for “a new dataset and field experiment on television news consumption and political attitudes.”

From the grant [abstract](#): “Does left- and right-leaning partisan media undermine democratic accountability and contribute to polarization? Could nudges to promote more balanced media diets stick and, in the long run, increase democratic accountability and reduce polarization? This project will investigate these questions using a novel dataset matching panel survey responses to TV viewership data and a randomized field experiment.”

Yale currently holds a \$30.31 billion endowment (2019).



AUBURN: STUDYING THE PHYSICS OF WIND MUSICAL INSTRUMENTS: \$117,641

Rep. Mike Rogers (R) | Congressional District: AL-3 | National Science Foundation

\$117,641 awarded to Auburn University to study the “physics of wind musical instruments.”

According to a grant [abstract](#), “This project will use the approach known as ‘direct numerical simulation’ to obtain solutions of the Navier-Stokes equations for a variety of wind instruments.”

Auburn currently holds an endowment of \$793 million (2019).



PENSION RIGHTS CENTER: \$403,527

Rep. Eleanor Holmes Norton (D) | Congressional District: District of Columbia
Administration For Community Living

\$403,527 awarded to The Pension Rights [Center](#) a “nonprofit consumer organization committed to protecting and promoting the retirement security of American workers, retirees, and their families” that exists to “secure economic justice.”

This center functions as the [National Pension Assistance Resource Center](#) for the Administration For Community Living which provides support to agency projects, State and Area Agencies on Aging, Aging and Disability Resource Centers, legal services providers, and others by providing substantive legal training, technical assistance, and programmatic consultation.

Since 2008, The Pension Rights Center received \$4.8 million in federal grants.

Background: Economic justice advocates progressive taxation to remedy perceived income inequality to redistribute wealth to education, infrastructure, affordable housing, etc.

EXTON PARK: COMPLETE WITH ZIP LINES, TREE HOUSES, DISC GOLF, AND CLIMBING TOWER: \$500,000

Rep. Scott Perry (R) | Congressional District: PA-10 | National Park Service

\$500,000 awarded to the Pennsylvania Department of Conservation & Natural Resources to develop Exton Park, complete with a “zip line,” “climbing tower,” “tree house,” and “disc golf course.”

From their [website](#); additional renovations include a dog park, picnic pavilion, and nature themed playgrounds.

URBAN CLIMATE ACTION NETWORK FOR YOUTH: \$387,075

Rep. Kweisi Mfume (D) | Congressional District: MD-7
Institute of Museum and Library Services (IMLS)

\$387,075 awarded to the National Aquarium to establish the Urban Climate Action Network for Youth, a national urban climate change youth corps (2017). This project will leverage the specialized resources and expertise of the aquarium, the American Planning Association, the national Religious Partnership for the Environment, and the Antarctic and Southern Ocean Coalition to form, train, and activate a network of youth from underserved neighborhoods in eight cities nationwide.

The project will result in an innovative model targeted to underserved populations that are adaptable and scalable for other urban-based aquariums and museums.

EXHIBITION FROM MODERNIST LANDSCAPE DESIGNER ROBERTO BURLE MARX IN NEW YORK: \$50,000

Rep. Alexandria Ocasio-Cortez (D) | Congressional District: NY-14
National Endowment for the Arts



Sai Mokhtari / Gothamist

\$50,000 awarded to the New York Botanical Garden to “support an exhibition on the work of Brazilian modernist landscape designer and artist Roberto Burle Marx”.

According to their [website](#), the exhibit encourages visitors to “Feel his artistic energy and love of plants during our Garden-wide exhibition of lush gardens, paintings, drawings, and textiles.”

With investments [exceeding](#) \$315 million dollars, well-connected board members include Sigourney Weaver and NYC Mayor Bill de Blasio. Since 2010, the Botanical Garden received \$24.3 million in federal grants. Last year, the Garden spent \$127,261 lobbying and total assets [increased](#) from \$575.6 million to \$606.8 million.

DISABILITY AND IDENTITY IN HISTORY AND LITERATURE: \$107,301

Rep. Rashida Tlaib (D) | Congressional District: MI-13 | National Endowment for the Arts

\$107,301 awarded to Wayne State University, Professor of Inclusive Education, to study “disability and identity in history and literature.”

Wayne State University [says](#) that the “Outcomes include understanding disability and identity; analyzing disability and identity in K-12 humanities curriculum; translating knowledge and analysis into K-12 teaching; and building a national network of resources and K-12 colleagues exploring disability and identity in the humanities curriculum.”

SCHOOL ARCHERY AND CLAY SHOOTING IN SOUTH CAROLINA: **\$176,743**

Rep. James Clyburn (D) | Congressional District: SC-6 | Department of the Interior



\$176,743 awarded to the South Carolina Department of National Resources to expand the national archery and scholastic clay target sports within K-12 schools in South Carolina.

Changing lives one arrow at a time.

The National Archery in the Schools Program (NASP) is [a joint venture](#) between state departments of Education and Wildlife. Several archery equipment manufactures and organizations are also partners.

The core content covers archery history, safety, technique, equipment, mental concentration, and self-improvement. The students shoot at bullseye targets placed before an arrow resistant net in their gymnasium.

PERSONALIZED MOBILE COOKING APP FOR MIDDLE SCHOOL CHILDREN: **\$749,963**

Rep. Anna Eshoo (D) | Congressional District: CA-18
National Science Foundation

\$749,963 awarded to Chef Koochooloo, Inc for “STEM education through a personalized mobile cooking app for K-8 students.”

The [app](#) “allows users to learn about various topics-including STEAM (mainly science and math), nutrition, and geography” through a “culturally sensitive” curriculum.

Three staff are named on the Chef Koochooloo website: CEO and COO Layla Sabourian-Tarwe and Antoine Tarwe, and their daughter, Delarai Tarwe, a ten year old the website claims is “one of the youngest entrepreneurs in the world.” Delarai’s duties at the organization include “personally test[ing] recipes” and making “regular TV appearances.”





PART 2
MACRO ANALYSIS

FOR-PROFIT COMPANIES

Nearly 1,500 government-labeled “For-Profit Organization(s)” received federal grants during fiscal years 2017-2019.

TOP 10 GRANT-RECEIVING FOR-PROFIT ORGANIZATIONS	
FOR-PROFIT ORGANIZATION NAME	TOTAL GRANT FUNDING
NATIONAL RAILROAD PASSENGER CORPORATION (AMTRAK)	\$5,006,671,797
NEW JERSEY TRANSIT CORPORATION	\$2,835,822,716
ABT ASSOCIATES INC.	\$313,044,437
GENERAL ATOMICS	\$299,751,601
UNIVERSITY RESEARCH CO., LLC	\$245,922,221
PALLADIUM INTERNATIONAL, LLC	\$205,122,745
COMPREHENSIVE HEALTH SERVICES, LLC	\$196,863,870
ACELERO, INC.	\$190,753,557
NUSCALE POWER, LLC	\$149,099,158
EDUCATION DEVELOPMENT CENTER, INC.	\$133,587,270

Source: Federal Checkbook Data Compiled by OpenTheBooks.com via Freedom of Information Act



CASE STUDIES



NATIONAL RAILROAD PASSENGER CORPORATION (AMTRAK): \$5 BILLION

[Amtrak](#) is a “corporation striving to deliver a high quality, safe, on-time rail passenger service that exceeds customer expectations.” It’s a private company, yet all shares of stock are owned by the federal government. *Since its founding in 1970, Amtrak has never had a profitable year.*

\$5 billion awarded to Amtrak by the Department of Transportation helped fund business operating expenses. No other for-profit entity in the database received more federal grants (FY2017-FY0219).

Despite the large subsidies, Amtrak declared losses of \$392 million during the three-year period.



NEW JERSEY TRANSIT CORPORATION: \$2.8 BILLION

The New Jersey Transit Corporation is state-government owned for-profit corporation and provides “safe, reliable, convenient and cost-effective transit service with a skilled team of employees.”

Only Amtrak received more federal grant subsidies in the for-profit category. Individual grants funded, “Hoboken long slip flood protection;” “FY2017 section 5307 urbanized area formula grant;” “light rail vehicle capacity extenders;” and more.

In 2019, NJTC funded 20-percent of the operating [budget](#) out of their capital budget – \$460 million. Stripping capital budgets (equipment and infrastructure repairs and upgrades) for operations is a sign of acute fiscal trouble.



FORTUNE 100 COMPANIES

Ten “Fortune 100” companies received federal grants totaling \$271.5 million for fiscal years 2017-2019. The top three companies spent \$174 million on lobbying during the period ending 2014-2017. For more information, read our research published at Forbes, [here](#).

FORTUNE 100 COMPANIES RECEIVING FEDERAL GRANTS	
COMPANY	TOTAL GRANT FUNDING
GENERAL ELECTRIC	\$114,474,842
UNITED TECHNOLOGIES	\$51,929,575
BOEING	\$27,389,560
GENERAL MOTORS	\$23,892,806
GENERAL DYNAMICS	\$22,307,636
FORD MOTOR	\$12,272,007
HONEYWELL INTERNATIONAL	\$8,707,186
3M	\$5,225,149
CATERPILLAR	\$2,761,164
EXELON	\$2,574,161

Source: Federal Checkbook Data Compiled by OpenTheBooks.com via Freedom of Information Act



CASE STUDIES

GENERAL ELECTRIC (GE): \$114.5 MILLION



GE received the most federal grants of the Fortune 100 and ranked 21st largest by revenues. In a five-year period ending in 2018, GE spent \$53 million lobbying Congress on 232 bills. During a recent four-year period ending in FY2017, GE received \$7.2 billion in federal contracts and grants.

[General Electric](#) “drives the world forward by tackling its biggest challenges, bringing real progress and possibility to every corner of the planet – safely delivering people where they need to go.”

UNITED TECHNOLOGIES (UTX): \$51.9 MILLION



UTX received the second-most federal grants of Fortune 100 companies and ranked 46th largest by revenues. In a five-year period ending in 2018, UT spent \$46 million lobbying. UTX executives, lobbyists, and key employees are the largest career campaign contributor to Rep. John Larson (D-CT) who sits on the powerful House Ways and Means Committee.

For example, in 2019, Larson issued a press release saying he “voted for the FY2020 National Defense Authorization Act... As co-chair Joint Strike Fighter Caucus, I have led the fight for continued production of the F-35 Joint Strike Fighter. The bill secures authorization for 90 F-35 Joint Strike Fighters (12 more than the President’s Budget Request).” The F-35 Joint Strike Fighter is powered by Pratt & Whitney engines, a company owned by UTX.

[United Technologies](#) is a “leader in the global building and aerospace industries.”

BOEING CORP.: \$27.4 MILLION



Boeing received the third-most federal grants of Fortune 100 companies and ranked 28th largest by revenues. In a five-year period ending in 2018, Boeing spent \$74.4 million lobbying Congress on 178 bills.

[Boeing](#) is the “world’s largest aerospace company and leading manufacturer of commercial jetliners, defense, space and security systems, and service provider of aftermarket support.”

During the period 2014-2017, Boeing received \$81.3 billion in federal contracts. Boeing was also [contracted with](#) the Export-Import Bank (a federal agency) for \$60 billion in taxpayer-backed lending and insurance supporting overseas airplane sales (2007-2014).

In a ten-year period ending in 2017, Boeing [paid no federal income taxes](#) in five of those years.

NON-PROFIT ORGANIZATIONS

14,938 “Non-Profit” organizations were awarded \$28.5 billion in grants during fiscal years 2017-2019. Many of the top non-profits are healthcare organizations, research institutes, and community development organizations.

The United Nations, World Health Organization, and the Ivy League colleges are three examples of large federal grant recipients.

TOP 10 GRANT-RECEIVING NONPROFIT ORGANIZATIONS

NONPROFIT ORGANIZATION NAME	TOTAL GRANT FUNDING	TOTAL REVENUE	TOTAL ASSETS
MASSACHUSETTS GENERAL HOSPITAL*	\$1,462,397,581	\$13,608,966,341	\$18,199,079,471
SOUTHWEST KEY PROGRAMS, INC.	\$1,460,544,129	\$408,931,970	\$165,450,859
FAMILY HEALTH INTERNATIONAL	\$1,227,306,731	\$829,738,462	\$263,851,448
HENRY M. JACKSON FOUNDATION	\$1,195,432,216	\$510,718,713	\$277,974,134
BRIGHAM AND WOMEN'S HOSPITAL, INC.*	\$1,112,213,106	\$13,608,966,341	\$18,199,079,471
CATHOLIC RELIEF SERVICES	\$1,021,497,520	\$989,355,000	\$184,840,000
VANDERBILT UNIVERSITY MEDICAL CENTER	\$1,005,169,471	\$4,137,532,642	\$3,192,191,146
MAYO CLINIC	\$904,645,788	\$6,142,231,316	\$11,310,805,903
FRED HUTCHINSON CANCER RESEARCH CENTER	\$833,467,959	\$726,527,000	\$1,318,770,000
SCRIPPS RESEARCH INSTITUTE	\$686,801,643	\$380,130,505	\$791,941,824

* Revenue and Assets are Partners Healthcare System

Source: Federal Checkbook Data Compiled by openthebooks.com via Freedom of Information Act

Revenue and Assets Data: IRS 990 Documents or Annual Report



CASE STUDIES



UNITED NATIONS (UN): \$11,822,901,417

The United Nations (UN) received federal grants into 59 separate entities for \$11.8 billion from nine agencies (FY2017-FY2019). Programing included food and habitat assistance around the world, farming and marine fisheries assistance, food and drug research, global aids support, counter narcotics, criminal justice, environmental, counter terrorism, global peace, Middle East partnerships, human trafficking, weapons removal, border security, and financial security issues.

NINE FEDERAL AGENCIES PROVIDING FUNDING TO THE UN

FEDERAL AGENCY	SUM OF FEDERAL GRANTS 2017-2019
AGENCY FOR INTERNATIONAL DEVELOPMENT (USAID)	\$7,400,580,749
DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE (USDA)	\$343,073,373
DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE (DOC)	\$325,000
DEPARTMENT OF DEFENSE (DOD)	\$10,861,920
DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH AND HUMAN SERVICES (HHS)	\$11,826,429
DEPARTMENT OF LABOR (DOL)	\$1,266,497
DEPARTMENT OF STATE (DOS)	\$4,054,402,448
DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR (DOI)	\$25,000
ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION AGENCY (EPA)	\$540,000
GRAND TOTAL	\$11,822,901,417.10

Source: Federal Checkbook Data Compiled by openthebooks.com via Freedom of Information Act
Revenue and Assets Data: IRS 990 Documents or Annual Report



WORLD HEALTH ORGANIZATION: \$1,361,863,000 (FY2017-FY2019)

FISCAL YEAR	AMOUNT
	<small>As disclosed by Public Law 109-282, 109th Congress</small>
2010	\$246,424,386
2011	\$193,498,618
2012	\$210,324,745
2013	\$209,336,966
2014	\$361,350,163
2015	\$433,575,806
2016	\$467,726,419
2017	\$515,077,967
2018	\$392,927,760
2019	\$453,857,276
TOTAL	\$3,484,120,251

**FUNDING BY
U.S. FEDERAL GOVERNMENT:
\$3.5 BILLION**

World Health Organization (WHO) – The WHO received an increase in funding during the first three-years of the Trump administration (2017-2019) vs. the first-three years of the Obama second-term (2013-2015): \$1.4 billion vs. \$1.1 billion (inflation adjusted).

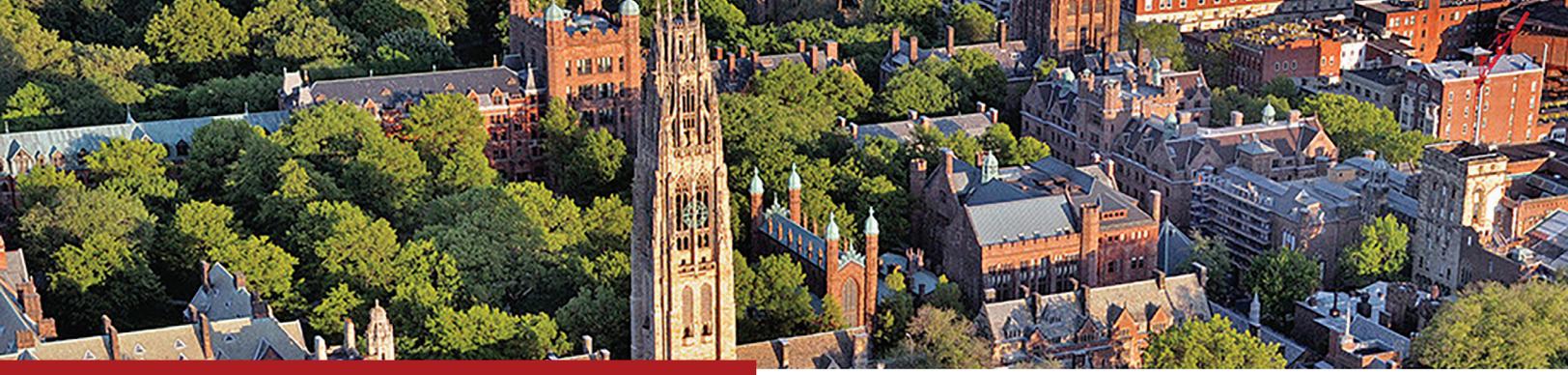
Since 2010, the WHO received \$3.5 billion in federal funds and, annually, the US was the largest funder.

However, only \$611.1 million of that funding came from “assessed dues” required by participating countries.

The U.S. government voluntarily sent the WHO roughly \$2.9 billion more than their required contribution.



For more information, read our research published at Forbes, [here](#).



IVY LEAGUE, INC.: \$9.8 BILLION

Eight Ivy League colleges received \$9.8 billion in federal grants (FY2017-2019). The Ivies received this funding despite a collective endowment of \$140 billion – which was up \$20 billion since 2016.

The Ivies have combined annual revenues of \$34.5 billion, which exceeds 25 state budgets.

In the equivalent, the grant funding amounts to \$150,000 per undergraduate student (\$3.3 billion annually in federal grants).

IVY LEAGUE COLLEGES RECEIVING FEDERAL GRANTS (FY2017-FY2019)

UNIVERSITY NAME	TOTAL GRANT FUNDING	TOTAL REVENUE	TOTAL ASSETS
COLUMBIA UNIVERSITY	\$2,562,154,326	\$5,888,095,558	\$19,649,851,030
UNIVERSITY OF PENNSYLVANIA	\$1,903,300,545	\$7,238,854,000	\$21,301,691,000
YALE UNIVERSITY	\$1,632,403,500	\$5,089,937,007	\$39,065,768,707
HARVARD UNIVERSITY	\$1,596,069,380	\$5,510,570,000	\$59,327,153,000
CORNELL UNIVERSITY	\$858,191,710	\$5,023,263,037	\$13,318,967,667
PRINCETON UNIVERSITY	\$478,424,249	\$2,976,508,000	\$31,119,631,000
BROWN UNIVERSITY	\$456,255,381	\$1,331,598,997	\$5,776,361,953
DARTMOUTH COLLEGE	\$344,359,643	\$1,435,522,287	\$8,275,901,513

Source: Federal Checkbook Data Compiled by OpenTheBooks.com via Freedom of Information Act
Revenue and Assets Data: IRS 990 Documents or Annual Report



Cornell University



BROWN



DARTMOUTH

APPENDIX

50



TOP 50 GRANT-RECEIVING CONGRESSIONAL DISTRICTS (FY2017-2019)			
DISTRICT	TOTAL GRANT FUNDING	REPRESENTATIVE NAME	PARTY AFFILIATION
CA-6	\$231,339,036,433	Doris Matsui	Democrat
NY-20	\$174,813,956,702	Paul Tonko	Democrat
TX-10	\$87,761,744,536	Michael McCaul	Republican
FL-2	\$81,942,710,032	Neal Dunn	Republican
OH-3	\$69,889,408,642	Joyce Beatty	Democrat
PA-4	\$58,254,604,096	Madeleine Dean	Democrat
MI-8	\$55,932,726,992	Elissa Slotkin	Democrat
NC-4	\$50,780,041,606	David Price	Democrat
GA-5	\$46,440,077,421	John Lewis	Democrat
NJ-12	\$43,470,080,563	Bonnie Watson Coleman	Democrat
MA-8	\$41,262,984,718	Stephen Lynch	Democrat
AZ-7	\$41,196,253,656	Ruben Gallego	Democrat
IN-7	\$40,588,266,409	Andre Carson	Democrat
IL-18	\$39,767,922,937	Darin LaHood	Republican
MD-7	\$39,243,566,495	Vacant	—
TX-21	\$36,699,873,412	Chip Roy	Republican
TN-5	\$35,858,481,835	Jim Cooper	Democrat
KY-6	\$34,816,421,731	Andy Barr	Republican
WA-10	\$34,448,133,246	Denny Heck	Democrat
MN-4	\$32,503,887,327	Betty McCollum	Democrat
LA-6	\$31,882,615,307	Garret Graves	Republican
VA-4	\$29,565,928,543	Donald McEachin	Democrat
WI-2	\$29,341,716,346	Mark Pocan	Democrat
OR-5	\$29,297,423,018	Kurt Schrader	Democrat
CO-1	\$26,913,535,425	Diana DeGette	Democrat
MO-3	\$26,164,336,738	Blaine Luetkemeyer	Republican
AR-2	\$23,461,744,422	French Hill	Republican

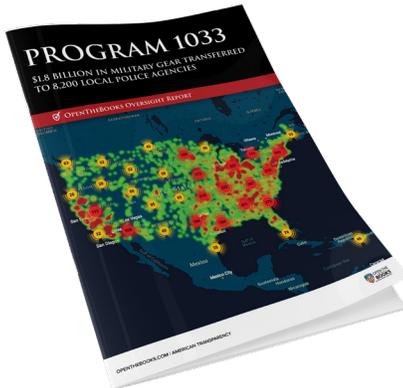
Source: Federal Checkbook Data Compiled by OpenTheBooks.com via Freedom of Information Act

TOP 50 GRANT-RECEIVING CONGRESSIONAL DISTRICTS (FY2017-2019)

DISTRICT	TOTAL GRANT FUNDING	REPRESENTATIVE NAME	PARTY AFFILIATION
CT-1	\$23,036,007,361	John Larson	Democrat
SC-6	\$23,021,536,454	Jim Clyburn	Democrat
AL-2	\$21,836,323,313	Martha Roby	Republican
PA-10	\$18,680,977,617	Scott Perry	Republican
OK-5	\$18,481,357,011	Kendra Horn	Democrat
NM-3	\$18,349,209,756	Ben Ray Lujan	Democrat
MS-3	\$17,610,857,998	Michael Guest	Republican
IL-13	\$17,450,569,262	Rodney Davis	Republican
NY-10	\$17,019,317,904	Jerry Nadler	Democrat
NV-2	\$14,950,237,736	Mark Amodei	Republican
IA-3	\$14,829,355,826	Cindy Axne	Democrat
WV-2	\$14,782,289,152	Alex Mooney	Republican
MA-7	\$13,478,763,268	Ayanna Pressley	Democrat
AK-0	\$12,893,250,498	Don Young	Republican
UT-2	\$11,826,973,433	Chris Stewart	Republican
KS-2	\$11,762,950,140	Steve Watkins	Republican
MT-0	\$9,974,422,781	Greg Gianforte	Republican
ME-1	\$9,496,582,977	Chellie Pingree	Democrat
LA-2	\$9,374,720,703	Cedric Richmond	Democrat
HI-1	\$9,093,597,848	Ed Case	Democrat
NE-1	\$7,877,246,468	Jeff Fortenberry	Republican
RI-2	\$7,858,491,262	James Langevin	Democrat
ID-2	\$7,824,858,548	Mike Simpson	Republican

Source: Federal Checkbook Data Compiled by OpenTheBooks.com via Freedom of Information Act

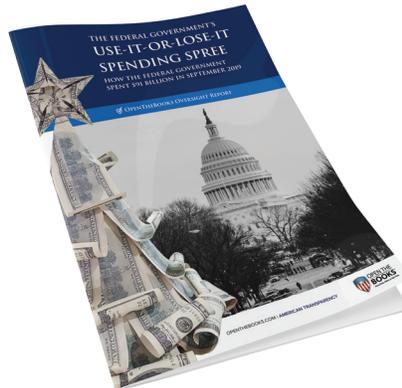
PREVIOUS OVERSIGHT



PROGRAM 1033:
\$1.8 Billion In Military Gear
Transferred To 8,200 Local
Police Agencies



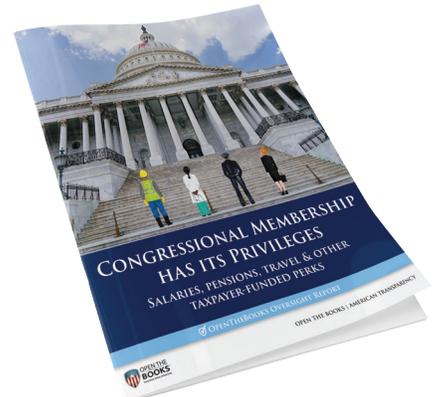
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**THE FEDERAL
GOVERNMENT'S
USE-IT-OR-LOSE-IT
SPENDING SPREE**



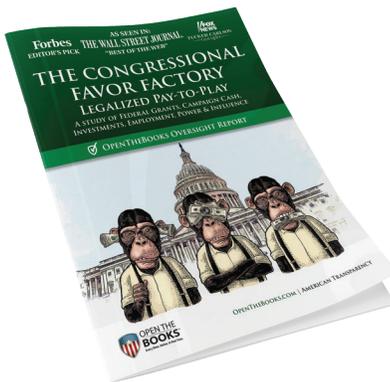
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**CONGRESSIONAL
MEMBERSHIP HAS
ITS PRIVILEGES**



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**THE CONGRESSIONAL
FAVOR FACTORY:**
Legalized pay-to-play



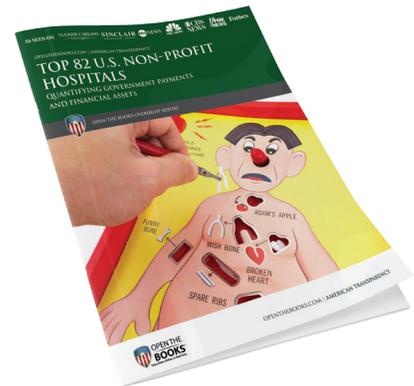
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**U.S. SMALL BUSINESS
ADMINISTRATION:**
Quantifying Lending Practices
FY2014 - FY2018



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**TOP 82 U.S. NON-PROFIT
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and many others.

In 2020...

The President's Budget To Congress FY2021 included a first-ever chapter, "Stopping Wasteful and Unnecessary Spending," which was inspired by our oversight report, *Where's The Pork? A Study of \$600 Billion In Federal Grants*. Media coverage included *USA Today*, *The Wall Street Journal*, and *FOX News*. Included in the President's Budget was our report, *Use-It-Or-Lose-It – How The Federal Government Spent \$97 Billion In September 2018*. The President committed to stopping this wasteful phenomenon. Also, the budget cited our report on the National Endowment of the Arts as the principle reason to eliminate the agency.

In 2019...

Our *Top 82 U.S. Non-Profit Hospitals: Quantifying Government Payments & Financial Assets* report launched on *FOX News' Tucker Carlson Tonight* and *USA TODAY*. This report backstopped President Trump's two executive orders on healthcare price transparency by showing that wealthy charitable non-profit healthcare providers and their CEO's were making big profits. Colorado Governor Jared Polis (D) also cited this data in his state of the state address while arguing for price reforms.

In 2018...

Open The Books' *Mapping The Swamp, A Study Of The Administrative State* Media report launched on *FOX News' Laura Ingraham Show* and directly led to Representative Judy Hice's (R-GA) legislation on pension and bonus transparency (H.R. 2612). Furthermore, we briefed the Executive Office of the President, Office of Management & Budget regarding our policy ideas to drain the swamp.

In 2017...

The Tax Cuts And Jobs Act 2017, passed into law and included a claw-back tax on Ivy League-style, excessive university endowments. The *Boston Globe* cited our *Ivy League, Inc.* oversight report as a catalyst for the legislative provision.

In 2016...

We exposed the \$20 million luxury-art procurement program at the Department of Veterans Affairs, which forced a public apology from the V.A. Secretary and the adoption of new rules to stop the abuse.



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IN RECOGNITION OF OUR TEAM:

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Chief Executive Officer
& Founder, authored this
report.

Craig Mijares,
Chief Operating Officer,
assembled and organized
datasets.

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Oversight Manager,
spearheaded our
data investigation and
oversight teams.

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