

Mission Aligned Investment Policy: Valentine Foundation

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In 2021, the Trustees approved a new investment policy committing 100% of the Foundation's assets to be mission aligned and 20% of those funds to be invested directly in the community.

Statement of Mission Aligned Investing:

The Valentine Foundation plans to align all its assets with its mission and values by the end of 2024 (three years). Realizing that in the past, some of the investments have worked against our mission, we will modify our investments, so they work towards our goals of gender and racial equity. We want to divest ourselves from investments that are against our values and invest in ways that advance our mission. Doing so will promote greater social impact beyond our grantmaking activity.

Commitment to Decolonizing Portfolio:

Valentine Foundation is committed to the Seven Steps to Healing our relationship to money as outlined in Decolonizing Wealth by Edgar Villanueva. We recognize the pain that the accumulation of wealth has caused, and how this wealth was made on the backs of Indigenous people, enslaved people, and exploited workers of color. We acknowledge these wounds, grieve them, and apologize. We use our funds to contribute to the healing process. We walk our talk about diversity and equity, working toward ensuring our decision-making is directed by Black, Indigenous people, and other people of color.

Commitment to Diverse Managers:

Valentine values diversity and seeks to communicate the importance of that value to all existing and prospective investment managers and to encourage them to review their diversity practices. When hiring investment managers, Valentine will do the work needed to identify and include BIPOC (Black, Indigenous, and People of Color) owned firms in the search process.

Community Investing:

Valentine will place 20% of the endowment assets in community investments with a portion of that concentrated in the greater Philadelphia area. The remaining 80% of the endowment, which is held in our investment accounts, will consist of stocks, bonds, funds, and real estate that will be selected and screened using gender and racial equity lenses.