My Letter to Philanthropy Aariyah Johnson YouthRoots GIV Fellow - Class of 2021

Dear Philanthropy,

You claim to help the less fortunate but why is it that white men still dominate a majority of the seats at large foundations? But let me not take away from the foundations out here doing the thing. Can I take a second to brag up one in particular? AJL. AJL stands out because they do exactly what philanthropy means and stands for, including the communities they serve in decisions that affect their community. As a newcomer to philanthropy, I assumed that that's exactly how all foundations work. Naturally, I assumed that all foundations run a participatory grant-making process. So philanthropy, now I ask you why there aren't more criteria to be considered a foundation? But of course, I won't leave you hanging as to how I feel, that to be considered a foundation there should be certain requirements with clear intentions.