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New organization will hold corporations accountable for sexual assault and harassment in the workplace

The We Believe You Fund calls on leading companies to disclose policies and practices that lead to harassment and assault

Today, the [We Believe You Fund](#) launched with the goal of eliminating sexual assault and harassment in the workplace.

While as many as 85 percent of women have experienced sexual harassment in the workplace, the vast majority of these abuses go unreported. Often, survivors are silent because the harasser is in a position of power and may retaliate.

To officially kick-off the organization, the We Believe You Fund is surveying the leading companies across retail, finance, technology and media industries (see list below), regarding their corporate practices and policies that can lead to harassment and assault. The survey asks about non-disclosure agreements, forced arbitration, percentages of women, people of color and LGBTQ people in leadership and pay equity, among other issues.

The corporations have one month to respond, and the findings will be released in October to coincide with the one-year anniversary of the Harvey Weinstein firestorm that sparked the #MeToo movement. The We Believe You Fund is intended to be a complimentary organizing strategy that supports #MeToo and TimesUp.

“Everyone - regardless of where they work and their job title – deserves to earn a living free from fear of sexual harassment, abuse and violence,” said JoEllen Chernow, founder of the We Believe You Fund and a rape survivor.

Sadly, sexual harassment in the workplace is commonplace. And too many employers – across all industries – excuse, ignore and even facilitate sexual assault, harassment and abuses of power.”

The We Believe You Fund will hold employers accountable and it will also provide them with the tools and resources to address the systemic challenges that allow sexual harassment and assault to go unchecked.

The We Believe You Fund will focus initial investments from corporate contributions and attention on:

- Convening a Survivors Committee to define what cultural accountability and justice look like beyond punishing individuals;
- Re-granting to local advocacy groups, with an emphasis on organizations led by women and people of color that are on the frontlines of direct services and innovative education programs, as well as deeply committed to dismantling rape culture;

- Incubating new efforts that seek to address structural and systemic causes of the abuse of power (We will look to our committees and partners to co-create these efforts.)

Industries and Corporations that have received the survey from the We Believe You Fund:

Technology	Financial	Retail	Media
Uber	Blackstone	Walmart	CBS
Lyft	Wells Fargo	Starbucks	NBC
Amazon	Fidelity	Target	FOX
Netflix			

The We Believe You Fund is working to identify and eliminate the culture of harassment, assault and victim shaming that results in and maintains rape culture in workplaces.

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