# **Democracy Fund, Inc.** Financial Statements

December 31, 2018 and 2017



# **Report of Independent Auditors**

To the Board of Directors of Democracy Fund, Inc.

We have audited the accompanying financial statements of Democracy Fund, Inc., which comprise the statements of financial position as of December 31, 2018 and 2017, and the related statements of activities and of cash flows for the years then ended.

# Management's Responsibility for the Financial Statements

Management is responsible for the preparation and fair presentation of the financial statements in accordance with accounting principles generally accepted in the United States of America; this includes the design, implementation and maintenance of internal control relevant to the preparation and fair presentation of financial statements that are free from material misstatement, whether due to fraud or error.

# Auditors' Responsibility

Our responsibility is to express an opinion on the financial statements based on our audits. We conducted our audits in accordance with auditing standards generally accepted in the United States of America. Those standards require that we plan and perform the audit to obtain reasonable assurance about whether the financial statements are free from material misstatement.

An audit involves performing procedures to obtain audit evidence about the amounts and disclosures in the financial statements. The procedures selected depend on our judgment, including the assessment of the risks of material misstatement of the financial statements, whether due to fraud or error. In making those risk assessments, we consider internal control relevant to the Company's preparation and fair presentation of the financial statements in order to design audit procedures that are appropriate in the circumstances, but not for the purpose of expressing an opinion on the effectiveness of the Company's internal control. Accordingly, we express no such opinion. An audit also includes evaluating the appropriateness of accounting policies used and the reasonableness of significant accounting estimates made by management, as well as evaluating the overall presentation of the financial statements. We believe that the audit evidence we have obtained is sufficient and appropriate to provide a basis for our audit opinion.

# Opinion

In our opinion, the financial statements referred to above present fairly, in all material respects, the financial position of Democracy Fund, Inc. as of December 31, 2018 and 2017, and the results of its operations and its cash flows for the years then ended in accordance with accounting principles generally accepted in the United States of America.

# **Emphasis of Matter**

As discussed in Note 2 to the financial statements, Democracy Fund, Inc. changed the manner in which it presents net assets and reports certain aspects of its financial statements as a not-for-profit entity in 2018. Our opinion is not modified with respect to this matter.

Vicandohura Coopus LLP

July 30, 2019

# **Democracy Fund, Inc.** Statements of Financial Position December 31, 2018 and 2017

	2018	2017
Assets		
Cash and cash equivalents	\$ 76,859,528	\$ 60,484,317
Restricted cash	-	101,193
Prepaid expenses and other assets	438,118	319,792
Fixed assets, net	 1,488,520	520,698
Total assets	\$ 78,786,166	\$ 61,426,000
Liabilities and Net Assets		
Accounts payable and accrued expenses	\$ 2,510,853	\$ 1,923,871
Grants payable	3,690,106	5,475,000
Federal excise tax payable	 751,783	 531,783
Total liabilities	 6,952,742	 7,930,654
Net assets without donor restrictions	2,239,286	500,448
Net assets with donor restrictions	 69,594,138	 52,994,898
Total net assets	 71,833,424	 53,495,346
Total liabilities and net assets	\$ 78,786,166	\$ 61,426,000

The accompanying notes are an integral part of these financial statements.

# Democracy Fund, Inc. Statements of Activities Years Ended December 31, 2018 and 2017

	2018			2017		
Revenues and support without donor restrictions						
Contributions of marketable securities	\$	4,000,000	\$	-		
Contributions in-kind		100,000		281,065		
Interest and dividends		486,291		140,571		
Net assets released from restrictions		52,994,898		-		
Total revenues and support without donor restrictions		57,581,189		421,636		
Expenses						
Grants		37,448,303		33,944,350		
Other program expenses		12,925,870		8,972,664		
Administrative and managerial		4,580,026		4,248,767		
Federal excise tax expense		767,000		540,000		
Net realized loss on investments		121,152				
Total expenses and losses		55,842,351		47,705,801		
Increase (decrease) in net assets without donor restrictions		1,738,838		(47,284,165)		
Changes in net assets with donor restrictions						
Contributions of marketable securities		71,767,850		53,414,160		
Net realized loss on investments		(2,173,712)		(419,262)		
Net assets released from restrictions		(52,994,898)		-		
Increase in net assets with donor restrictions		16,599,240		52,994,898		
Increase in total net assets		18,338,078		5,710,733		
Total net assets at beginning of year		53,495,346		47,784,613		
Total net assets at end of year	\$	71,833,424	\$	53,495,346		

The accompanying notes are an integral part of these financial statements.

# Democracy Fund, Inc. Statements of Cash Flows Years Ended December 31, 2018 and 2017

	2018	2017
Cash flows from operating activities		
Cash received from sale of contributed marketable securities	\$ 73,472,986	\$ 52,994,898
Restricted cash released	101,193	(21)
Interest and dividends received	486,291	140,571
Grants paid	(39,233,197)	(29,595,350)
Cash paid to employees and suppliers	(16,803,297)	(12,357,771)
Cash paid for taxes	 (547,000)	 (350,000)
Net cash provided by operating activities	 17,476,976	 10,832,327
Cash flows from investing activities		
Addition of fixed assets	 (1,101,765)	 (118,261)
Net cash used in investing activities	 (1,101,765)	 (118,261)
Net increase in cash and cash equivalents	 16,375,211	 10,714,066
Cash and cash equivalents		
Cash and cash equivalents at beginning of year	 60,484,317	 49,770,251
Cash and cash equivalents at end of year	\$ 76,859,528	\$ 60,484,317
Supplemental schedule of noncash activities		
Contributions of marketable securities	\$ 75,767,850	\$ 53,414,160
Contributions in-kind	\$ 100,000	\$ 281,065

The accompanying notes are an integral part of these financial statements.

# 1. Organization

Democracy Fund, Inc. ("DF") is a charitable, nonstock corporation formed on February 11, 2014 in the state of Delaware. DF is organized and operated exclusively for exempt purposes within the meaning of Section 501(c)(3) of the Internal Revenue Code ("Code"). DF has received a determination letter from the Internal Revenue Service stating it is exempt under 501(c)(3) of the Code and specifically that it is classified as a Section 509(a) Private Foundation. Pierre Omidyar, Pat Christen, and Sarah Steven serve on the Board of Directors with Joseph Goldman and Isaiah Castilla serving as president and assistant secretary, respectively. DF was formed in order to support charitable and educational activities in service of creating a stronger democracy. DF invests in organizations working to ensure that our political system is responsive to the public and able to meet the greatest challenges facing our nation.

# 2. Basis of Presentation and Significant Accounting Policies

#### **Basis of Presentation**

The financial statements have been prepared in accordance with accounting principles generally accepted in the United States of America ("US GAAP") applicable to non-profit organizations.

Certain statements, comparative figures and captions in the prior period have been changed to conform to the current financial statement.

Revenues are reported as increases in net assets without donor restrictions, unless there are donorimposed purposes and/or time restrictions on the gifted assets. Expenses are reported as decreases in net assets without donor restrictions. Gains or losses on investments and other assets or liabilities are reported as increases or decreases in net assets without donor restrictions unless their use is restricted by explicit donor stipulation or by law.

# **Uses of Estimates**

The preparation of financial statements in conformity with US GAAP requires management to make estimates and assumptions. These estimates and assumptions affect the reported amounts of assets and liabilities and disclosure of contingent assets and liabilities at the date of the financial statements and the reported amounts of revenues and expenses during the reporting period. Actual results could differ from those estimates.

#### **Net Assets without Donor Restrictions**

Net assets without donor restrictions represent resources which do not have donor-imposed stipulations and are available to support DF's operations.

# **Net Assets with Donor Restrictions**

Net assets with donor restrictions represent resources that are limited in use by DF in accordance with donor-imposed stipulations. These stipulations may expire with time or may be satisfied and removed by the actions of DF according to the terms of the gift. As of December 31, 2018 and 2017, DF's net assets with donor restrictions consist entirely of gifts from a related party restricted to the subsequent year's operations. Net assets with donor restrictions of \$52,994,898 and \$0 were released from restriction due to the expiration of time restrictions during the years ended December 31, 2018 and 2017, respectively.

#### **Cash and Cash Equivalents**

Cash and cash equivalents consist of short-term, highly liquid investments purchased with a remaining maturity of three months or less. At times, cash balances may exceed federally insured limits.

#### **Restricted Cash**

Restricted cash consists of a collateral account for a corporate credit card program. The program was discontinued in 2018 and the collateral was released and the account was closed.

#### **Fixed Assets**

Fixed assets are recorded at cost at the date of purchase. Depreciation and amortization is recorded on assets in service using the straight-line method over the estimated useful lives of the assets, as follows:

Equipment	5 years
Furniture and fixtures	7 years
Software	3 years
Leasehold improvements	Shorter of the lease term or estimated useful life

#### **Investment Income**

Dividend income is recognized on the ex-dividend date. Interest income is recognized on the accrual basis.

#### Contributions

Contributions are recognized as revenue at fair value in the period irrevocably pledged or received. Contributions of stock are valued at the average of the high and low price on the date transferred.

DF has been funded through contributions received from The Pierre M. Omidyar Trust (the "Trust"), a related party.

#### Grants

Grants expense consists of unconditional grants. Unconditional grants are expensed as of the effective date of the grant agreement. Certain grants may be subject to the grantee fulfilling specific conditions. Such conditional grants are considered commitments and are not recorded as expense until the conditions of the grant are met.

#### **Tax-Exempt Status**

DF, as a qualified private foundation, is exempt from federal income taxes under Section 501(c)(3) of the Code, and contributions to it may be deductible by donors for federal and state income tax purposes.

# **Democracy Fund, Inc.** Notes to Financial Statements December 31, 2018 and December 31, 2017

#### **Recent Accounting Pronouncements**

In February 2016, the Financial Accounting Standards Board (FASB) issued Accounting Standard Update (ASU) 2016-02 - *Leases* (ASC 842), which sets out the principles for the recognition, measurement, presentation and disclosure of leases for both parties to a contract (i.e. lessees and lessors).

The new standard requires lessees to apply a dual approach, classifying leases as either finance or operating leases based on the principle of whether or not the lease is effectively a financed purchase by the lessee. This classification will determine whether lease expense is recognized based on an effective interest method or on a straight line basis over the term of the lease, respectively. A lessee is also required to record a right-of-use asset and a lease liability for all leases with a term of greater than 12 months regardless of their classification. Leases with a term of 12 months or less will be accounted for similar to existing guidance for operating leases today. The new standard requires lessors to account for leases using an approach that is substantially equivalent to existing guidance for sales-type leases, direct financing leases and operating leases. The ASU is expected to impact the financial statements as DF has certain operating lease arrangements for which it is the lessee.

ASC 842 supersedes the previous leases standard, ASC 840 *Leases*. For private companies, the standard is effective for fiscal years beginning on or after December 15, 2019, with early adoption permitted. DF is in the process of evaluating the impact of this new guidance on its financial statements.

In August 2016, the FASB issued ASU No. 2016-14, *Not-for Profit Entities (Topic 958): Presentation of Financial Statements for Not-for Profit Entities.* This update aims to improve the current net asset classification requirements and the information presented in the financial statements and notes regarding a not-for-profit entity's liquidity, financial performance, and cash flows. DF adopted the standard effective January 1, 2018. Under the new guidance, DF made changes in presentation of net assets, presentation of operating cash flows to use the direct method and included additional disclosures of expense classifications (Note 9) and liquidity of DF's financial assets (Note 10).

# 3. Fair value of Investments

In accordance with the authoritative guidance on fair value measurements and disclosures under US GAAP, DF discloses the fair value of its investments in a hierarchy that prioritizes the inputs to valuation techniques used to measure the fair value. The hierarchy gives the highest priority to valuations based upon unadjusted quoted prices in active markets for identical assets or liabilities (level 1 measurement) and the lowest priority to valuations based upon unobservable inputs that are significant to the valuation (level 3 measurements). The guidance establishes three levels of the fair value hierarchy as follows:

Level 1: Inputs that reflect unadjusted quoted prices in active markets for identical assets or liabilities that DF has the ability to access at the measurement date.

Level 2: Inputs other than quoted prices that are observable for the asset or liability either directly or indirectly, including inputs in markets that are not considered to be active.

Level 3: Inputs that are unobservable.

A financial instrument's level within the fair value hierarchy is based upon the lowest level of any input that is significant to the fair value measurement. However, the determination of what constitutes "observable" requires significant judgment by management. Management considers observable data to be market data which is readily available, regularly distributed or updated, reliable and verifiable, not proprietary, and provided by independent sources that are actively involved in the relevant market.

As of December 31, 2018 and 2017 all cash and cash equivalents were classified as level 1 within the valuation hierarchy. DF had no level 2 and 3 investments at December 31, 2018 and 2017.

#### 4. Fixed Assets

Fixed assets at December 31, 2018 and 2017 consisted of the following:

	2018		2017	
Equipment Furniture and fixtures Website and software Leasehold improvements	\$	255,173 518,806 181,100 768,025	\$ 98,085 280,274 100,000 142,980	
		1,723,104	 621,339	
Less: Accumulated depreciation and amortization		(234,584)	(100,641)	
Fixed assets, net	\$	1,488,520	\$ 520,698	

Depreciation and amortization expense of fixed assets during the year ended December 31, 2018 and 2017, was \$133,943 and \$76,457, respectively.

#### 5. Federal Excise Tax

DF is subject to a 2% (1% if certain criteria are met) federal excise tax on net investment income, including realized gains on donated securities based on tax cost basis as defined in the Code. The expense for federal excise tax is as follows:

	2018	2017
Current provision	\$ 767,000	\$ 540,000

DF recognizes a tax benefit from an uncertain position only if it is more likely than not that the position is sustainable, based solely on its technical merits and consideration of the relevant taxing authority's widely understood administrative practices and precedents. If this threshold is met, DF measures the tax benefit as the largest amount of benefit that is greater than fifty percent likely of being realized upon ultimate settlement. DF may recognize interest and, if applicable, penalties for any uncertain tax positions. No interest or penalties were accrued or recorded during the period ended December 31, 2018 and 2017. DF does not anticipate any significant increase or decrease to unrecognized tax benefits during the next twelve months.

#### 6. Related Party Transactions

During the years ended December 31, 2018 and 2017, financial manager fees of \$100,000 and \$225,000, respectively, were contributed by affiliates on behalf of DF. They were accounted for under "Contributions in-kind" in the statements of activities. In addition, during the years ended December 31, 2018 and 2017, all contributions of cash and marketable securities of \$75,767,850 and \$53,414,160, respectively, were contributed by affiliates for the benefit of DF.

#### 7. Grants

As of December 31, 2018 and 2017, grant expense was as follows:

	2018	2017
Grant payments	\$ 39,233,197	\$ 29,595,350
Less: payments for unconditional grants commited in the prior year	(5,475,000)	(1,126,000)
Unconditional grants commited in the current year but paid in future year	3,690,106	5,475,000
Grant expense	\$37,448,303	\$ 33,944,350

As of December 31, 2018 and 2017, DF had total unfunded commitments of \$7,556,500 and \$10,683,500, respectively, related to conditional grants.

As of December 31, 2018, DF had \$3,690,106 of payables related to unconditional grants to be paid in 2019. As of December 31, 2017, DF had \$5,475,000 of payables related to unconditional grants paid in 2018.

#### 8. Commitments

DF leases its main headquarters under a non-cancelable lease. In March 2018, DF expanded its headquarters and modified its existing lease. The term of the lease expires in 2029. As of December 31, 2018, DF had a total of \$14,952,337 in obligations under operating leases, consisting of a real estate lease. Rental expense related to the lease was \$1,243,151 and \$774,408 for the years ended December 31, 2018 and 2017, respectively.

The minimum rental payments applicable to DF's lease are as follows:

Years Ended		Operating Leases
2019		1,121,163
2020		1,152,009
2021		1,194,591
2022		1,242,714
Thereafter		10,241,860
	Total minumim lease payments	\$ 14,952,337

#### 9. Analysis of Expenses

DF's expenses have been allocated among grants, other program expenses and administrative and managerial activities, based on the function that benefited from the incurred expenses and estimates made by management.

The total functional expenses for year ended December 31, 2017 and DF's functional expenses, displayed by natural expense classification, for the year ended December 31, 2018 were as follows:

	Grants		her gram nses	 ministrative and ⁄Ianagerial	Total	2017
Grants awarded	\$ 37,448,303	\$	-	\$ -	\$ 37,448,303	\$ 33,944,350
Salary, benefts, and payroll taxes	-	4,75	55,710	2,349,748	7,105,458	5,233,887
Professional fees	-	4,87	74,480	1,689,004	6,563,484	5,011,739
Occupancy	-	1,53	33,076	408,285	1,941,361	1,311,188
Travel, conferences and meetings	-	1,76	62,604	132,989	1,895,593	1,664,637
Taxes	 -		-	 767,000	767,000	540,000
	\$ 37,448,303	\$ 12,92	25,870	\$ 5,347,026	\$55,721,199	\$47,705,801

#### 10. Liquidity

DF's financial assets available within one year of December 31, 2018 to meet general expenditures is \$76,859,528 in cash and cash equivalents. DF endeavors to structure its financial assets to be available and liquid as its general expenditures, liabilities, and other obligations become due. While DF may realize fluctuations in planned expenditures within one year of December 31, 2018, a deficit whereby expenditures exceed the financial assets available is unlikely.

#### **11. Subsequent Events**

Management has performed an evaluation of subsequent events through July 30, 2019, which is the date DF's financial statements were available to be issued and has concluded that there were no significant subsequent events relevant for financial statements disclosure.