Our Mission
Since 1997, the Lily Auchincloss Foundation (LAF) has been providing grants to help improve the quality of life in New York City. To build a more just and sustainable city, the foundation generally supports small to mid-size organizations throughout the five boroughs with missions in the arts, natural and built environments, and community services.

Our Investments
We seek to align our assets with our mission in order to maximize the Foundation’s impact in New York City and beyond. In order to support a more just and sustainable world, we seek to invest in funds and instruments that recognize the importance of multiple stakeholders/customers, employees, communities, and our environment.

Sustainability consists of fulfilling the needs of current generations without compromising the needs of future generations. We are looking for a balance between economic growth, environmental care, and social well-being.

Our objective is to invest with managers that integrate environmental, social and governance principles into their investment strategies. By investing in companies that reflect the Foundation’s ethos we are looking for companies whose business practices are committed to:

- Strong labor practices recognizing the importance of diversity, pay equity, living wage, human rights
  - Diversity of leadership
  - Programs and policies supporting an inclusive workplace
  - Benefit of products and services served
  - Evidence of fair and living wages
  - Executive compensation that considers multiple stakeholders
  - Acknowledgement and inclusion of human rights in business decisions including supply chain
• Protection of our natural environment and work addressing the climate crisis as well as environmental strategies to support clean water and air, biodiversity, and environmental justice:
  o Strong environmental disclosure and commitment to improvement
    ▪ Science Based Targets, Carbon Disclosure Project, Taskforce Climate-Related Financial Disclosures
    ▪ Products and Services with net environmental benefit
  o Re-envisioning
    ▪ Energy alternatives
    ▪ Infrastructure
    ▪ Transportation
    ▪ Food production
    ▪ Building and construction
    ▪ Plastic use practices
• Empowering Communities
  o Affordable housing
    ▪ Project/materials-development that contribute to affordability of low- and middle-income residents
  o Food access, quality, and affordability
    ▪ Preference to invest in companies with notable focus on health and wellness
  o Addressing economic inequality

We seek to avoid investments in companies that act or produce in ways that are in clear opposition to issues that we care deeply about and are at odds with the long-term mission of our foundation.

Specifically, we seek to avoid:
• Repeated violators of
  o Labor practices
  o Human rights laws
  o Environmental laws
  o Community health
• Specific Industries or Products
  o Tobacco
  o Alcohol
We believe in the role of advocacy and support proxy voting and engagement consistent with the topics referenced above.

We believe that it is important to utilize assets to make either direct or partnered investments in opportunities of high need in New York City.

Our Program Related Investments support projects consistent with our mission primarily in these areas:

- Affordable housing
- Enhancing education including job readiness
- Childcare
- Homelessness
- Access to affordable and sustainable foods
- Clean water access
- Smart infrastructure, transportation
- Arts programs in NYC