This month we witnessed a jury find former Minnesota police officer, Derek Chauvin, guilty on all charges in the murder of George Floyd. While a guilty verdict will not bring George Floyd and others who have been murdered back, we are thankful for progress. We send our love to the Floyd family and those who have become victims of state violence.

Daunte Wright
Adam Toledo
Ma’Khia Bryant
Andrew Brown Jr.

All were murdered by law enforcement in the month of April. When is ENOUGH, ENOUGH?
THIS IS WHAT REAL DEMOCRACY LOOKS LIKE AND WE’RE COMMITTED TO DOING THAT NO MATTER HOW LONG IT TAKES.

“"

STOP HB6 AND HB7

To kick off the month of April, Black Voters Matter teamed up with local organizations in Texas. The Accountability Campaign was developed to target Texas businesses who support voter suppression. To read more about this campaign click here.

As a part of the campaign we launched local ads in various newspapers, social media campaigns, and digital ads, throughout the state to bring awareness of the current voter suppression efforts in the lone star

Take a look at this thread on elected officials in the state of Texas who have received donations from corporations like AT&T who have donated over $500K towards voter suppression bills. Learn more about how you can take action by visiting our Texas landing page.

Interested in taking a look at some of our work on the ground? Here are some of our latest Texas recap videos!

- Fort Worth
- Fort Worth GOTV efforts
- Dallas
Although, Georgia SB202 was signed into law, our work to fight against voter suppression in the state continues. To view our lawsuit that was filed click here.

In April, the Major League Baseball (MLB) made the decision to move the All-Star Game from Atlanta due to the passing of SB202. Read our official statement on their decision.

As many corporations continue to oppose the new voting law in Georgia, we continue our work on the ground by protesting at The Masters with our partners at the Greater Augusta’s Interfaith Coalition to urge them to take a stand and stand up for voters.

THE FLORIDA BUSINESS COMMUNITY MUST HELP STOP JIM CROW 2.0!

Over 200 national corporations have joined us in saying that laws restricting voting rights, laws like Florida’s bill SB 90, are bad for democracy.

Laws that criminalize citizens for expressing their first amendment right to protest, laws like Florida’s Bill HB1, are also bad for democracy.

**FLORIDA CORPORATIONS, WHERE ARE YOU?**

Stand with us by using your political and economic leverage to:

• **STOP** Florida bills HB1 and SB90.

• **SUPPORT** the immediate passage of federal HR1 and HR4 (the For the People Act and the John Lewis Voting Rights Advancement Act).

• **DIVEST** support from ALL elected officials who are blocking voting rights and free speech.

**DEMOCRACY IS GOOD FOR BUSINESS.**

**VOTER SUPPRESSION AND ATTACKS ON FREE SPEECH ARE NOT.**

The voter suppression movement continues. While working in states such as Texas and Georgia, BVM launched an ad to combat voter suppression in the state of Florida.

We continue to call on Florida Corporations to join the fight AGAINST HB1 and SB90 and SUPPORT the passage of federal HR1 and HR4.

Unfortunately, HB1 was passed in the Senate and signed into law, read our statement on the passing of HB1 here. SB90 was also approved by the Florida legislature and is headed to Governor DeSantis’ desk for signature. Read our statement here and be sure to follow us to stay updated on next steps.
In Mississippi, we held a Collard Green Caucus to provide FREE groceries and PPE to families in need ahead of Easter Sunday. We also attended the Jackson State University VS Southern University football game to giveaway PPE, BVM Swag and voter information!

In Louisiana, The Blackest Bus in America was on the ground for GOTV efforts! A great day of voter education and giving away free BVM merchandise! We also showed up to the Ruff Ryders tribute to DMX today in New Orleans.

In Pennsylvania, our partners in Harrisburg, held a vaccination event at the YMCA. Great work by Dr. Vivian and Daphne McCoy! Also in Harrisburg, our folks at Unite Central Pennsylvania and Successful Dreams Inc held a community cookout and Easter egg hunt.
UPDATES FROM THE FIELD

In North Carolina, we launched our campaign to fight against voter suppression. We are calling on North Carolina voters and community members to take action against SB 326 that targets Black and brown voters.

Take action by:
- Joining our letter writing campaign: bit.ly/stopsb326
- Tell 5 friends to take action: bit.ly/5friendspledge

In addition to our voter suppression campaign, we launched our 21 day listening session in NC in 21 different counties to talk to folks about issues impacting the community and plans for 2021!

PATAGONIA GRANT

Black Voters Matter is proud to be a recipient of the Patagonia grant. BVM will receive half of the one million dollar grant, with the other half going to our partner New Georgia Project.

The grant will go directly to funding our efforts in Georgia to address the state's voter suppression laws. We are grateful for the continued financial support from companies like Patagonia. The fight in Georgia and across the nation to protect voting rights is an urgent one. BVM is proud to be on the frontlines of this movement and to see solidarity from corporations like Patagonia in continuing our work.
DONOR SPOTLIGHT

This month we recognize The Ford Foundation!

The Ford Foundation is a longtime partner and supporter of the work of Black Voters Matter. The Ford Foundation has provided valuable resources that have allowed BVM to strengthen and expand our internal capacity while continuing to support our partners capability to build and/or shift power in their local communities. We could not do this work without their support, so we want to take this time to honor their allyship with Black Voters Matter.

The Ford Foundation believes inequality is at the root of nearly every injustice, so it invests in transformative ideas, individuals and institutions addressing inequality, driving social justice, and building movements across the globe.

The Ford Foundation supports the Black Voters Matter Capacity Building Institute because of its work to partner with marginalized, predominantly Black communities to wield power.

“We appreciate how BVM fills geographic, organizational, and voter mobilization gaps by caring about Black voters everywhere (especially in the South), by strengthening the capacity of community-based organizations and by taking a long-term view of defining a “win” by the power that is built, not by the people who are elected in the upcoming election cycle.” - Ford Foundation
Checkout some of our favorite media highlights this month:

- Yahoo News
- Fox San Antonio
- Washington Post
- MSNBC
- Newsweek

FOLLOW US ON SOCIAL MEDIA

Get involved text “WEMATTER” to 797979!
Donate: http://blackvotersmatterfund.org/donate
Volunteer: http://blackvotersmatterfund.org/volunteer

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