

# GOOD TROUBLE, NECESSARY TROUBLE.

## August Newsletter

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I MATTER. YOU MATTER. WE MATTER.

**BLACK  
VOTERS  
MATTER**

BlackVotersMatterFund.org

"Get in good trouble, necessary trouble, and help redeem the soul of America." - John Lewis

From voter suppression, gun violence, mental health, COVID-19 and more, our team has continuously brought awareness to these issues along with resources to our partner organizations.

[Take a look at our August Newsletter!](#)



August 6th marked the 56th Anniversary of the #VotingRightsAct. On this day we honored Civil Rights leaders such as Rep. John Lewis, Martin Luther King Jr., Hosea Williams, Amelia Boynton, Annie Lee Cooper, and many more who fought toward a better world.

The Voting Rights Act was signed into law on August 6, 1965, by President Lyndon B. Johnson. By 1969, the number of eligible Black voters increased from 23% to 61%.

# UPDATES FROM THE FIELD

## ALABAMA

Our Partners in Mobile, Alabama hosted an in-person Absentee Training and a five night Mayoral Forum for the Episcopal Churches in the area.



In addition to a training, we partnered with the community to bring in COVID-19 vaccinations. Alabama has one of the lowest vaccination rates in the country, its vaccination rate is now climbing.

## LOUISIANA

We worked with our partners at A New Chapter PUSH in St. Martinsville, Louisiana to help with the Gun Violence Awareness program and discuss voter engagement within the community.



# UPDATES FROM THE FIELD

## WEST VIRGINIA

Our Deputy National Field Director, Dean Charles Anthony II, traveled to West Virginia with the Poor People's Campaign to discuss the filibuster, voting rights and the fight for \$15 minimum wage.



## NORTH CAROLINA

Our partner, Bull City Votes, hosted a COVID vaccine drive at the St. Ambrose Episcopal Church. About 100 people received vaccinations! Our partners also provided free food and educated the community on how to get involved in the fight against SB 473.

## GEORGIA

August 14th was the first day of recruitment for the Sept. 18 Warrant Clinic in Fort Valley, GA hosted by DA Anita R. Howard, Macon Judicial Circuit, Peach Concerned Citizens and GRAE. Our partners hit the ground running to get our folks signed up!



# UPDATES FROM THE FIELD

## PENNSYLVANIA

Black Voters Matter joined performing artists and many organizations at #CantWaitLIVE to make sure Congress delivers on getting communities the jobs, care, climate action, citizenship, & housing they need.



The Blackest Bus in America also stopped at the 18th Annual Give Back to the Community Festival in Nicetown, PA to help build power in our communities through voter education.

Black Voters Matter stopped by the Next Generation Task-force event in North Philly! This program is designed to identify and support the development of young people that are leaders in neighborhoods and that are vulnerable to gun violence.



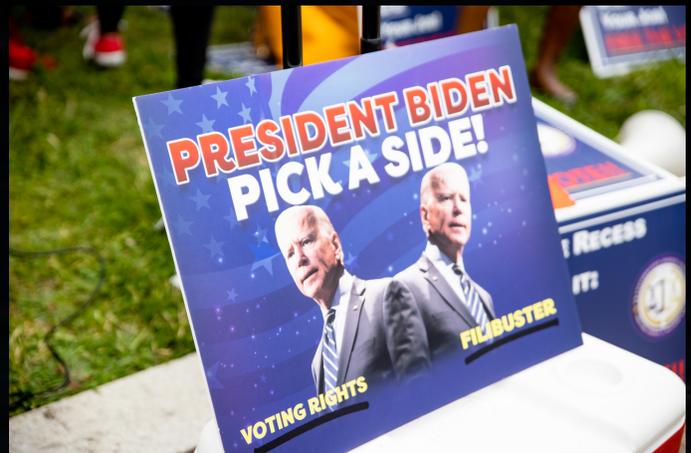
# ***BIDEN: PICK A SIDE***

In August, Black Voters Matter was on the ground in D.C. with our partners at DFAD Coalition, Transformative Justice Coalition, League of Women Voters, Next Generation Action Network, 100 Black Men and Our Black Party for our President Biden: Pick A Side protest.

Black voters showed up and showed out at the polls. Now, our voting rights are under attack. It's time for Biden to pick a side. VOTING RIGHTS OR THE FILIBUSTER?

As Our Co-Founder and Executive Director, Cliff Albright, stated, "You can't worship voting rights and worship the filibuster."

Join the movement by staying updated. Text "PICKASIDE" to 797979!



# NO MORE EXCUSES

Following the Pick A Side protest, our Co-Founders [Cliff Albright](#) and [LaTosha Brown](#) traveled back to Washington D.C. for the No More Excuses Rally in partnership with League of Women Voters and People For the American Way.

Now is not the time to sit back and hope Congress does the right thing. President Biden MUST take bold action NOW to ensure the freedom to vote for all Americans.

**NO MORE EXCUSES VOTING RIGHTS NOW!** Rally & Protest at the White House  
8.24.21 | 12pm ET | Washington, DC



This same day, The U.S. House passed the John Lewis Voting Rights Advancement Act. The House has done its part; now the White House and the Senate must do theirs. President Biden, Senate Majority Leader Schumer, and the rest of Senate Democrats need to do everything in their power to get this bill, the For The People Act, and other voting rights laws over the finish line — even if it means eliminating the Senate filibuster altogether. Read our full statement [here](#).

Following the passage of HR4 in the House, Black Voters Matter was a part of a multiracial, multicultural and interfaith delegation led by the Poor People's Campaign that met with Speaker Nancy Pelosi. The meeting was to ask her to Hold the Line to support voting rights legislation! Learn [more](#).

# MAKE GOOD TROUBLE RALLY

Making Good Trouble! We continued our work in Washington D.C. at our Make Good Trouble Rally! Partnering with organizations such as Until Freedom, Woke Vote, Transformative Justice Coalition, Black Church PAC, Poor People's Campaign, The Gathering for Justice, League of Women Voters and more!

What we know is that Washington, DC is the epicenter of power, and they can pass legislation that can set the precedent and trump harmful legislation in our home states. We will present a clear agenda and demand President Biden, Congress and the Senate do their jobs." - Tamika D. Mallory, co-founder of Until Freedom.

Read the full statement [here](#).

Thank you to EVERYONE who attended and shoutout to our partners, performers and the D.C. community for showing up and showing out! Checkout some of these video highlights from our Co-Founders:

- [LaTosha Brown](#)
- [Cliff Albright](#)



# MARCH OF THE GENERATIONS

In 2021, student loan debt is around \$1.7 trillion. The cost of attending college is a heavy burden for millions of people.

To close out the month of August, we joined HBCU students in Washington D.C. for a rally and march to the Department of Education to call for the cancellation of student debt.



# DONOR SPOTLIGHT



If you didn't know, August is Black Philanthropy Month!

Black Philanthropy Month was launched in 2011 to commemorate the United Nations Year and Decade of People of African Descent. It is a global celebration and concerted campaign to elevate African descent giving. In that spirit BVM wanted to highlight a BIPOC lead partner organization that provide resources to black led organizations.

We decided to highlight our donor group Brown for Black, a collective of individuals committed to being better allies in the Black Lives Matter movement. Their focus is on engaging and inspiring South Asians and others to get involved in the fight against systemic racism in a three-pronged approach of self-education, external advocacy, & financial action.

## WHY DOES B4B SUPPORT BVM?

*"BVM was the first partner that B4B had as we focused on Voting Rights in 2020. Given the timeliness of the presidential election cycle, it was clear that Black Voters Matter had their ears and hearts to the streets and was making a real difference in empowering people to use their voting voice to make changes locally and nationally that affected the lives of millions of Americans. The entire Black Voters Matter team changed the trajectory of the election cycle by giving the power back to the people. We are forever grateful to and will remain strong partners for this group for years to come."* - Brown for Black

Learn more: <https://www.brownforblack.org/>

# BVM IN THE MEDIA

Checkout some of our favorite media highlights:

- [19th News](#)
- [MSN](#)
- [CBS News](#)
- [KNPR](#)
- [Essence](#)
- **Our favorite interview this month?**  
Our Co-Founders, Cliff Albright and LaTosha Brown on [The Breakfast Club](#) with Angela Yee, Charlamagne tha God and DJ Envy!



# FOLLOW US ON SOCIAL MEDIA

Get involved text “**GOODTROUBLE**” to 797979!

**Donate:**

- [Support our 501c3 voter mobilization and capacity building](#)
- [Support our 501c4 voter mobilization and policy advocacy](#)

**Volunteer:** <http://blackvotersmatterfund.org/volunteer>



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