Happy New Year from Black Voters Matter!

We started 2022 off with the same way we ended 2021, with the continued fight for voting rights.

Take a look at our January Wrap-Up Report!
CAPITOL RIOTS ANNIVERSARY

January 6, 2022 marked a year since rioters stormed the U.S. Capitol seeking to overturn Trump’s defeat in the 2020 Presidential Election. High Black voter turnout resulted in not only Biden being elected as President, but Democrats winning both Senate runoffs in Georgia and control of the U.S. Senate.

An increase in voting in the 2020 elections resulted in an increase in voter suppression bills in multiple states. Moving into 2022, we are continuing the fight for voting rights. Join the movement.

Text “VOTINGRIGHTS” to 25225 to stay updated!

BIDEN SPEECH IN ATLANTA

In January, a coalition of Georgia voting rights groups, including Black Voters Matter, made the decision to boycott President Biden's speech in Atlanta. Instead of giving a speech, the U.S. Senate should be voting.

What we need now, rather than a visit from President Biden and Vice President Harris, is for the White House and Senate to remain in D.C. and act immediately to pass federal legislation to protect our freedom to vote. For a year, groups have been protesting on the ground against voter suppression. We don't need words, we need action!

Read our full statement on Biden's speech here.

Missed the press conference? Watch here.
HONORING THE LIFE AND LEGACY OF MLK

We celebrated Dr. King’s birthday, January 15th, on the ground in Arizona. Our Co-Founders, Cliff Albright and LaTosha Brown and our National Field Director, Wanda Mosley, joined members of the King family, national partners, and community organizers to call on Senator Sinema to end the filibuster.

On MLK Day, January 17th, we took the fight to Washington D.C. It's more than a holiday, it’s a call to action on voting rights. If Senate Majority Leader Schumer and the rest of Senate Democrats really want to honor Dr. King’s legacy, then they must pass federal voting rights legislation immediately. And if the Republicans continue to perpetrate the big lie and aid in this slow motion insurrection, the Senate Democrats must go it alone and carve out an exception to the filibuster to pass the legislation now.

Read our full statement here.

Missed the D.C. March?
Hear are our favorite highlights from our Co-Founders:
- Cliff Albright
- LaTosha Brown
THE FIGHT CONTINUES

Following MLK Day, we took our fight to the Capitol to call on the Senate to end the filibuster and pass federal legislation to protect the vote. Capitol police arrested voting rights activists while peacefully protesting.

These attacks on voting rights are not about preventing voter fraud, it's voter suppression. Our right to vote needs to be protected and elected officials need to do their job. We cannot out-organize voter suppression.

TAKE ACTION

Organizing looks different for everyone! How can you get involved in the fight to protect the vote? Contact your Senator by writing a letter or signing a petition!

START NOW!
LOUISIANA

Our Partners in Louisiana honored our ancestors by attending the Martin Luther King Program for voter registration and education in Rayne, Louisiana for MLK Day.

LINCOLN COUNTY, GEORGIA

We joined organizers and community members in Lincoln County, GA to deliver petitions to the Lincoln Board of Elections. Over 600 signatures gathered to meet the 20% threshold across 3 precincts. This effort stopped the plan to reduce polling locations from 7 to 1. Learn more here.

SYLVESTER, GEORGIA

We had the opportunity to attend the Southern Farmers Collaborative event in Sylvester, GA! We spent the day touring the farm, eating great food, meeting and learning from some of the farmers who supply food to our communities and support the work we do.
UPDATES FROM THE FIELD

PENNSYLVANIA

In Pennsylvania for MLK Day, we joined our partner, Nicetown CDC in Philadelphia for an event to distribute food to communities.

We also joined our folks at PA Youth Vote and NAACP Greater Norristown Branch who hosted a voter registration drive at Shop Rite.

FLORIDA

In Florida, we joined a coalition of organizations and community organizers to host a rally in Jacksonville to call on Gov. Desantis to prioritize issues disproportionately impacting our communities such as police violence, COVID-19, voting rights and more.

“We are here to declare that if the Governor and the state legislature wants to continue to declare that this is a free state, then it should be free for each and every person in this state.” - Jamil Davis, Black Voters Matter Florida State Organizing Manager
NOPE's mission is to defend democracy by supporting Democratic candidates in battleground states, protecting voting rights, and partnering with grassroots groups to win elections.

“We are a volunteer group of donors and volunteers who take action to help elect Democrats up and down the ballot and fight for Democratic majorities. By observing the success that Stacey Abrams achieved in Georgia's elections we became believers in the power of year-round grassroots organizing to galvanize underrepresented communities, win elections, and realize change. NOPE supported the Black Voters Matter Fund in 2021 because of their proven track record of success supporting local community leaders and turning out voters. In 2020, we were proud of the support we were able to direct to the grassroots and to the candidates to help elect Senators Warnock and Ossoff and flip the US Senate. We look forward to supporting grassroots organizing in Georgia again in the midterms.” - NOPE
CHECKOUT SOME OF OUR FAVORITE MEDIA HIGHLIGHTS!

- Bloomberg
- CNN
- The Grio
- Cross Connection
- LA Times

GET INVOLVED TEXT "WEMATTER" TO 25225!

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