

57<sup>TH</sup>  
SELMA



#FIGHTFOR  
THEVOTE



## FIGHT FOR THE VOTE

From commemorating the anniversary of Bloody Sunday, ceremonializing the 57th Selma to Montgomery March, and continuing our work in the South to build power. Take a look at our March Wrap-Up Report!

We are continuing the fight for the vote!

# 57th SELMA



To start March, we joined community members, HBCU students, local organizations, and national partners in Selma, Alabama to commemorate the anniversary of Bloody Sunday and participate in the 57th Selma to Montgomery March.



On March 9th, we walked nine miles to raise awareness of issues impacting our communities. People from different generations and walks of life joined together to learn, listen, spread love and build power! This event was not just about advancing voting rights, it was about building community.



We stopped to revisit the history of Tent City in Lowndes County, Ala. After the Voting Rights Act was signed into law in 1965, Black tenant farmers who registered to vote and/or engaged in activities around voting rights were evicted from their homes by white landowners. Tent City was a collection of tents set up to accommodate families – for more than two years - until they found housing.

[Check out our recap video!](#)

## JOIN THE MOVEMENT

The fight is NOT over and it takes all of us - when we work together, we win! Here is how you can take action!

**TAKE THE PLEDGE TO  
PROTECT THE VOTE.  
TEXT "VOTINGRIGHTS"  
TO 25225!**

# UPDATES FROM THE FIELD

## MICHIGAN

Our team were also on the ground in Kalamazoo, Mich. to continue the fight for voting rights! Shoutout to our State Organizing Manager, Stephanie Williams, and our partners for your amazing work!



## TEXAS

Our Texas State Organizing Manager, Dionna La'Fay and Central Texas Regional Organizer Kimiya Factory were on the ground in Texas for voter engagement during the Texas Primary Election.



## GEORGIA



The Lincoln (Ga.) County Board of Elections initially planned to reduce County polling locations from seven to one voting site.

After a four-minute meeting and tons of community upset, the Board later voted to NOT close ANY of the precincts.

Georgia BVM stood with Rev. Denise Freeman, Georgia Coalition for the People's Agenda, New Georgia Project, and the Lincoln NAACP to celebrate this victory!

# UPDATES FROM THE FIELD

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## GEORGIA

Georgia partners from all over the state showed up and showed out for Black Voters Matter Day at the State Capitol! Over 100 people were in attendance to continue the fight against voter suppression!



## MISSISSIPPI

Our partners at the Pine Grove Association held a voter registration drive in Canton, Miss.



## LOUISIANA

For Election Day, BVM was on the ground in West Monroe, La. to encourage people to vote in a recent special election for Catahoula Police Juror, District 3.



# THE FIGHT CONTINUES

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## EMMETT TILL



BVM Co-Founder, LaTosha Brown recently attended the historic signing of the Emmett Till Antilynching bill into law at The White House. The law stemming from Till's 1955 murder and brutalization, makes lynching a federal hate crime.

The legislation is a testament to the power and perseverance of Black advocates. For more than 100 years, Black people have fought to make lynching – one of the nation's most hideous traditions – a federal crime.

But time and time again, these bills faced steep opposition as the legislatures blocked federal antilynching bills more than 200 times.

Black Voters Matter was proud to join President Biden and advocates for the bill signing and remember the thousands of victims of white supremacist violence, including Till, whose death became the impetus for the Civil Rights Movement.

Read our full statement [here](#).

## FLORIDA SB90

Since SB 90 became law last year, BVM warned that restricting access to mail-in ballots & drop boxes, banning volunteer assistance, issuing deceptive registration warnings, and stopping food/water distribution in voting lines would have an outsized voter suppression impact on Black communities.

Florida BVM joined local and national partners like the League of Women Voters of Florida in filing a lawsuit, testifying at the bench trial, and lifting the movement for fair voting rights in Florida. On the last day of the month, a federal judge struck down key provisions of the law.

Read our full statement [here](#).

# DONOR SPOTLIGHT

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Established in 2020, Michael Jordan and Jordan Brand's 10-year, \$100 million Black Community Commitment (BCC) is an initiative anchored in a desire to take action where it is needed most. This joint commitment to the Black community incorporates investment in sustainable solutions to drive systems change in the areas of economic justice, education, narrative change and social justice. The BCC's institutional grantees are leading the way to create a world in which Black people can thrive.

*Michael Jordan and Jordan Brand are proud to support Black Voters Matter (BVM) and their heroic work to register and mobilize voters. An initial BCC grantee in 2020, Michael Jordan and Jordan Brand have donated again to support BVM's Take the Field campaign to engage more students at HBCUs in crucial Get Out the Vote efforts heading into the 2022 midterm elections. "There is a long history of oppression against Black Americans that holds us back from full participation in American society," said Michael Jordan. "We understand that one of the main ways we can change systemic racism is at the polls."*

# BVM IN THE MEDIA

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CHECKOUT SOME OF OUR FAVORITE MEDIA HIGHLIGHTS!

- [The Guardian](#)
- [Washington Post](#)
- [ACLU](#)
- [NewsOne](#)
- [NBC News](#)

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