Midterm elections are approaching! Now more than ever, we are making sure that our communities are ready to head to the polls.

When our rights are under attack, what do we do? Stand up, fight back! We want voters educated on critical issues impacting Black communities - from voting rights, criminal justice reform, reproductive justice, healthcare, inflation, and housing insecurity.

Take a look at our July Wrap-Up Report!

OVERCHARGED AND OVERSENTENCED

There is a distinct history of murder and incarceration of Black activists at the hands of the state. This is especially when it comes to the fight for racial justice and Black liberation. In South Carolina, a pregnant Black woman is currently incarcerated. Her name? Brittany Martin.

Following the murders of George Floyd, Ahmaud Arbery, and Breonna Taylor, many took to the streets calling for police accountability. Activists like Martin led a protest in Sumter, South Carolina. Martin was charged with breach of peace, instigating, aiding, or participating in a riot and five counts of threatening the life of a public official. A jury found Martin GUILTY of breach of peace of a high and aggravated nature.

We are supporting local organizers in South Carolina.

We are calling for the release of Brittany Martin! Join us in taking action! Sign the petition here.
**UPDATES FROM THE FIELD**

**GEORGIA**

Our partners at the A. Philip Randolph Institute Macon Chapter held Warrant Clinic Pre-Registration Events to get Georgia residents registered for our upcoming Black August Warrant Clinic tour!

**LOUISIANA**

- Our partner, Lower 9th Ward Voter's Coalition and Mission Lab hosted a GOTV Community Resource Fair. The event included a mock election for children and adults with a real voting machine provided by the Secretary of State! We were able to share essential information around voting, employment and training opportunities, homeless outreach and more!

- Did you catch Black Voters Matter at Essence Festival of Culture in New Orleans?! The ESSENCE of Black Voters Matter is that it’s about us! Our people, our stories, our community. From our Co-Founder, LaTosha Brown, on stage discussing the importance of Black wealth and voting power to our Louisiana team connecting with attendees to discuss the importance of voting; it was a great weekend of spreading love and building power!
Reproductive freedom for all! Our Michigan partner, One Goal, launched a Roe v. Wade petition signing initiative to organize and educate communities on the impact of overturning Roe v. Wade. On their first day, they collected 500 signatures on the ground!

BVM and our partners, One Goal and Mothers of Hope, attended the United Justice Coalition (UJC) Summit - Inaugural Social Justice Convention in New York. We worked to connect with other organizations and organizers on critical issues impacting communities.

Our partners at the NAACP Gate City Youth Council were on the ground for voter engagement and education ahead of Election Day in Fayetteville, Greensboro, Charlotte, Hickory, and Sanford. Runoff elections also took place in New Bern and Rocky Mount.
Our Co-Founder, Cliff Albright, joined a virtual panel discussion to discuss the work of Georgia organizers to flip the state in 2020 and ways you can take action ahead of midterms.

Missed the discussion? Tune in here!

Watch here

In July, BVM celebrated 5 years of spreading love and building power! Our Co-Founders, Cliff Albright and LaTosha Brown, have been organizing for over two decades and we have grown to 50+ staff members and expanded our outreach across the country!

A special thank you to Phat Katz Brass Band and KLF Pro Entertainment for making this moment special for us. The work continues.
"I chose to host a third party fundraiser for Black Voters Matter because BVM is doing the best grassroots organizing work out there. I first learned about BVM when I saw LaTosha Brown speak at Netroots in 2018 and was so incredibly inspired. Then I was lucky enough to meet and chat with Cliff Albright at Netroots the next year. Every time I hear Cliff or LaTosha on a movement call I am fired up all over again! Cliff was also kind enough to be a speaker on a 2020 zoom weekend of action event for my main "activism home:" Indivisible East Bay. And he lifted up our little Fight Back Friday crew (that rallied every week for almost five months for the Freedom to Vote Act) - something that always put the wind in our team's sails! Most of all, BVM has been an example of how to organize with love and power. I would follow BVM anywhere, and it's an honor to fundraise for them!" - Nancy Latham
BVM IN THE MEDIA

CHECKOUT SOME OF OUR FAVORITE MEDIA HIGHLIGHTS!

- MSNBC
- Fox Soul
- Cross Connection
- FOX 26 Houston
- The Root

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