

BLACK VOTERS MATTER 365

April Wrap-Up Report



EMPOWERING OUR COMMUNITIES

In April, we teamed up with our partners and influential leaders to take a stand on critical issues affecting the Black community. From education and voting rights to gun violence and beyond, we never miss an opportunity to take the field!

Take a look at our April Wrap-Up Report!

HISD TAKEOVER

MAKEOVER NOT TAKEOVER



Black Voters Matter hit the streets of Houston in early April just before the HBCU All-Star Game.



Our goal? To rally college and high school students on voting issues despite a thunderous legislative session. Our Take the Field initiative joined hands with national partner Transformative Justice Coalition, and our movement made an impact in the form of social justice and voting rights panel discussions and student engagement events. In addition, we hosted separate tabling and training events that make voting more accessible for all.



As politics grows more demanding in Texas, we're training the next generation at a particularly critical moment. Due to the introduction of several suppressive voting bills in the state legislature and the state's takeover of Houston Independent School District (HISD), now is the time to mobilize students to Take the Field!



UPDATES FROM THE FIELD

ALABAMA

At the Capitol Meeting Room in Alabama, we gathered together to protest against HB209, a bill that aimed to limit people's ability to cast their votes and even criminalize individuals and civic organizations aiding others in exercising their right to vote.

In addition, we joined hands with our partners to organize a BVM Day at the Capitol and collectively address crucial issues affecting our communities. Let's stand up for our voting rights and make our voices heard!



FLORIDA

Black Voters Matter and Dream Defenders teamed up for an action-packed day filled with meetings with legislators, a BVM press conference, and debates on pressing legislation.

Participants zeroed in on hot topics including healthcare/Medicaid expansion, education, environmental justice, voting rights, affordable housing, and public safety- all to be discussed with their assigned legislators.

UPDATES FROM THE FIELD



GEORGIA

Black Voters Matter, Protect the Vote Georgia, Social Change, and Voices of the Emancipated all united in Buckhead, Georgia to rally against Senate Bill 222.



It was a powerful display of solidarity as we demanded that Governor Kemp veto this bill seeking to stifle and criminalize our tireless efforts to ensure fair and accessible elections for all. Together, we will make sure that black voters will never be silenced or intimidated.

LOUISIANA

Black Voters Matter and NAACP organized an impactful day at the Capitol in Louisiana, shedding light on significant community issues such as housing, mass incarceration (anti-slavery bill), gun violence, health outcomes, infrastructure, environmental/climate justice, and more.

It was an event to remember, bringing together voices from all corners of the community.



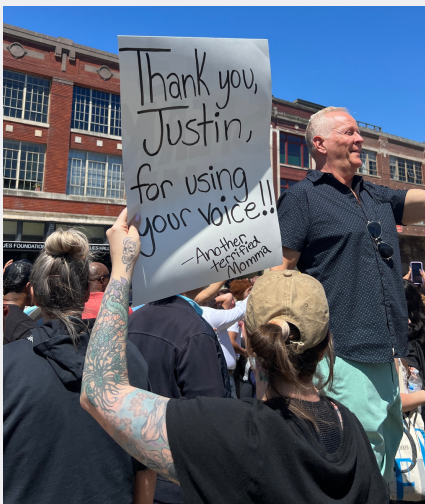
TENNESSEE THREE



We joined our partners on the ground in Tennessee to call on the reappointment of Representatives Justin Jones and Justin Pearson.



The recent expulsion of Tennessee Representatives Justin Jones and Justin Pearson for protesting gun control within the state, after the recent murder of elementary students and school staff during the recent school shooting, is racist, wrong and reminiscent of the removal of Black elected officials following the Reconstruction era. This punitive measure not only silences the voices of elected representatives, but also deprives the predominantly Black voters in those legislative districts of their right to be heard on crucial issues affecting their lives.



We applaud the community members who protested at the legislature in order to demand action on gun violence, and we commend Reps. Jones, Pearson and Johnson for supporting such civil disobedience.

Read our full statement [here](#).

TAKE ACTION WITH BVM

VOLUNTEER CORNER

This month we celebrated Global Volunteer Month with volunteer spotlights and several volunteer events!

We got to speak to some of our volunteers about the importance of civic engagement, why they volunteer with BVM, and so much more.

Volunteers texted for Medicaid expansion, the Wisconsin election, and in support of the Tennessee Three! Volunteers also attended our biweekly orientation, created postcard messages at our monthly postcard party, and donated water to Mississippi and Georgia!

We could not do this work without our volunteers, so our staff put together this video to say thank you!



[WATCH NOW](#)

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BVM IN THE MEDIA

CHECKOUT SOME OF OUR FAVORITE MIDTERM MEDIA HIGHLIGHTS!

- [Washington Post](#)
- [Capitol B News](#)
- [The Los Angeles Post](#)
- [The FAMUan Online](#)
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