TOU MATTER, WE MATTER,

## CELEBRATING BLACK HISTORY

February Wrap-Up Report



## **BLACK HISTORY MONTH**

It's Black History Month and we're celebrating the impact of Black people in the arts— a powerful catalyst for activism and political change. From the rhythms of jazz to the verses of spoken word, Black artists have used their creativity to challenge stereotypes, demand justice, and amplify Black voices. We also continued our work on the ground on The Blackest Bus in America.

Take a look at our February Wrap-Up Report!

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# UPDATES FROM THE FIELD

## **GEORGIA**

Our Georgia team was on fire! They recently held a BVM Day at the Capitol in partnership with Rep GA and the Black Youth Renaissance Tour. Engaging with legislators and various presenters, including Rep GA and the ACLU of Georgia, attendees discussed key issues affecting Black voters in Georgia, such as SB359 and HB922. They also teamed up with Fair Count and Georgia Muslims Voters Project for a vital GOTV panel at GIPL's Green Team Summit.

Team #WreckShop also hit the streets hard engaging 500+ Black men with action! Shoutout to Fred Butcniy, Eddie White, and Kimberly White for leading the charge! We're working alongside statewide orgs, grassroots partners, and community members to build power every day.







## **FLORIDA**

In Florida, Marie Rattigan, our Big Bend Regional Organizer, represented Black Voters Matter at the 30th anniversary of Delta Sigma Theta Sorority Incorporated Day at the Capital in Tallahassee. Leading a workshop focused on voter turnout among ages 18–29, Marie highlighted our Take the Field campaign's efforts to engage students on crucial issues such as racism, mental health, and voter suppression.

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# UPDATES FROM THE FIELD

## **MICHIGAN**

Community Boost Saturday was a success! Our partner, the Detroit/Downriver A. Philip Randolph Institute Chapter, led phone banking and door-to-door canvassing efforts on the final weekend before the crucial Presidential Election on Tuesday.

Also in Michigan, our partners at Survivors Speak hosted a Civic Duty Education Night that was a success, thanks to the invaluable support from Black Voters Matter Fund and other dedicated partners. Huge thanks to all involved, including volunteers, contributors, and community leaders.









## **NORTH CAROLINA**

Our partner, Pink With a Passion, hosted an incredible Medicaid Expansion event in North Carolina, and we were thrilled to support this initiative. Special thanks to DJ Paul Of Flame, Infinit Divas Dance Class, Kim food truck, and all our amazing vendors and partners. Your love and support made this event a success!

Also in North Carolina, 50 gathered at Waterfront Park for a powerful Sunday Souls to the Polls event in Pasquotank County. Thanks to our partners at St. Joseph's AME Church and NCCU for hosting a successful Souls to the Polls and Soar to the Polls initiative. The community turned out in force to cast their ballots for our primary. When we vote, we win!

#### TO MATTER. WE MATTER.

# UPDATES FROM THE FIELD

## **TEXAS**

Our efforts spanned from the streets of Lufkin all the way to the historic avenues of San Augustine. We were thrilled to engage with the community by distributing meals, merch, and providing information about voting rights. We extend a thank you to Pastor Andre Branch and Pastor Amos Horton for their invaluable support.

Furthermore, our dedicated partners in Harris County and Jasper County engaged in door-knocking campaigns and telephone outreach, all with the aim of inspiring local residents to exercise their right to vote. This remains a testament to our commitment to civic engagement.

To cap off the month's activities, we launched the East Texas Bus Tour, this tour was aimed at engaging voters in a more personal and impactful manner, while also taking the time to honor and recognize the local community champions who inspire us with their dedication and service.









# TAKE ACTION WITH BVM

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## **VOLUNTEER CORNER**

We did not see our texting volunteers for a month and a half before we kicked off Texting Tuesdays again on February 6th. After catching up on holiday activities and learning about texting plans for the new year, 30+ volunteers sent over 100k texts to Michigan residents about voting early in the primaries. We continued our primary season campaigns by also sending messages to Wisconsin and North Carolina residents throughout February.

On February 28th, we officially added Vanderbilt students to the text team. Students from Vandy Votes, Vanderbilt Student Government, and the Vanderbilt NAACP Chapter joined BVM staff to learn how to digitally organize in Tennessee through texting. We appreciate the students' energy and want to give a special thanks to Ochuwa Garuba, class of 2026, for her leadership on this event.

The postcard parties also came back this month. Our partners, the Fredericksburg Area Alumnae Chapter of Delta Sigma Theta Sorority, Inc., helped us to recruit over 60 volunteers to create messages to young voters in Virginia about the importance of voting in the primaries. Because of their efforts, we were able to create 400 unique postcard messages!



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# BYM IN THE MEDIA

## CHECKOUT SOME OF OUR FAVORITE MEDIA HIGHLIGHTS!

- Al Jazeera
- Daily Journal
- <u>NPR</u>
- NewsOne
- Black Enterprise

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