

# VOCAL-KY Newsletter



## Upcoming Events

**Wednesday, May 31, 1PM - 4PM: [Dream.org](https://www.dream.org/) Public Health is Public Safety Tour:** Join us for an informative session featuring insights from law enforcement, harm reduction specialists, the business and faith communities, and hear from those who have been directly affected by these issues. Everyone is invited to participate in these five upcoming events - find one [nearby here](#).  
**WHERE:** Covington, KY. [RSVP HERE](#)

**Thursday, June 15 from 4-6pm: Membership Meeting:** Join our bi-weekly membership meeting and join the fight to win justice, compassion and love in Kentucky! **Where:** Heyburn Building, 2nd fl, [332 W Broadway](#) at corner of 4th St. [RSVP HERE](#).

**June 25 - June 27: People's Action National Gathering:** We are taking 20 members & leaders to Washington D.C. for the [People's Action Organizing Revival](#). Help us do this by donating [HERE](#).

# JOIN THE KENTUCKY MOVEMENT ASSEMBLY

SEPTEMBER 15 @ 8:00 AM - SEPTEMBER 17 @ 5:00 PM



## What is the Kentucky Movement Assembly?

Kentucky Movement Assembly is a space for activists, organizers, and community members from across the Commonwealth to join together, share our stories, and take action on public policy. The Kentucky Movement Assembly will take place Friday, September 15 – Sunday, September 17th.

The Kentucky Movement Assembly is a space for us to connect, share our stories, and act on public policy. We need you to join the Movement! VOCAL-KY is an anchor organization for the KMA.

SAVE THE DATE: September 15-17, 2023

EARLY BIRD REGISTRATION ends August 8, 2023

Submit panel discussion + workshop proposals by June 19, 2023

[Save the Date Here](#)



## Staff Spotlight: Get to Know Brittany Morris

Since becoming a member of VOCAL-KY, Brittany Morris has showed up and showed out.

As a GROW team member, Brittany has shown that she can do the job and more. She is very caring about her job and passionate about her work. She loves helping others. As a first time mother, she has shown she can balance work and a new baby. We are so happy to have Brittany on our team. Keep up the good work!

# Month In Review

On Wednesday, May 10, VOCAL-KY along with coalition allies Dove Delegates held a press conference at Justice Square. View our demands and get more information [here](#). And following [a bombshell report](#) from the Department of Justice, leaders called for accountability.

In early May, VOCAL-KY also attended a Midwest organizing training in Berea, KY. There was a lot of organizations at this training, including local organizations like Black Leadership Action Coalition of Kentucky, Showing Up for Racial Justice KY, Hood to the Holler, and many others. There was team building and it was great to work together towards the same goals.

On May 18, VOCAL-KY went to the [Mayor's Night Out](#), and was able to ask Mayor Craig Greenberg questions. And throughout the month, VOCAL-KY leaders did tabling at LOU-City professional soccer games to share our mission and word to the community. Our leaders have even been showed tabling on the big screen during halftime!



## Member Spotlight: Q&A with Ryan Jacobs

**Q:** What does VOCAL-KY mean to you?

**A:** Empowerment: VOCAL-KY empowers people to fight to have a voice at the table.

**Q:** What made you want to join VOCAL-KY?

**A:** Seeing a lot of disparity in the community I live in, and through VOCAL- KY, I see a way to enrich our lives and our community.

**Q:** What's your favorite part of VOCAL-KY?

**A:** Finding a job I love to do and giving back to the community

## What We're Reading

**KY PBS:** [Public Health is Public Safety](#)

**Louisville Public Media:** [Shameka Parrish-Wright gets Democratic nomination for Metro Council election](#)

**Louisville Courier Journal:** [Evictions are rising. And Louisville isn't doing enough to prevent them, nonprofits say](#)

**Filter:** [Activists Crash Texas Legislature Over Contrasting Fentanyl Bills](#)

**WLKY:** [National tour in partnership with Meta stops in Louisville to combat drug addiction](#)

## Who We Are

VOCAL-KY is dedicated to ending AIDS, the drug war, mass incarceration and homelessness by building the political power of low-income people directly impacted by the issues. We use community organizing and direct action to win policy change that will concretely improve lives and transform politics.

Led by former Mayoral candidate Shameka Parrish-Wright, VOCAL-KY is the first official state chapter of Voices of Community Activists and Leaders ([VOCAL-NY](#)). Since its founding in 1999, VOCAL-NY has passed dozens of bills, improving and saving the lives of hundreds of thousands of New Yorkers across the state and transforming New York City and New York State in the process. Through community organizing and building power amongst the most marginalized communities in New York, we made our core issues - ending AIDS, the drug war, mass incarceration and homelessness - core progressive issues in the state.

**Consider Supporting Our Work!**