PROGRAM

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WELCOME TO THE KENTUCKY ORGANIZING REVIVAL!

presented by Voices Of Community Activists And Leaders

WHY WE'RE HERE

Voices Of Community Activist and Leaders-KY (VOCAL-KY) has a 120 county focus even while based in Louisville, Kentucky. It all comes back to being organized, y'all.

Our members, leaders, staff, community partners, and growing list of supporters realize that we need more community organizing in all of our rural, urban, and suburban neighborhoods from the "hood to the holler."

Kentuckians are struggling with low wages, housing insecurity, poverty, climate change disasters, restoration of voting rights, homelessness, transportation, mass incarceration, equitable educational opportunities, health disparities, a failed drug war and too much more...

We must work together to build people power that leads to better policies that help all Kentuckians survive and thrive no matter what zip code they are in.

WHAT WE'RE GONNA DO

(other than have fun)

Through a series of workshops, organizations from around the state are going to help us understand how to build power among Kentuckians, and why it's so important.

There are so many aspects to successfully organizing and building power, and it's impossible to cover them all in one weekend. However, an incredibly diverse collection of community partners have come together to offer multiple perspectives and create a holistic understanding of successful organizing.

Themes we'll cover include:

- Self Interest in Organizing
- Art & Activism
- Digital Organizing
- Strategic Campaign
- Engaging with Local Government

- Building Power
- Propositions & Base Building
- Community Organizing
- Education Advocacy
- Organizing 101

If some of these are unfamiliar, don't worry! Organizing is a whole different language.We're going to provide some more info before the workshops, or please ask a volunteer!

We're also going to ask you to complete a lot of surveys. This will help us understand what worked and what didn't, and understand the state of organizing in Kentucky so we can make next year more effective and successful.

KOR shared language

Community Organizing - " is a process where people who live in proximity to each other come together into an organization that acts in their shared self- interest....community organizers generally assume that social change necessarily involves conflict and social struggle in order to generate collective power for the powerless." (Wikipedia, 2018)

Organizing Revival - Kentuckians are struggling with low wages, housing insecurity, poverty, climate change disasters, restoration of voting rights, homelessness, transportation, mass incarceration, equitable educational opportunities, health disparities, a failed drug war and too much more...The revival is a way to come together to build #peoplepower that leads to better policies that will help all Kentuckians survive and thrive no matter what zip code they are in.

Community - acknowledge the community you're speaking about ie- city, state, county

Issue based organizing - focuses on issues or problems that a significant number of people in a community feel.

Personal Experience - lived/living experience

Professional experience - doing the work

Activism - working or campaigning for political or social change.

Advocate - a person who publicly supports or recommends a particular cause or policy.

Data - Facts and statistics collected for reference and analysis

Data Justice - an approach that redefines ways of collecting and disseminating data that have historically invisibilized and harmed marginalized and underserved communities.

Faith in action - ways folks can show their faith by being in action with VOCAL-KY

Social justice - refers to a fair and equitable division of resources, opportunities and privileges in society.

Self interest - what compels individuals to engage in the work of organizing. It's about understanding who you are and how you relate to others in a way that's life-giving and transformational, and is defined as being between selfishness and selflessness.

Base-building - involves community organizers working to build grassroots leadership to create and advocate for policy solutions and changes to systems that produce inequities.

KOR shared language

Leadership development - it empowers directly impacted community members to take action on the issues that affect them and their communities.

Strategic campaigns - How we turn what we have into what we need and to get what we want

Direct action - is an act of power that directly reaches certain goals of interest, contrasted to actions that appeal to authorities. There is non-violent direct action and violent direct action.

Power & building power - Ability to impose one's will on another. Potential to bring about significant change through the actions of oneself or of others

Canvassing - a systematic initiation of direct contact with individuals.

Deep canvassing - a structured interview that uses empathetic conversations with the intent of shifting a person's beliefs.

Harm reduction - is a set of practical strategies and ideas aimed at reducing negative consequences associated with drug use. Harm Reduction is also a movement for social justice built on a belief in, and respect for, the rights of people who use drugs.

Land acknowledgement - a traditional custom that dates back centuries in many Native nations and communities. Today, land acknowledgements are used to recognize Indigenous Peoples who are stewards of the lands on which we now live.

Mutual aid - is about cooperating to serve community members. Mutual aid creates networks of care and generosity to meet the needs of our community members

Plenary - all inclusive workshop/meeting at the start and/or finish of a larger conference.

riday welcome!

5:00-8:30

meet & greet \cdot food (!) \cdot film \cdot fun

ABOUT THE FILM:

ON OUR OWN LAND 1988 DIRECTED BY ANNE JOHNSON

"The time will come when the younger generation will climb up on every rock and stump they can find and they will curse our memory for all time to come for what we have allowed to happen to this land." Fldon Davidson

In the Appalachian coalfields, broadform deeds were used, beginning around 1900, to sever the ownership of mineral rights from the ownership of the surface land. Although surface mining was virtually unheard of at the time most of these deeds were signed, Kentucky courts ruled years later that the owners of such deeds could strip mine the land without the consent of the surface owners. On Our Own Land chronicles the citizens' fight to have the broadform deed declared unconstitutional in the state of Kentucky. The story unfolds through the voices of local peopleboth those whose homes and property are threatened and the coal operatorsand through vivid images of the devastated land. The viewer meets a family determined not to move their father's grave for strip miners, sees the rubble of a strip job "reclaimed" to the letter of the law, and watches as citizens protest strip mine abuses and push the state legislature for reform.

This powerful program is recommended for the study and discussion of law and justice, citizens' movements and grassroots political organizing, and the environmental/economic "tradeoffs" associated with coalmining and industrial development.

On Our Own Land won the 1990 Alfred I. duPont/Columbia University Award for Independent Broadcast Journalism, and was produced in conjunction with the citizens group Kentuckians for the Commonwealth

"Illustrates a conflict that won't go away, in which the texture of community is pitted against the drive towards profit at any cost. Scrupuously balanced, it lets coal operators damn themselves with their own words "

Pat Aufderheide, In These Times

"Johnson did a firstclass job of presenting her side of the argument...other organizations should use the film as an example of how to get their point across." Wayne Masterman, editor/publisher, The Kentucky Coal Journal

"Extremely moving and disturbing. Excellent work." Dan Patterson, Department of Folklore and American Studies, University of North Carolina, Chapel Hill

urdav MORNING

8:00-9:15 WELCOME

REGISTRATION · BREAKFAST · YOGA · SPIRITUAL GROUNDING

LAND ACKNOWLEDGMENT STATEMENT

BELLA SCHWEIZER MEMBER LEADER **VOICES OF COMMUNITY ACTIVISTS & LEADERS**

9:30-10:45 OPENING PLENARY

ORGANIZING AROUND HB 5

JOHN BOWMAN DREAM.ORG

GET EXCITED AND HEAD ON TO YOUR PREFERRED WORKSHOP

11:00-12:15 WORKSHOPS

INSPIRING THE MASSES

SELF INTEREST IN ORGANIZING

SHREETA WALDON **KY HARM REDUCTION COALITION**

THREADS OF INCARCERATION

ART & ACTIVISM

12:30 - 1:00 LUNCH

1:00-2:15 WORKSHOPS

CONTESTING POWER IN DIGITAL TURF

DIGITAL ORGANIZING

UTILIZING DATA TO SUPERCHARGE YOUR CAMPAIGN

STRATEGIC CAMPAIGN

ENGAGING WITH YOUR LOCAL GOVERNMENT

HOLDING OFFICIALS ACCOUNTABLE

JOE DELGADO KAIROS FELLOWSHIP

NATALIE CUNNINGHAM KENTUCKY POLICY

BEN HARLAN GOVERNMENTAL LIAISON

2:15 - 2:30 TRANSITION TIME

REBECCA CAVALCANTE

ARTIST & ACTIVIST

Saturday AFTERNOON

2:30-3:45 WORKSHOPS

GROUNDING THE SOUTH:

BUILDING BLACK POLITICAL POWER THROUGH 501(C)4

COLLECTIVE ACTION & LIBERATION

BUILDING POWER

ATTICA SCOTT FORWARD JUSTICE ACTION NETWORK

SUBSTANCE USE DISORDER DISCRIMINATION IN HEALTHCARE SETTINGS

JANE CONNEL YOUNG KENTUCKY EQUAL JUSTICE CENTER

PROPOSITIONS & BASE BUILDING

DRAWN TO ACTIVISM: CREATING ART FOR SOCIAL CHANGE ART & ACTIVISM

AMERISSA WATERS UK TARGET 4 REGION 5

3:45 - 4:00 TRANSITION TIME

4:00-5:15 WORKSHOPS

EDUCATION ADVOCACY

COMMUNITY ORGANIZING 101

BREN MARTIN KENTUCKIANS FOR THE COMMONWEALTH & KENTUCKY POOR PEOPLE'S CAMPAIGN

CANVASSING 101

KNOCKING FOR IMPACT

ALFREDO CARRASQUILLO & PONY MORRIS VOICES OF COMMUNITY ACTIVISTS & LEADERS

5:15 - 5:30 CLOSING

Y'ALL ARE ON YOUR OWN FOR DINNER

sunday

8:00-8:45 WELCOME

REGISTRATION · BREAKFAST · YOGA · SPIRITUAL GROUNDING

LAND ACKNOWLEDGMENT STATEMENT

BELLA SCHWEIZER MEMBER LEADER **VOICES OF COMMUNITY ACTIVISTS & LEADERS**

9:00-10:15 WORKSHOPS

PATHWAYS TO ENGAGEMENT & COALITION BUILDING WITH STRATEGY & TACTICS

SELF INTEREST & STRATEGIC CAMPAIGNS

LEADERSHIP DEVELOPMENT

ORGANIZING 101

ALFREDO CARRASOUILLO & PONY MORRIS **VOICES OF COMMUNITY ACTIVISTS & LEADERS**

AMANDA HALL

DREAM.ORG

10:30 - WORKSHOPS

EDUCATING ON FELONY DISENFRANCHISEMENT

BUILDING PEOPLE POWER

DEBRA GRANER KENTUCKIANS FOR THE COMMONWEALTH

BLACK NEIGHBORHOOD ORGANIZING PROJECT

ORGANIZING 101

VOICES OF COMMUNITY ACTIVISTS & LEADERS

12:30 - 1:00 LUNCH · PANEL· SURVEYS

PANEL

NEXT250 LISTENING SESSION

SHAMEKA PARRISH-WRIGHT EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR **VOICES OF COMMUNITY ACTIVISTS & LEADERS**

1:15-2:15 FAITH IN ACTION PLENARY

2:30 CLOSING

RON DAVIS

FACILITATED BY





vocal-ky.org

VOCAL-KY is building a movement of low-income people dedicated to ending the AIDS epidemic, the war on drugs, mass incarceration, and homelessness across the country. We fight for systemic change rooted in justice, compassion, and love. We approach this work with a firm belief in reducing harm and ending stigma, and the knowledge that the issues impacting our communities are driven by institutional oppression, not personal failings.

THIS EVENT IS ONLY POSSIBLE BECAUSE OF THE WORK OF VOCAL-KY MEMBERS' AND LEADERS' DEDICATION TO BUILDING A BETTER KENTUCKY. THEY ARE THE REVIVAL OF KENTUCKY ORGANIZING. ASK THEM ABOUT THEIR STORIES AND MOTIVATION. THEY WILL MOTIVATE YOU.

VOCAL-KY

WHO WE ARE

Voices of Community Activists & Leaders (VOCAL-KY) is a statewide grassroots membership organization that builds power among low-income people affected by HIV/AIDS, the drug war, mass incarceration, and homelessness in order to create healthy and just communities. We accomplish this through community organizing, leadership development, advocacy, direct services, participatory research, and direct action.

VOCAL-KY is building a movement of low-income people dedicated to ending the AIDS epidemic, the war on drugs, mass incarceration, and homelessness. We fight for systemic change rooted in justice, compassion, and love. We approach this work with a firm belief in reducing harm and ending stigma, and the knowledge that the issues impacting our communities are driven by institutional oppression, not personal failings. Our campaigns have saved or improved the lives of thousands Kentuckians across the state.

Movement Building

All our campaigns start on the ground and are guided by leadership teams of people directly impacted. Active leadership teams include:



Civil Rights Union: led by people who are formerly incarcerated to end mass incarceration and discriminatory and abusive policing practices.



Positive Leaders Union: led by low-income people living with HIV/AIDS to win access to health care and housing and end the stigma associated with HIV/AIDS.



Homeless Union: led by people who are homeless or have experienced homelessness to preserve and expand permanent affordable housing for low-income Kentuckians.



Users Union: led by active and former people who use drugs to promote drug user health and safety and end the criminalization of people who use drugs

POLICIES OF JUSTICE AND EQUITY POLITICS OF LOVE AND COMPASSION

MEMBERSHIP MEETINGS (3rd WEDNESDAY of the month)

Join us for a membership meeting to learn how to become a member, build & engage with us in deep political education & collective power that changes the narratives & outcomes of people impacted by our issues.

Events/Outreach

We have lots of ways to get involved:

- Speak at a Metro Council meeting
- Go to Frankfort to fight for better laws and policies
- Help us table at a community event
- Join us for outreach
- Be part of a press conference
- Travel with us!
- AND SO MUCH MORE!

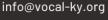


www.facebook.com/VOCALKY

@VOCALKentucky

Access our services at: 723 S. Brook St, 40203 Contact: 0FFICE: 502-676-0039

info@





VOCAL-KY

ENGAGEMENT + ACTION = RETENTION

Our model of movement building draws inspiration from three traditions: (1) traditional community-based organizing, (2) direct-action AIDS activism, and (3) Black-led social movements for racial justice.

Above all, we work with the knowledge that abolishing systemic poverty and injustice will only be done by building the leadership and power of the most marginalized among us.

We are an intersectional, anti-racist organization with expectations of love, respect, and dignity for all of our members, regardless of race, sexual orientation, HIV status, or income.

We approach our work through a harm reduction lens and will meet people where they are at and build community, challenging our differences and uplifting ourselves.

Membership Dues

VOCAL-KY is a dues-paying organization. As a people-powered grassroots organization, we strive to have a stream of funding directly from our membership.

Membership Dues help us continue to build power and win for our people!

Dues are pay what you can, when you can -

The suggested amount is \$5 a month or \$60 a year

We appreciate the support at any level that you can give You can pay in cash at the end of any meeting.

Thank you for being a part of VOCAL-KY Unions and the community!

www.facebook.com/VOCALKY

@VOCALKentuckv

Access our services at: 723 S Brook St., 40203 Contact: 0FFICE: 502-676-0039

info@vocal-ky.org



2023 Roadmap for Louisville Metro Government to End Overdose and Reverse the Harms of the War on Drugs



2023 Roadmap for Louisville Metro Government to End Overdose and Reverse the Harms of the War on Drugs

Last year a coalition of organizations working on the frontlines of the overdose crisis in Louisville released the 2022 Roadmap for Louisville Metro Government to End Overdose and Reverse the Harms of the War on Drugs. Despite staggering overdose deaths, and a continued crisis of homelessness and unmet mental health needs, the city has adopted virtually none of the priorities laid out within the Roadmap.

International Overdose Awareness Day (August 31st), provides a critical opportunity for Mayor Greenberg and the Louisville Metro Council to commit resources and political will towards ending overdose, incarceration, homelessness, poverty, and unmet healthcare and mental health needs. The intersecting crises have been driven by drug war-era politics that invested heavily in criminalization and incarceration, while underinvesting in the long-term solutions of housing, services, and care. This drug war mindset is why our city has refused to enact lifesaving harm reduction policies that could have reduced deaths and increased care. While the action Metro government must take now is bold, the priorities are basic, have long been known, and are only at a crisis level now because of historic inaction.

A Snapshot Since 2022

Historically high overdose deaths: Despite a small reduction in overdose deaths last year, 2022 had the second-highest overdose deaths in Kentucky history, a 71% increase from 2019 and twice the number from ten years ago. Further, deaths of Black and "other" Kentuckians, rose by 14.9%. Positive steps since last year's International Overdose Awareness Day: We believe it is crucial to acknowledge and applaud action taken by the Louisville Metro Government to tackle the crisis facing our city, and called for in our roadmap last year. • Louisville metro government has taken a national lead by allocating the first \$1.5 million of Opioid Abatement Settlement Funds entirely towards harm reduction and care. This initial funding will go to two grassroots organizations; Kentucky Harm Reduction Coalition and Feed Louisville, as well as to University of Kentucky' Louisville Metro Public Health & Wellness for their harm reduction outreach and services. We applaud our city's leadership and urge that all settlement funds be spent in the same way.

• In response to a dramatic increase in deaths inside the Louisville jail, LMDC has expanded access to narcan - the overdose reversal medication to people being held in the jail. Further, the city uplifted the success of this new policy by informing the press when a person in custody saved a life.

• Earlier this year Mayor Greenberg announced plans for a Community Care Campus to provide services and emergency housing to Louisvillians in need. While there continue to be concerns about when the Care Campus will open, which organizations will operate it and exactly how it will function, the vision laid out by the Mayor is laudable and well needed. Inaction and backsliding since last year's International Overdose Awareness Day: We must also uplift the tragic inaction and reversals in positive policy change that has occurred since last year.

• The vast majority of investments and policy change called for in the Roadmap we released last year have been ignored, unchanged or so deeply underinvested in that it has had no meaningful impact. The lack of action is visible in every community of our city, and most dramatic in the communities that have suffered from historic poverty, divestment, inadequate healthcare, and unaddressed community needs are disproportionately impacted.

• The city has intensified homeless encampments sweeps, while decreasing access to short-term stays for unhoused Louisvillians in hotels where people could receive services. The criminalization and disruption of these encampments does nothing to solve the problems of homelessness. In fact, it often disrupts whatever connection to services and care people once had as they are displaced and have to seek out a new living situation.



• Despite a commitment by former Mayor Fischer, people in custody in the Louisville jail who are struggling with opioid use disorder are still not receiving Medication-Assisted Treatment (MAT) - the gold standard of care. In fact, only recently has the jail been able to allow people to continue accessing suboxone who are already utilizing this effective form of MAT.

A Roadmap and a Call to Action

The time is now for Mayor Greenberg and the Louisville Metro Council to act. The federal government has allocated an unprecedented amount of resources that can be utilized to tackle a range of housing and other needs, and Jefferson County will receive \$57 million in Opioid Abatement Settlement Funds over the next 18 years. The solutions are well known. The only thing that is needed is political will and the recognition of what led our city to this crisis.

Take immediate steps to save and improve the lives of low-income, marginalized people in Louisville.

1. Expand access to three proven, life-saving public health tools for all Louisvillians at risk of overdose with low barrier Medication-Assisted Treatment (MAT), naloxone and harm reduction services: Through expansion of existing programs, piloting new interventions and making crucial policy changes, Louisville Metro Government must act to expand access to these crucial public health interventions.

Critical examples:

a) Increase access to MAT, naloxone and harm reduction services to unhoused and high risk Louisvillians through expansion of existing outreach programs that include mobile buprenorphine induction, and methadone maintenance.

b) Increase access to MAT, naloxone and harm reduction tools (including syringes and safer use kits) at community based organizations and shelters that serve high rates of people struggling with substance use.

c) Permit community-based organizations and the Louisville Public Health and Wellness Department to distribute safer smoking/snorting kits as a public health tool and do not prosecute the possession or distribution of these supplies.



d) Increase the time and locations that the Louisville Public Health and Wellness Department's syringe program operates.

e) Authorize the Louisville Public Health and Wellness Department's syringe exchange program to create peer-to-peer programs that will expand access to naloxone, sterile syringes and smoking kits to expand access to harm reduction tools.

f) Stop the discharge of patients suffering from acute mental health crises from local hospitals. Ensure that patients who are discharged are engaged in adequate care with their housing needs met. This issue was recently highlighted in the Courier Journal.

2. Expand access to emergency housing, government support and care for unhoused Louisvillians at high risk of overdose: Unhoused and inadequately housed Louisvillians are at high risk of overdose, and often not engaged in care. Despite cycling through jail and emergency housing, many are never provided basic government benefits they are entitled to, leaving them vulnerable. Addressing these issues would save lives, address community concerns and decrease government inefficiency.

a) Louisville must immediately halt homeless encampment sweeps, while rapidly increasing outreach services and the amount of emergency and long-term housing for all unhoused Louisvillians, including housing with onsite services for people actively using drugs and/or struggling with serious unmet mental health needs.

b) Recommit to utilizing hotels to provide emergency housing and on-site care. People must be guaranteed government identification, enrollment into all eligible government benefits (medicaid, public assistance and housing assistance), and into any necessary medical, mental health or substance use treatment necessary before exiting these short-terms stays.

c) Provide unhoused Louisvillians exiting Louisville Metro Department of Corrections (LMDC) with the same emergency hotel stay and guarantee to identification, services and treatment enrollment.

d) Increase access to showers, bathrooms, laundry and locations for people struggling with homelessness to meet basic hygienic needs and receive services.



e) Enforce Louisville's source of income discrimination ordinance. The ordinance, which was passed in 2020 requires landlords to accept the Louisville Metro Housing Authority Housing Choice Vouchers, as well as prohibiting discrimination in renting to persons based on arrest history, conviction history, homeless status, and prior military service. By actively enforcing its own laws, the Louisville Metro Government can begin to decrease our city's homeless crisis.

f) To increase access to services and care, expand access to wifi, charging stations and free TARC passes for people struggling with poverty, substance use or other medical needs.

3. Decrease incarceration and increase care in Louisville: Criminalization of drug use, homelessness, and mental illness is expensive and not evidence-based. We spend more money arresting and incarcerating people with unmet behavioral health and housing needs than we do providing these services. This makes us all less safe and healthy. There is little transparency and institutional support for alternative response programs like the diversion pilot. Metro should be championing this work and reporting outcomes to the public. If the outcomes do not reflect success, find ways to address issues instead of simply defunding efforts. Louisville Metro Government must commit to reducing the jail population to below 1,000 individuals, as well as reducing the Home Incarceration Program (HIP), which often denies people the services they need while putting them on a path to actual incarceration.

a) Decline to prosecute anyone for drug paraphernalia and drug residue and instead, offer referrals to substance use and other supportive services.

b) Expand existing diversion and non-police emergency response programs, including scope and geographic area.

c) Provide Louisville Public Health and Wellness oversight over existing diversion and non-police emergency response programs to ensure they adhere to proven public health interventions, including expanding harm reduction interventions and modalities.



d) Stop the "Broken Windows" policing tactic of citing unhoused Louisvillians for issues related to homelessness, mental health needs and poverty. Replace this practice with outreach, services and care that will address the underlying causes of these issues

e) Provide harm reduction training by local community-based organizations to local law enforcement.

4. Decrease overdose deaths and increase care for incarcerated Louisvillians: Louisvillians who continue to be held at LMDC and HIP must be guaranteed basic medical care and access to tools that will reduce death and increase care when they leave incarceration

a) Guarantee medical care outside of LMDC for anyone detoxing from substance use.

b) Expand MAT access to include buprenorphine induction and/or methadone maintenance for people held in LMDC and/or on home incarceration, including those in need, but not currently utilizing either treatment.

c) Ensure that people leaving jail are connected to care so that they can continue receiving treatment.

d) Ensure all staff are regularly trained in naloxone use and overdose reversal procedures.

community partner sponsors



We extend deepest thanks to New Day Recovery Center in Winchester for graciously hosting this event, and tolerating logistical twists and turns.

It's a New Day for Kentucky Organizing.



PEOPLE'S ACTION

People's Action builds the power of poor and working people in urban, rural, and suburban areas to win change through issue fights and elections. We are a national network of 40 state and local grassroots power-building organizations in 29 states, united in the work of building a bigger "we."

Nine grassroots organizing networks came together in 2016 to form a powerful national organization with more than a million members to fight for our communities and win. Over five decades, we have won material improvements for the lives of millions of people, with victories that include the Community Reinvestment Act, Superfund, the Affordable Care Act, the Dodd-Frank Financial Reform Act and the MAT Act peoplesaction.org

community partner sponsors



LOUISVILLE STANDING UP FOR RACIAL JUSTICE (LSURJ)

Louisville Showing Up for Racial Justice (LSURJ) is part of a national network of individuals and groups working to undermine white supremacy and work toward racial justice.

Through community organizing, mobilizing, and education, LSURJ moves white people to act as part of a multi-racial majority for justice. louisvillesurj.org

DOVE DELEGATES

DOVE's mission is to reduce the footprint of police within our most vulnerable/oppressed communities.

DOVE Delegates is a call to action to re-imagine community safety and cocreate with community, practitioners, and service providers systems of authentic care, justice, reparation and accountability through strengthening the mental, physical and emotional well-being of community by reducing barriers to growth, engagement and restoration. dovedelegates.org

FORWARD JUSTICE ACTION NETWORK (FJAN)

Forward Justice Action Network is a 501c4 organization that engages in educational and advocacy activities to promote political and grassroots support for laws and public policies that advance racial, social, and economic justice in the US South.

Founded in 2019, we serve as a strategic partner for nonprofit organizations, coalitions, and networks at the forefront of movements organizing for a more just, equitable, and free South. Our work catalyzes success for movements and expands democratic opportunities for people affected by injustice. Our key strategies include communications, narrative change, legislative and legal advocacy, community organizing, and base-building.

Forward Justice Action Network is committed to transforming the South, thereby the country, by supporting social justice movements at the forefront of creating a "Third Reconstruction" in the United States. fjan.org





KENTUCKY



KENTUCKY POOR PEOPLE'S CAMPAIGN (PPC)

A NATIONAL CALL for MODAL DEVIVAL The Poor People's Campaign: A National Call for Moral Revival is uniting people across Kentucky to challenge the evils of systemic racism, poverty, the war economy, ecological devastation and the nation's distorted morality of religious nationalism.

poorpeoplescampaign.org/committee/kentucky



KAIROS FELLOWSHIP

KAt Kairos, we run creative and impactful campaigns that allow users to see themselves not just as participants in the digital realm, but as co-creators and constituents who have the ability to move platforms and ultimately win stronger regulation of the internet. All of our campaigns are designed to ensure that technology and the internet are in service of Black and brown liberation and not used to uphold systemic injustice. Through our campaigns we're building a world where tech works for everyone. We partner with strategists and organizers to approach the internet as a realm for building and contesting for power. When members of organizations partner with us or attend our trainings, they develop a deep understanding of how technology is regulating and reorganizing our lives while also providing tech literacy and digital power. The bread and butter of our work is rooted in a sense of belonging, community, and hopefulness in the fight for liberation.

kyequaljustice.org



Kentucky Harm Reduction Coalition KENTUCKY HARM REDUCTION COALITION (KHRC)

Our mission is to reduce substance addiction overdoses and deaths, the stigma associated with substance use disorder, and to offer harm reduction solutions.

Our vision is to use harm reduction modalities by engaging, educating, and empowering first responders, police, firefighters, treatment centers, and others closely involved with those suffering from substance use disorder, by partnering with local and state government, as well as medical and civic leaders. kyhrc.org

community partner sponsors



KENTUCKIANS FOR THE COMMONWEALTH (KFTC)

Kentuckians For The Commonwealth is a statewide organization working for a new balance of power and a just society. As we work together we build our strength, individually and as a group, and we find solutions to real life problems. We use direct action to challenge – and change – unfair political, economic and social systems. Our membership is open to all people who are committed to equality, democracy and non-violent change kftc.org



KENTUCKY EQUAL JUSTICE CENTER (KEJC)

Kentucky Equal Justice Center was formed in 1976 to work with all the civil legal services programs in Kentucky on things best done cooperatively, from training to brief banks to advocacy in Frankfort. We serve as a watchdog and advocate for and with a wide range of low income Kentuckians — from children to elders in long term care — and keep in touch with a network of poverty law offices where people bring real life problems.

Today, we are a growing, flexible, and responsive public interest advocacy organization, sticking up for low income people and working with a multitude of community partners. Our track record is strong: from the lawsuit that successfully challenged nursing home cutoffs in 2003, to legislative successes on human trafficking and mortgage lending, to innovative litigation to collect wages due workers, to ever growing partnerships with public interest allies. kyequaljustice.org

THE PEOPLE'S UNIVERSITY

University of the People (UoPeople) is the Education Revolution. We are the first non-profit, tuition-free, American, accredited online University. Dedicated to opening access to higher education globally, UoPeople is designed to help qualified high school graduates overcome financial, geographic, political, and personal constraints keeping them from collegiate studies.

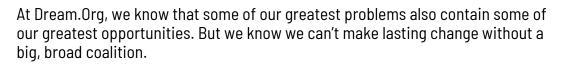
We offer undergraduate programs at both the Associate degree and Bachelor degree levels, in fields of study that are perfect for propelling your career in the right direction. These courses are some of the most attractive and in demand in the global job market. uopeople.edu



community partner sponsors

DREAM.ORG

Overstuffed prisons. Rising energy costs. Too little opportunity. And too much division to act.



From ending mass incarceration, to stopping climate change, to creating new economic opportunities in overlooked communities, the only durable solutions are the ones that lots of people create together. Common ground is often found in uncommon places. We will work with anyone who is willing to be a part of the solution, even if we disagree on many things. Our communities deserve nothing less.

Already, this approach has won bipartisan criminal justice reform that brought 30,000+ people home from behind bars, helped 500+ BIPOC individuals pursue lucrative careers in the tech and climate space, and shaped the largest Inflation Reduction Act climate program to allocate \$18 billion for disadvantaged communities.

Previously known as the Dream Corps, Dream.Org was founded by activist and entrepreneur Van Jones. And through our programs we are working towards an America with fewer people behind bars, less pollution, and more opportunity.



YOUNG PEOPLE IN RECOVERY (YPR-KY)

Vision:

YPR envisions a world where all young people have the resources they need to thrive in recovery from addiction to drugs and alcohol. Mission:

YPR's mission is to provide the life skills and peer support to help young people recover from substance use disorder and reach their full potential. youngpeopleinrecovery.org



organizations hosting tables

- SARA HALL WITH SAVE THE CHILDREN ACTION NETWORK (SCAN)
- JUDY SHCROEDER, JOYCE ADKINS OF POOR PEOPLE'S CAMPAIGN
- JENN JACKSON WITH LEAGUE OF WOMEN VOTERS
- DREAM.ORG
- KENTUCKIANS FOR THE COMMONWEALTH
- ROBIN KUNKEL WITH KENTUCKY EQUAL JUSTICE CENTER
- DOVE DELEGATES
- TARGET 4 HIV TESTING
- KENTUCKY HARM REDUCTION COALITION