

NATIONHOOD

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A GUIDE TO CIVIC ENGAGEMENT DURING TWO PANDEMICS

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PHOTOGRAPHY
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AUTHORS' NOTE

America is currently in the midst of a paradigm shift both politically and socially. We are experiencing a nation in crisis and struggling to prevent the spread of COVID-19.

To date, per the NY Times, over 2.3 million people have been infected with the coronavirus with over 120,000 deaths while the numbers continue to rise. Recent figures show that Black communities are disproportionately affected by COVID-19, dying at alarming rates and suffering economic loss as small business owners and entrepreneurs. So while we are fighting to survive one pandemic, we are continuously battling another - racism.

Black people are being murdered because of white supremacy and state-sanctioned violence and voices from around the world are demanding that #BlackLivesMatter! - and the balance of power is shifting.

Like many of you, we are motivated by organizers planning peaceful protests and advocating on our behalf for a better tomorrow. To assist with the movement, we thought of ways in which we can help mobilize the community.

With career backgrounds and work experiences in politics, activism, program and resource development, and strategic communications -- we designed a toolkit that serves as a first-step guide to becoming your own advocate.

This civic engagement guide was designed as a tool and resource for you to identify where you feel most comfortable in engaging with the systems that govern our lives and communities. Now more than ever, there is a need to have a presence in both protest and policy.

We hope you find our toolkit useful, and that you feel empowered to unite with Black voices across the nation to significantly reduce barriers and systems of injustice across the country.

THE NATIONHOOD LIBERATION TOOLKIT, IS DEDICATED TO

Rashard Brooks in Atlanta, Georgia
 Ahmaud Arbery in Brunswick, GA
 Breonna Taylor in Louisville, Kentucky
 Tony McDade in Tallahassee, Florida
 George Floyd in Minnesota, Minneapolis
 Elijah McClain in Aurora, Colorado

... And the countless others (Black Non-binary, men, women, and children) who have died at the hands of institutionalized racism.

OUR MISSION



We're a collective of activists, elected officials, entrepreneurs and everyday citizens with one agenda:

To provide a deeper education and insight for our Black community by sharing research-based information on legislation, policy and initiatives to progress our journey to freedom.

The Black community is building a collective accord. Our intent is to both educate and raise awareness through impactful political and economical programming with measurable outcomes and solutions.

“The function of freedom is to free someone else.”
—Toni Morrison

CIVIC ENGAGEMENT



Civic engagement is actively addressing issues of concern in your community and the public at large.

Acts of engagement can include volunteering, increasing awareness of your elected representatives and filling voids by creating new community organizations. Through civic engagement, *you* have the power to protect and positively impact society.

We are obligated to uplift one another, and should understand that just starting a conversation with family and friends about what can be improved in their neighborhood ignites awareness. As a member of the larger social fabric, it is our collective responsibility to shape our society into the way we want to see it.

Together, we can win back
the governance of our Black communities!

“You have to act as if it were possible to radically transform the world. And you have to do it all the time.” —Angela Davis

RAISE YOUR VOICE



It's time to amplify our message. Because if we don't, they will.

If we don't engage civically, white supremacy will keep our quality of life in their hands. Not participating is a disservice to where we live, eat, send our children to school, seek medical care, allocate our taxes and spend our money locally. Elected officials make decisions and pass legislation on our behalf everyday. Whether the decisions and legislation are helpful or harmful, depends on how you hold them accountable.

This section is designed to empower and provide you with the tools you need to engage with your elected officials and turn them into experts on issues that matter to you most. Without your voice, your elected officials will not feel obligated to prioritize policies that best serve you and your community.

You can use this section to understand legislation and policy, find your local representatives and take action on issues that are important to you. It is important to note that this section explains a federal legislative process, which does not differ much from state and city legislative processes. Please check the appendix for links to understanding variations in the State process.

UNDERSTAND THE LEGISLATIVE PROCESS

01 CREATE A BILL

A bill is the first step in lawmaking. Anyone can have an idea for a law or bill, but only members of the House and Senate can introduce a bill by sponsoring it.

02 COMMITTEE OVERSIGHT

Once a bill is drafted it is then referred to the appropriate committee in the House or Senate. Committees are sub-organizations formed around different subject matters and consist of members who have the knowledge to monitor ongoing government operations, identify issues for review, evaluate information and make recommendations for courses of action.

03 COMMITTEE ACTION

When a bill is with a committee it is examined carefully and its journey to “the floor” is determined. Committees hold public hearings to determine how useful or necessary a bill is. If the committee does not act on a bill, the bill dies. In some cases bills

are referred to sub-committees that conduct a similar process. This phase is extremely important. Making your voice be heard during public hearings is a critical component to swaying legislative decisions. Once the committee members vote on the bill and if it is passed it then gets reported for “floor action” (where all members of either chamber come together to debate and vote on the bill)

04 SCHEDULING FLOOR ACTION

After a bill is reported back to the chamber where it originated, it is placed on a calendar to be reviewed by the full body of both branches.

Committees hold public hearings to determine how useful or necessary a bill is. If the committee does not act on a bill, the bill dies.

05 DEBATE

Some bills get debated, some don't. Its usually highly contested bills with significant media coverage that warrant discussion. The committee decides how much time to allot to each person. Then the bill is voted on.

06 VOTING

After the debate and the approval of any amendments, the bill is passed or defeated by the members voting. If passed, it is then sent to the other chamber, unless that chamber already has a similar measure under review.

07 REFERRAL TO THE CHAMBER

When a bill is passed in either branch, it is referred to the other branch where it usually follows the same route through committee and floor action. The chamber may approve the bill as received, reject it, ignore it, or change it. These processes can happen simultaneously in some instances. If either chamber does not pass the bill it dies.

Laws govern our lives. They can uphold white supremacy and systemic racism but before these laws are passed a bill must be drafted.

CONTINUED ON NEXT PAGE

UNDERSTAND THE LEGISLATIVE PROCESS

“ Reclaiming my time, reclaiming my time, reclaiming my time...”

—Maxine Waters, D-CA 43rd District

08 CONFERENCE COMMITTEE ACTION

If only minor changes are made to a bill by the other chamber, it is common for the legislation to go back to the first chamber for agreement. Both chambers must approve any changes made before the bill can move forward. If the House and Senate pass different bills they are sent to the Conference Committee. *Most major legislation goes to a Conference Committee.*

09 FINAL ACTIONS

After a bill has been approved by both chambers in identical form, it is sent to the Executive chamber (President) and if approved the bill becomes law. Or, the Executive chamber can take no action which means the bill is vetoed aka the legislation dies.

10 OVERRIDING A VETO

If the Executive chamber vetoes a bill, either house may attempt to override the veto. The president usually returns a vetoed bill with a message indicating his reasons for rejecting the measure. The veto can be overridden only by a two-thirds vote in both the Senate and the House.

KNOW YOUR REPRESENTATIVES

Your elected officials are one of the main pipelines to change within your community. They are usually the first stop in the community for industries and investors. Many places have different political structures, but for the most part they consist of the following:



FEDERAL REPRESENTATIVES

The largest catchment area on a federal level with representatives that include:

PRESIDENT

The Commander and Chief of the Armed Forces and Head of State. The President is also the Executive Branch of the US government. Under Article II of the Constitution, the President is responsible for the execution and enforcement of the laws created by Congress. This person represents the entire country and signs legislation into law. They currently serve four-year terms.

VICE PRESIDENT

An official of the Legislative Branch of government. The Constitution allows Vice President's to Chair over the Senate and have a vote in case of a tie. They also partake in policy meetings, serve as a member of the National Security Council and have many special assignments. They currently serve four-year terms.

U.S. ATTORNEY GENERAL

Under the Appointments Clause of the United States Constitution, the US Attorney General is an appointed power of the president of the United States and appointed

with the advice and consent of the Senate. They give advice and opinions, formal and informal, on legal matters to the president, the cabinet and heads of the executive departments of government.

U.S. SENATORS

A smaller group of elected officials that represents states on a federal level. Each state picks two Senators to represent them. U.S. Senators are usually elected to six-year terms. The Senate has the sole power to conduct impeachment trials, essentially serving as jury and judge. They have the power to review, approve or reject presidential appointees to executive and judicial branch posts. The Constitution gives the Senate the power to approve, by a two-thirds vote, treaties made by the executive branch and also the power to filibuster, a.k.a. delay or block, legislation. Lastly, the US Senate uses its power to investigate to restrain government and in some instances, educate the public.

THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES A.K.A. U.S. CONGRESS

Known as The House of Representatives, they are known to be “for the people”. There are 435 congressional seats in the U.S. Each district elects a Congressman for a two-year term. Congressional seats strongly lean on the census data to determine seats needed within communities. Congressional members have the power to pass legislation, elect the President in the case of an electoral college tie and under the Constitution, impeach a government official, serving as prosecutor.*

***ADDITIONAL RESOURCES AND ARTICLES.**

**BRANCHES OF GOVERNMENT. (2017). IN [USA.GOV](#).
RETRIEVED FROM [HERE](#)**

STATE REPRESENTATIVES

A state-wide catchment area with representatives that include:

GOVERNOR

The Executive head of a State in the U.S. and the highest-ranking representative in the State. A Governor's powers and responsibilities differ across states and depend on the policies within that state. Their responsibilities include: signing bills into law, convening sessions for the state legislature, rendering “State of the State” addresses to constituents, in some instances granting pardons to prisoners (in some instances), and appointing people to various judicial and state offices. Some states have term limits (four years) on the governorship, others do not have limits.

ATTORNEY GENERAL

Serve as the top legal officer of a state. They advise and represent their legislature and state agencies and act as the “People’s Lawyer”. The attorney general is elected by the people in the majority of states. In others, governors appoint them, they can be selected by secret ballot of the legislature, or they can be selected by the state supreme court.

COMPTROLLER, TREASURER, & AUDITOR

The comptroller impacts revenue estimating, tax collections, accountancy and treasury. The persons safeguards the public's interests concerning government bodies. While the comptroller handles the accounting, in some states, the treasurer oversees the finance department. They work together to manage funds. Either the treasurer or auditor manages the invested and incoming funds. They are appointed or elected depending on the state.

STATE SENATE

Serve as a member of a state's senate and the upper house in the two branches of state government. State senators represent a particular district on a state level and either have two-year terms or four-year terms depending on the state. After being elected by voters, state senators create, debate, and vote on legislation that either makes new laws or amends existing ones.

STATE ASSEMBLY

They are a larger body of representatives who represent smaller districts on a state level. In many instances, legislation is first introduced here. Officials carry term lengths varying state to state, beginning at two years. Like the state senate, the state legislature is responsible for creating, debating and voting on legislation.

LOCAL REPRESENTATIVES

A city-wide person catchment area on a city level with representatives that include:

MAYOR (OR COUNTY EXECUTIVE/ MANAGER/SUPERVISOR)

This is a citywide representative and they pass order and legislation that impacts the entire city. Their responsibilities vary from cities but their main powers are over the local power structure including: housing, education, police and fire departments. Mayoral terms vary.

CITY COUNCIL

Representative a particular district on a city level. Depending on the city's charter, they may perform the following functions: review and approve the city annual budget, establish policy priorities, oversee the performance of local public employees and agencies, oversee effectiveness of public programs, and may enter into legal contracts. Their term lengths vary by city.

DISTRICT ATTORNEY (DA) A.K.A. COMMONWEALTH ATTORNEY

District attorneys have a powerful role in the criminal justice system: pursuing justice and resolving crime. They serve on many levels of government. DA's have the power to prosecute and determine which charges are filed. Depending upon the system in place within a city, district attorneys are either appointed or elected by local voters.*

OTHER ELECTED POSITIONS WITH SIMILAR RESPONSIBILITIES

County, Executive, or Public Service Commissioner: A position held in all states. The duties vary across states but generally involve regulating essential utility services such as energy, telecommunications, and water. Some states elect this position and others appoint for this position.

ELECTED JUDGES*

Certain state and City Judgeships are elected through either partisan or nonpartisan elections by the people, candidates are either listed on the ballot alongside a label designating political party affiliation or listed without a party affiliation.

TO FIND YOUR LOCAL, STATE AND NATIONAL REPRESENTATIVES [CLICK HERE](#)

***ADDITIONAL RESOURCES AND ARTICLES.LEGISLATIVE PROCESS. (2013). IN HOUSE.GOV**

RETRIEVED FROM [HERE](#)

HOLD YOUR REPS ACCOUNTABLE

01 MAKE A CALL

One easy way to contact your representative is to call their office. You can use phone calls to thank representatives for their support, share your concerns on pressing issues, and get informed about any significant changes in legislation or your local community.

FOR A CALL SCRIPT CLICK [HERE](#)

02 WRITE EMAILS OR LETTERS

Like phone calls, sending an email or letter is a simple way to stay in contact. Emails or letters can be used to thank your representatives for their support or to indicate your concern about a specific issue.

03 ATTEND TOWN HALL MEETINGS

Your representatives and leaders can be very busy. Another place to engage with them is at scheduled town halls or community events.

At these public forums, lawmakers can hear from a number of their constituents at once and present their positions on hot-button issues.

To find town halls in your area, you can visit your members' websites, join their mailing lists, check your local news outlets or visit [The Town Hall Project](#): for a calendar of events

04 THANK YOU AND FOLLOW-UP

Share your thanks and express your appreciation for your representative's time. You may send an email or handwritten note summarizing the issues you discussed, whether it was on a call, in an email or letter or at your local town hall. You can also thank your representatives on social media, as they are often eager to take pictures with constituents for acknowledgment.*

FOR AN EMAIL AND LETTER TEMPLATE CLICK [HERE](#)

05 VOTE!

Voting is the most effective way to hold elected officials who make decisions on your behalf accountable. Elected officials understand that they need your vote and must understand the issues. Unite with other Black voices and send a resounding message to create the communities we want to see, or lose your seat.

Register to vote, check your registration status, and learn what's on your ballot at [VOTE411.ORG](#)

***ADDITIONAL RESOURCES AND ARTICLES.**

ADVOCACY TOOL KIT (2018). PDF FILES OF MICHAEL J FOX. RETRIEVED FROM [HERE](#)

MAKE YOUR VOICE HEARD (2020). IN 5 CALLS BY NICK O'NEIL. RETRIEVED FROM [HERE](#)

TAKE THE FIGHT TO WORK

Being Black in the workplace comes with its own set of unique challenges.

Throughout the decades, black people have been forced to maintain corporate ideals of professionalism while enduring traumas in and out of professional settings. It's important to request time off when you need it, and if finding the words may be hard for you, this one's for you.

PAY ATTENTION TO LANGUAGE

Having conversations in the workplace about police brutality, micro and macro aggressions, oppression, and racism can be challenging. Company leadership and co-workers who are not Black, are likely to ask, “What can I do to help?”. Be familiar with key terminology and concepts:

ALLYSHIP

Allyship is defined as “the practice of emphasizing social justice, inclusion, and human rights by members of a privileged, or dominant social group, to advance the interests of an oppressed or marginalized group.” In short, it is asking white colleagues to show through action during moments of injustice against Black people. One thing worth noting is the difference between performative allyship versus action allyship.

PERFORMATIVE ALLYSHIP

Performative allyship is hashtag activists who promote a culture of inclusion and belonging online, but produce no tangible benefits to Black people in everyday life. An example would be corporations that issue well-crafted statements only to have a leadership team that is not inclusive of Black people, or one Black employee serving in a diversity and inclusion role.

ACTION ALLYSHIP

Action allyship is defined by action, movement, ie...doing something that has real outcomes for Black people. Action Allyship looks like Reddit co-founder Alexis Ohanian stepping down from the board to make space for a Black woman.

PERFORMING WOKENESS. (2018). JENNA GRAY. THE CRIMSON. RETRIEVED FROM [HERE](#)

ANTI-OPPRESSION LIBGUIDE: ALLYSHIP-TAKE ACTION. RETRIEVED FROM [HERE](#)

ALLYSHIP: WHAT IT MEANS TO BE AN ALLY. (2019). TULANE UNIVERSITY. RETRIEVED FROM [HERE](#)

CREATE A SAFE SPACE

There is power in coordinating a safe space and affinity groups in the workplace. Safe spaces and facilitated conversations give employees an opportunity to speak freely on issues within the office — without repercussions.

FOR EXAMPLE

As Black people, our double consciousness allows us to code-switch around our non-Black colleagues, which can limit substantive conversations for fear of workplace retaliation. Racial affinity groups allow each racial group to express themselves by citing past experiences and concerns without fear of being harmed or having their words weaponized against them.

TAKE ACTION

Once you have established a common language and created a safe space to air grievances to and allow yourself to feel and be heard without retaliation, you and your colleagues can then continue to engage in productive conversations that elevate Black voices in decision making. Here are a few things that you can do to transform your work environment:

START A BOOKCLUB

A seminal piece to start with is *White Fragility* by Robin DiAngelo where she, as a white woman, unpacks the ideas of whiteness and white privilege. There are a ton of lists that exist. Here are a few that we like:

[HOW TO BE ACTIVELY ANTI-RACIST RESOURCE LIST BY SARAH SOPHIE FLICKER AND ALYSSA KLEIN](#)

**[BLACK LIBERATION READING LIST](#)
[RACIAL JUSTICE BOOKSHELF](#)**

ATTEND AN ANTI-RACIST WORKSHOP

If you want to jump-start the learning you can have an outside facilitator lead a workshop for you and your team. The benefit here is that you have an unbiased, third-party professional articulating your realities. Here are a few workshops that we think are a good place to start:

**[BEYOND DIVERSITY](#)
**[CENTER FOR RACIAL JUSTICE IN EDUCATION](#)
**[DEEP](#)
[UNDOING RACISM](#)******

LEAD AN INITIATIVE

Now is the time to submit a proposal for an idea, concept, or plan that you want to launch. Take advantage of this opportunity to pitch your idea — it matters and it is great.

**[A CORPORATE REQUESTS TEMPLATE](#)
[A CORPORATE REQUESTS TEMPLATE \(SOCIAL\)](#)**

PROTEST 101



Protesting is a process. Knowing the ins-and-outs is important while you make *good trouble*.

THE PROCESS

BEFORE YOU GO

Make sure you've packed correctly. Anything can happen and it's important to bring: hand sanitizer, a charger, washcloth and water (and a snack). Optional: extra shirt, milk for pepper spray, plastic bag, marker, or pen.

Leave your debit card at home and bring a small amount of cash.

Wear a mask and bring hand sanitizer (COVID-19 is still outchea).

Do your due diligence and research the organizers of the march before attending.

Check the weather and plan accordingly.

Consider downloading and using secure/encrypted texting platforms i.e Signal.

If possible, find a friend to protest with you.

Write emergency contacts directly on your skin (i.e Local bailout organization, lawyers, emergency contacts).

See if you have a friend willing to accompany you.

If you are underage, get permission from your parents/guardian or have them accompany you.

WHILE YOU'RE THERE

Be vigilant at all times and plan an exit strategy.

Trust and follow Black people and/or other marginalized populations you encounter during a protest. Sometimes the best way to lead is by following.

Pay attention to people that are hype, agitating and suggesting that you destroy property (they may be undercover law enforcement or other opposition plants).

“Trust and follow Black people or other marginalized populations you encounter during a protest.”

Turn off critical locations on the location function on your phones and other cellular devices.

Be mindful of taking photos and videos that show your face or the faces of others.

If you get pepper-sprayed (which we hope you don't it's awful), use milk NOT water.

Try not to wear any unique clothing that could give away your identity.

Cover up any tattoos, scars, piercings.

WHEN YOU LEAVE

If you get tear gassed (again, this would suck and we hope it doesn't happen) make sure to put contaminated clothes in a bag and shower with cold water.

Try to avoid public transportation in a densely populated area, it's best to get away from the crowd before calling a ride.

Make sure you have someone to text that you're safe and headed home.

GO GRASSROOTS



Grassroots organizations across the nation are working tirelessly to make positive, effective change in Black communities.

You can support an organization by joining their mailing list, promoting their services or volunteering at fundraisers/events, sharing their work, and by making a donation.

We have curated a shortlist of leading organizations nationally that are fighting for the greater Black community.

ACLU

The American Civil Liberties Union (ACLU) is a nonprofit organization founded in 1920 working to defend and preserve the individual rights and liberties guaranteed to every person in this country by the Constitution and laws of the United States.

[WEBSITE / TAKE ACTION](#)

BLACK FUTURES LAB

Black Futures Lab works with Black people to transform our communities, build Black political power, and change the way that power operates—locally, statewide, and nationally.

[WEBSITE / TAKE ACTION](#)

BLACK LIVES MATTER

Black Lives Matter Foundation, Inc is a global organization in the US, UK, and Canada, whose mission is to eradicate white supremacy and build local power to intervene in violence inflicted on Black communities by the state and vigilantes.

[WEBSITE / TAKE ACTION](#)

COLOR OF CHANGE

Color of Change leads campaigns that build real power for Black communities. We challenge injustice, hold corporate and political leaders accountable, commission game-changing research on systems of inequality, and advance solutions for racial justice that can transform our world.

[WEBSITE / TAKE ACTION](#)

DREAM DEFENDERS

Dream Defenders organizes Black and Brown youth to build power in our communities to advance a new vision we have for the state.

[WEBSITE / TAKE ACTION](#)

EQUAL JUSTICE INITIATIVE

The Equal Justice Initiative is committed to ending mass incarceration and excessive punishment in the United States, to challenging racial and economic injustice, and to protecting basic human rights for the most vulnerable people in American society.

[WEBSITE / TAKE ACTION](#)

FAIR FIGHT

Fair Fight promotes fair elections in Georgia and around the country, encourages voter participation in elections, and educates voters about elections and their voting rights.

[WEBSITE / TAKE ACTION](#)

G.L.I.T.S.

G.L.I.T.S approaches the health and rights crises faced by transgender sex workers holistically using harm reduction, human rights principles, economic and social justice, along with a commitment to empowerment and pride in finding solutions from our own community.

[WEBSITE / TAKE ACTION](#)

MOVEMENT FOR BLACK LIVES

The Movement for Black Lives is an ecosystem of individuals and organizations creating a shared vision and policy agenda to win rights, recognition, and resources for Black people. In doing so, the movement makes it possible for us, and therefore everyone, to live healthy and fruitful lives.

[WEBSITE / TAKE ACTION](#)

NAACP

The mission of the National Association for the Advancement of Colored People (NAACP) is to secure the political, educational, social, and economic equality of rights in order to eliminate race-based discrimination and ensure the health and well-being of all persons.

[WEBSITE / TAKE ACTION](#)

NATIONAL ACTION NETWORK

The Innocence Project, founded in 1992 by Peter Neufeld and Barry Scheck at Cardozo School of Law, exonerates the wrongly convicted through DNA testing and reforms the criminal justice system to prevent future injustice.

[WEBSITE / TAKE ACTION](#)

NATIONAL BLACK DISABILITY COALITION

The National Black Disability Coalition (NBDC) is a response to the need for Blacks with Disabilities in America to organize around issues of mutual concern and use our collective strength to address disability issues with an emphasis on people who live in poverty.

[WEBSITE / TAKE ACTION](#)

NATIONAL URBAN LEAGUE

The National Urban League is a historic civil right and urban advocacy organization with 90 affiliates serving 300 communities, providing direct services that impact and improve the lives of more than two million people nationwide.

[WEBSITE / TAKE ACTION](#)

NEW ALTERNATIVES

New Alternatives is advocating for change. We are dedicated to the care and well-being of these young people and are at the forefront of combating the epidemic of poverty and homelessness in New York City's LGBTQ+ youth population

[WEBSITE / TAKE ACTION](#)

POLICY LINK

PolicyLink is a national research and action institute advancing racial and economic equity by Lifting Up What Works.

[WEBSITE / TAKE ACTION](#)

THE AUDRE LORDE PROJECT

The Audre Lorde Project is a Lesbian, Gay, Bisexual, Two-Spirit, Trans and Gender Non-Conforming People of Color center for community organizing, focusing on the New York City area. Through mobilization, education and capacity-building, we work for community wellness and progressive social and economic justice.

[WEBSITE / TAKE ACTION](#)

THE HETRICK-MARTIN INSTITUTE

At the Hetrick-Martin Institute we believe all young people, regardless of sexual orientation or identity, deserve a safe and supportive environment in which to achieve their full potential.

[WEBSITE / TAKE ACTION](#)

THE JUSTICE LEAGUE

The Gathering for Justice's mission is to build a movement to end child incarceration while working to eliminate the racial inequities that permeate the justice system.

[WEBSITE / TAKE ACTION](#)

THE LOVE LAND FOUNDATION

Loveland Foundation is committed to showing up for communities of color in unique and powerful ways, with a particular focus on Black women and girls.

[WEBSITE / TAKE ACTION](#)

TRANS JUSTICE FUNDING PROJECT

The Trans Justice Funding Project is a community-led funding initiative founded in 2012 to support grassroots, trans justice groups run by and for trans people. We center the leadership of trans people organizing around their experiences with racism, economic injustice, transmisogyny, ableism, immigration, incarceration, and other intersecting oppressions.

[WEBSITE / TAKE ACTION](#)

UNTIL FREEDOM

Until Freedom is an intersectional social justice organization rooted in the leadership of diverse people of color to address systemic and racial injustice.

[WEBSITE / TAKE ACTION](#)

WOMEN FOR POLITICAL CHANGE

Women for Political Change (WFPC) holistically invests in the leadership and political power of young women and trans & non-binary individuals throughout Minnesota.

[WEBSITE / TAKE ACTION](#)

ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS

We would like to extend our deepest gratitude to all those who have directly and indirectly guided us in writing this liberation toolkit. Your valuable comments, suggestions and offers allowed us to present this offering with conviction and ease. Your contributions to black culture and equality has inspired our need to show up powerfully as well.

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APPENDIX

Raise Your Voice

FINDING YOUR ELECTED OFFICIALS

[USA.gov](https://www.usa.gov)

[commoncause.org](https://www.commoncause.org)

[house.gov](https://www.house.gov)

[senate.gov](https://www.senate.gov)

HOLDING YOUR REPS ACCOUNTABLE

[5calls.org](https://www.5calls.org)

[Vote411](https://www.vote411.org)

[The Town Hall Project](https://www.thetownhallproject.org)

Call Template and Scripts

Workspace Correspondence

UNDERSTANDING THE LANGUAGE

[Guide to Allyship](#)

[Anti-Oppression LibGuide: Allyship-Take action](#)

[Black Liberation Reading List](#)

[Racial Justice Bookshelf](#)

CREATING A SAFE SPACE

[A Corporate Requests Template](#)

[A Corporate Requests Template \(Social\)](#)

TAKE ACTION

[Beyond Diversity](#)

[Center for Racial Justice in Education](#)

[Dig Deep for Equity](#)

[Undoing Racism](#)

[Allyship-Take action - Anti-Oppression LibGuide](#)

Protest 101

[Natl Resource List -- Minneapolis Uprising & Beyond](#)

THANK YOU

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