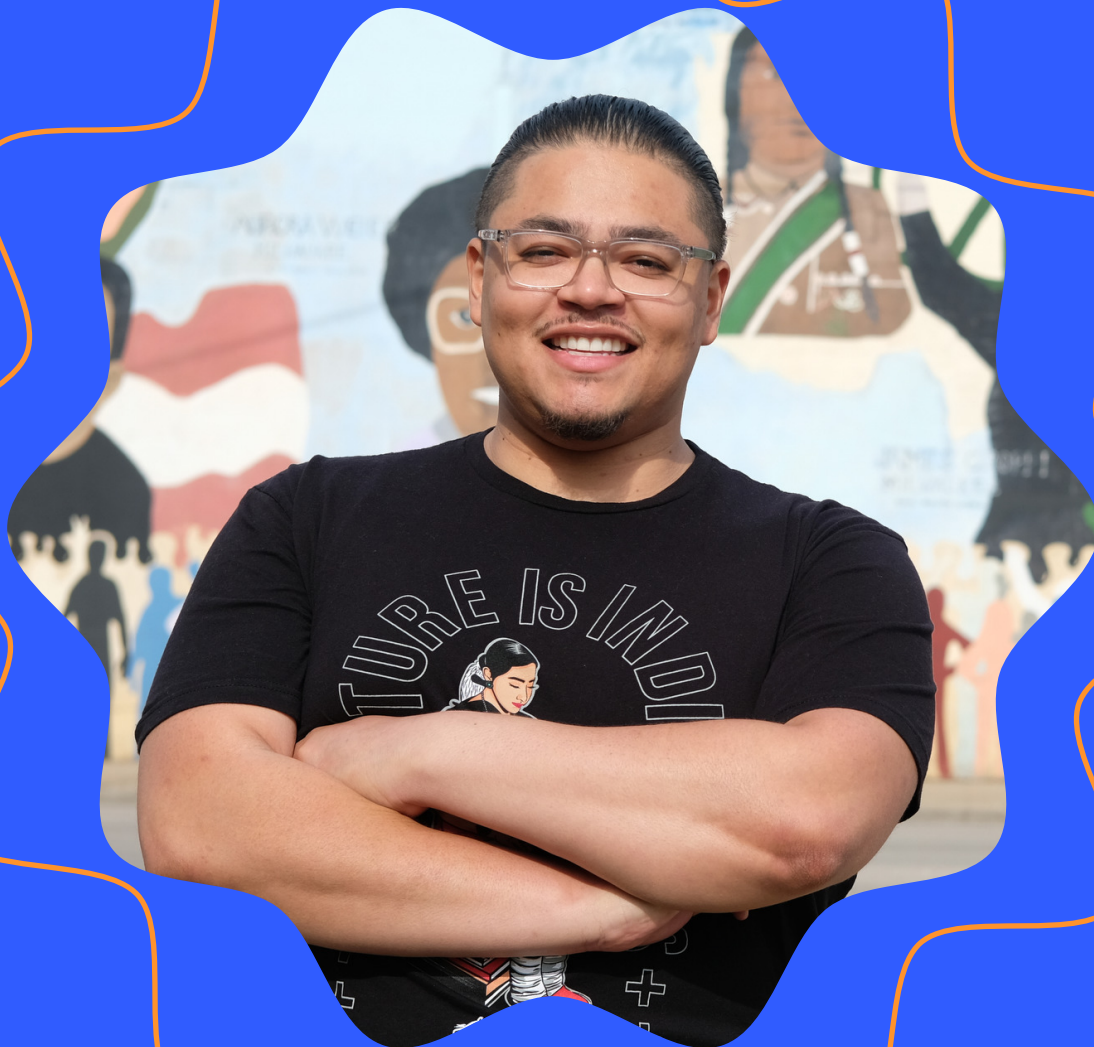


Alliance for Youth Action

ANNUAL REPORT 2023



Letter From Our Executive Director



Dear Friends, Supporters, and Partners,

As we delve into the past year in our annual report, I am filled with a profound sense of gratitude and awe for the remarkable journey we've embarked upon together. The Alliance for Youth Action, with the unyielding spirit and dynamic energy of young people at its core, has not only witnessed but actively shaped monumental strides in our collective pursuit of a more equitable, just, and vibrant democracy. These strides include electing a progressive Judge to the Wisconsin Supreme Court, flipping control for the first time in 15 years, and passing Issues 1 & 2 in Ohio, thereby enshrining abortion access and legalizing marijuana.

Our commitment to fostering an environment where young voices lead the charge has never been more critical. In 2023, amidst a landscape fraught with challenges, our Network rose with unparalleled courage and resolve. From the frontlines of local advocacy campaigns to the heart of voter engagement programs, we've tackled pressing issues head-on: reproductive health and justice, the stewardship of our public lands and climate, immigrant rights, and the vital reimagining of public safety and divestment from systems that harm.

This work is a testament to our belief that the future of our democracy lies in the hands of the youth. Together, we're not merely participants in this system; we are its architects, redefining what it means to engage, lead, and enact tangible, lasting change. Our approach is holistic, grounded in the understanding that the issues we face are interconnected, demanding a response that is equally comprehensive and inclusive. The active involvement of young people in our initiatives has been instrumental in this process.

Our dedication to building political homes for young people across the nation is unwavering. These homes are not just physical spaces but sanctuaries of thought, action, and solidarity. They are the homes within which the next generation of leaders is forged, equipped with the tools, knowledge, and network to champion causes that resonate deeply with our collective humanity.

The Alliance for Youth Action's multifaceted commitment has illuminated the path towards liberation in key areas—yet, we acknowledge that our struggle is vast. Our battles are many, but so too is our resolve. We organize not just for the sake of activism but to weave together a community where every individual can live out their values, be connected to a network of significant relationships, and be empowered to realize their full potential.

At the heart of our mission is a vision for a world free from oppression—a world where every young person wields the power to shape their community's destiny. This vision is guided by a race, gender, and class equity lens, ensuring our fight for justice remains inclusive, equitable, and just.

As we move forward, let us carry with us the knowledge that our organizing is more than a strategy; it is a declaration of our humanity. It is a testament to our solidarity and a celebration of the collective power we hold to enact monumental change. In the coming year, we will continue to work tirelessly to secure more progressive victories, flip and maintain control of state houses with progressive champions, broaden progressive legislation, and ensure the protection of reproductive and voting rights, furthering our commitment to empowering young people and building a more equitable democracy.

To our supporters: thank you. Your actions are this movement's lifeblood. Together, we are not just dreaming of a better world—we are building it.

Dakota Hall

The Alliance Network

Affiliates

[Chicago Votes \(Illinois\)](#)

[Detroit Action \(Michigan\)](#)

[Engage Miami \(Florida\)](#)

[Florida Student Power Network \(Florida\)](#)

[Forward Montana \(Montana\)](#)

[Georgia Youth Justice Coalitionv\(Georgia\)](#)

[Leaders Igniting Transformation \(Wisconsin\)](#)

[Loud Light \(Kansas\)](#)

[Michigan StudentvPower Alliance \(Michigan\)](#)

[Minnesota Youth Collective \(Minnesota\)](#)

[Mississippi Votes \(Mississippi\)](#)

[MOVE Texas \(Texas\)](#)

[New Era Colorado \(Colorado\)](#)

[New Hampshire Youth Movement \(New Hampshire\)](#)

[Next Up \(Oregon\)](#)

[Asian Americans Together \(North Carolina\)](#)

[Ohio Student Association \(Ohio\)](#)

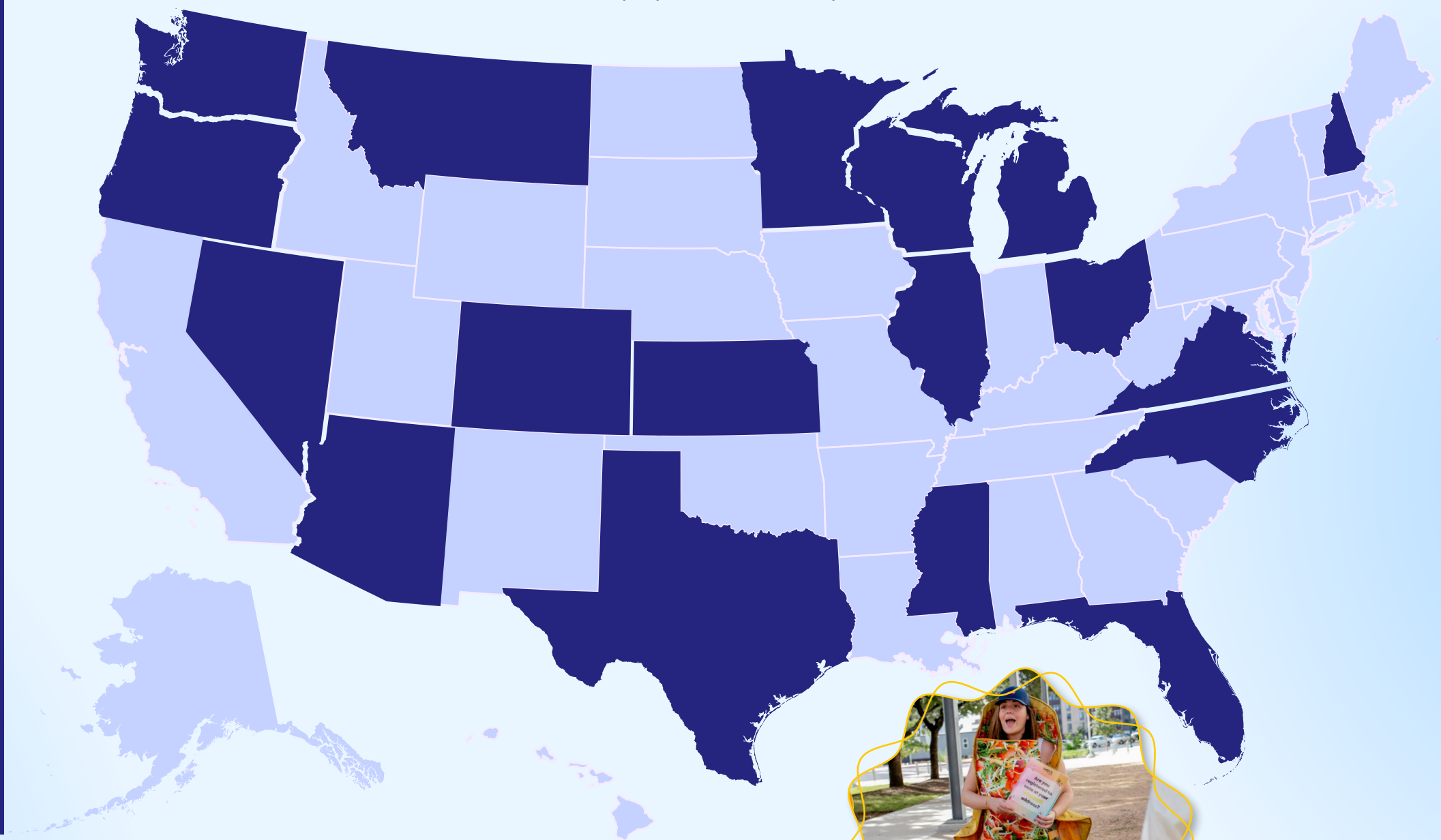
[One APIA Nevada \(Nevada\)](#)

[Poder in Action \(Arizona\)](#)

[Virginia Student Power Network Washington Bus
\(Washington State\)](#)



The Alliance for Youth Action is a federated network of nineteen youth-led grassroots organizations building political power for young people across the country. While each organization has its unique identity and approach to creating change, we unite as a federation to amplify our collective impact.



Update to the Alliance's governing model

In 2023, the Alliance made the decision to restructure our governing model, prioritizing our commitment to remain youth-centered as we continue to grow. Our updated structure now includes all groups within our Network, ensuring that Youth Affiliates, Multi-Generational Affiliates, and Youth Organizing Partners are represented in the Alliance's governing body, thereby having a direct influence on the Alliance's strategic decision-making process. This shift not only fortifies our capacity building, funding intermediary, and donor organizing efforts but also underscores our dedication to inclusivity and collaborative governance.



Welcome GYJC

The Alliance is thrilled to have welcomed the **Georgia Youth Justice Coalition (GYJC)** into our Network in 2023, marking a significant step forward in building youth-led people power in Georgia, the South, and across the nation.

Founded in 2021, GYJC is a grassroots collective of Black, brown, LGBTQ+, working class, and allied students advocating for youth power and justice in Georgia. GYJC grew from engaging a few hundred high school and college students to dedicated local organizing campaigns impacting thousands of Georgians in six counties and six campuses.

With the largest share of 18-24-year-old voters, Georgia has become a consistent battleground state. Expanding our Network to include GYJC helps fuel the growth and sustainability of grassroots organizing led by Black youth in Georgia who have historically been and continue to be systematically under-resourced.

Throughout 2023, youth organizers at GYJC have worked tirelessly to activate youth communities, incubate movement leaders, build power, and enact meaningful wins across the battleground state.

Network Highlights

Over the course of 2023, the Alliance supported our Network with local advocacy campaigns and voter engagement programs to tackle the major challenges facing our country, including reproductive health and justice, public lands and climate change, immigrant justice, and divestment from police and reenvisioning public safety.

To support these local efforts, the Alliance provided regular coaching, funding support, and technical assistance to provide the tools and skills needed to run robust programs. Some highlights from our support include:



Wisconsin

Leaders Igniting Transformation (LIT) focused their efforts on turning out young people to vote in the Supreme Court race in an attempt to protect reproductive and voting rights as well as fair election maps. In the lead up to the April elections, **LIT engaged in extensive grassroots efforts to knock on over 23,000 doors, send over 12,000 texts, and send over 31,000 pieces of persuasive C4 mail.** Additionally, LIT engaged in targeted digital advertising campaigns across Snapchat and created and **distributed over 5,000 voter guides** outlining crucial election information such as early voting deadlines, absentee ballot requirements, and other resources for young voters to stay informed on ballot issues. LIT's base-building efforts, persuasion campaigns, and targeted voter turnout **resulted in Judge Janet winning the Supreme Court race, safeguarding the interests and needs of young people in Wisconsin.**



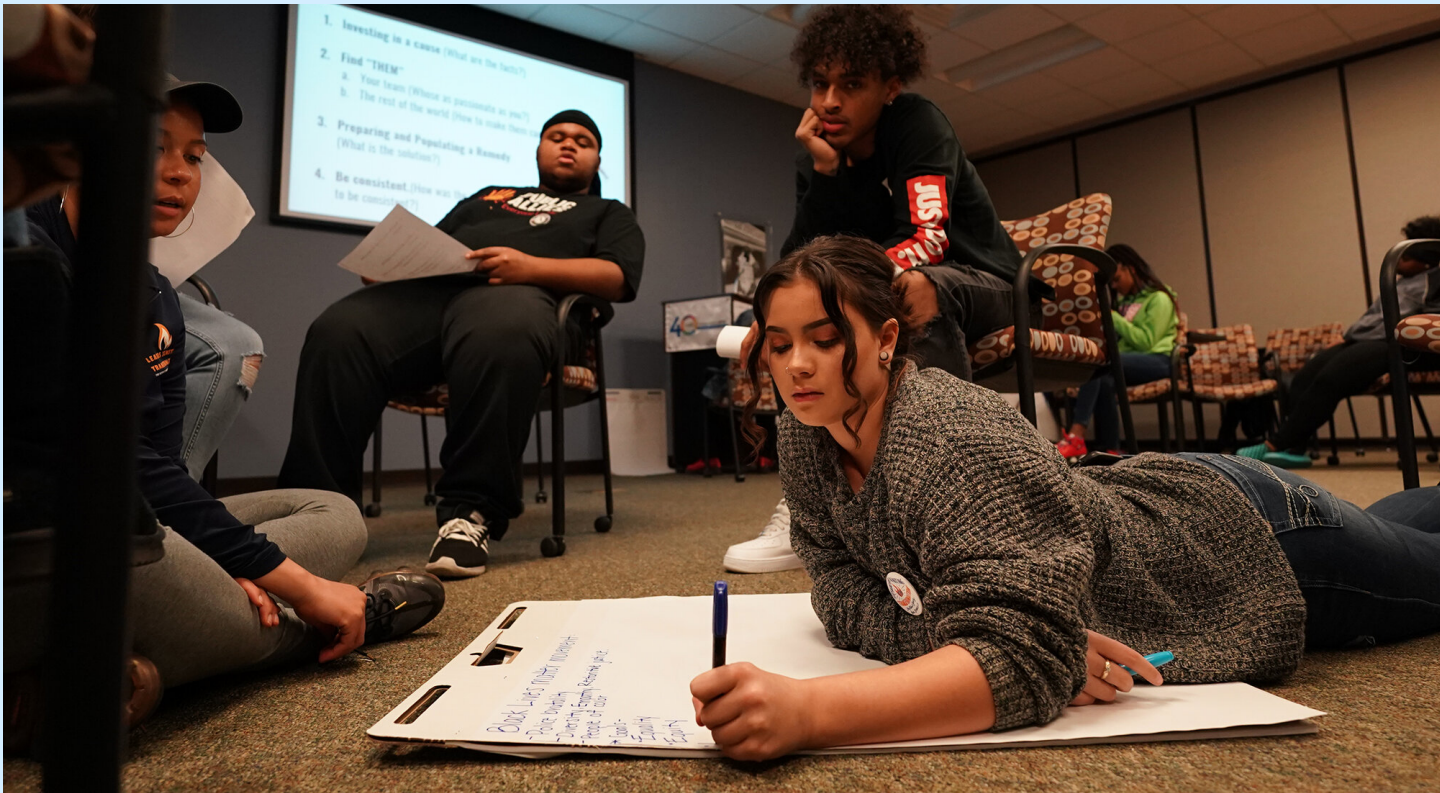
Ohio

In 2023, the **Ohio Student Association (OSA)** was pivotal in passing several progressive legislation in 2023. OSA **registered over 14,000 people, distributed over 193,000 voter guides, and knocked on over 103,000 doors** to turn out and educate voters about the issues at stake in the August special elections and November elections. OSA's work organizing constituents to vote against a proposed initiative to require ballot referendums to pass with a 60% majority instead of a simple majority led to an exceptionally high turnout for the August special elections. As a result, Ohio voters rejected the proposal. Furthermore, OSA launched a campaign to place a constitutional amendment on the ballot that aimed to enshrine reproductive rights in the state. After successfully collecting enough signatures, OSA mobilized young people to vote on the constitutional amendment, **thereby passing Issue 1 and protecting abortion access in Ohio.** Despite facing some of the strictest voting laws and an unexpected special election aimed at deterring progressive voters and victories, our Affiliate's ability to organize and mobilize their communities secured crucial wins for young people across the state.



Florida

Engage Miami spent significant efforts to reform their internal voter registration systems and retraining their staff and volunteers to comply with new voter registration requirements enforced by SB 7050. Additionally, Engage Miami focused on **educating young people on the recently updated vote by mail laws** - ensuring everyone is aware of the shortened vote by mail period as well as the requirement to re-enroll to vote by mail every two years. Recently, **Engage Miami partnered with local organizations and the ACLU of Florida to file a federal lawsuit challenging a redistricting map to oppose racial gerrymandering, protect Miami residents' voting rights, and ensure fair representation of district maps.** The judge is expected to issue a ruling within the next few weeks.



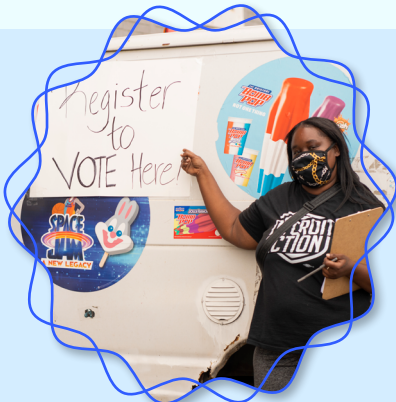
Financial Overview

Income

SOURCE	ACTUALS
FOUNDATIONS & GRANTS.....	\$2,477,000
INDIVIDUAL DONORS.....	\$405,681
CORPORATE & LABOR UNION.....	\$157,500
OTHER INCOME.....	\$341
TOTAL INCOME	\$3,040,522

Expenses

SOURCE	ACTUALS
PERSONNEL	\$584,176
PROFESSIONAL SERVICES.....	\$383,185
OFFICE & SHARED EXPENSES	\$48,650
TRAVEL & EVENTS.....	\$108,993
MATERIALS.....	\$23,799
GRANTS & AFFILIATE CONTRACTS	\$734,690
TOTAL EXPENSES	\$1,883,493



Acknowledgments

Foundation & Partners

- Anonymous Donors
- Children’s Equity Fund
- Democracy Fund Voice
- Groundswell Action Fund
- Inatai Foundation
- Movement Voter Project (no documentation)
- Open Society Policy Center
- SEIU
- Way to Win
- WDN Action
- Wellness Advocacy Fund

This movement to build equitable, locally-led democracies is inherently collaborative and extends from grassroots collectives to institutional supports. We couldn’t do this work without the countless volunteers, staff, partners, and donors bolstering these efforts. We’d also like to thank the following foundations, partners, and individuals who have generously supported our work with the resources needed to propel young leaders in shaping the future of our democracy.

Individuals

- Anonymous Donors
- Elizabeth D Simons
- Faye and Sandor Straus
- Rachel Gelman
- Regan Pritzker

Thank you

Looking Forward

As we set our sights on the 2024 elections, the stakes couldn't be higher, with **41 million eligible Gen-Z voters posed to make their mark**. This generation's diversity and political engagement are unparalleled, and their potential to sway the election underscores the necessity of our youth-tailored campaigns. The Alliance for Youth Action's strategic focus on battleground states and districts is crucial, as it seeks to mobilize, persuade, and register voters to win progressive legislation.

Our **capacity building** offerings allow us to confront systemic barriers that often hinder organizational success. By equipping Affiliates with the financial and compliance management skills needed to run scalable electoral lobbying programs, we not only empower our Network to mobilize youth effectively, but enhance our collective ability to advocate for meaningful change. These capacity building supports include:

New Deal for Organizing: a training program in partnership with State Voices designed to grow and sustain a significant national organizing movement.

Network Health Assessments: intensive assessments that analyze an Affiliate's financial health in relation to its program plans and development pipeline.

Site Visits: constructive visits to identify opportunities and challenges that arise in our shared journey toward empowering youth and strengthening democracy.

Multi-Entity Financial, Compliance, and Risk Management: supports the development and implementation of strategies that optimize the efficiencies of multiple entities working toward a common goal.

Cohorts: peer spaces for Affiliate staff beyond the ED-level to engage in mutual learning around data and reporting as well as managing electoral programs.

Our **voter engagement** strategy is focused on the top ten states where young people have the greatest electoral impact in shaping the federal government: Arizona, Florida, Georgia, Michigan, Montana, Nevada, North Carolina, Ohio, Pennsylvania, and Wisconsin. Through a multifaceted approach encompassing mail, digital, canvassing, and voter guide programs, we aim to reach and turn young people and other historically marginalized communities into voters.

By coupling our voter engagement strategies with our revamped **advocacy campaigns** platform, we are able to build resources and guidance to help design robust and effective campaigns that create tangible, lasting change in young people's communities. The Alliance for Youth Action supports our Network in developing and implementing advocacy and legislative campaigns around five core issues that reflect a path towards liberation: Abortion Access and Reproductive Justice, Climate and Environmental Justice, Housing, Reimagining Public Safety, and Voting Rights.

At the heart of our efforts to empower young people across the nation lies our **Youth Vote Action Campaign** - an initiative that bridges the gap between national resources and local organizing initiatives to bolster the growth of local youth organizations. This Campaign's multifaceted approach invests in data-driven campaigns, targeted messaging, and reinforcing field organizing networks to galvanize young progressive voters in key battleground states to influence progressive victories.

The Alliance for Youth Action's multifaceted commitment ensures that young voices are not only heard but lead the charge in shaping our future. **Together, we're not just participating in democracy; we're redefining it, building an ecosystem where the youth lead with conviction and power to enact real change.**

How to Support

Detailed information on how individuals or foundations can contribute or get involved. **We invite you to join us on this pivotal journey.** Your partnership will be instrumental in shaping a more inclusive, representative, and multiracial democracy. By investing in our work, you're not only supporting the democratic process but also empowering the next generation of leaders.

If you are interested in supporting the Alliance for Youth Action, please contact us at development@allianceforyouthaction.org.

Social media handles and contact information for further engagement.

Join our movement!

Facebook:
<https://www.facebook.com/AllianceforYouthAction>

X:
<https://twitter.com/alliance4youth>

Instagram:
<https://www.instagram.com/allianceforyouthaction>

LinkedIn:
<https://www.linkedin.com/company/allianceforyouthaction/mycompany>

