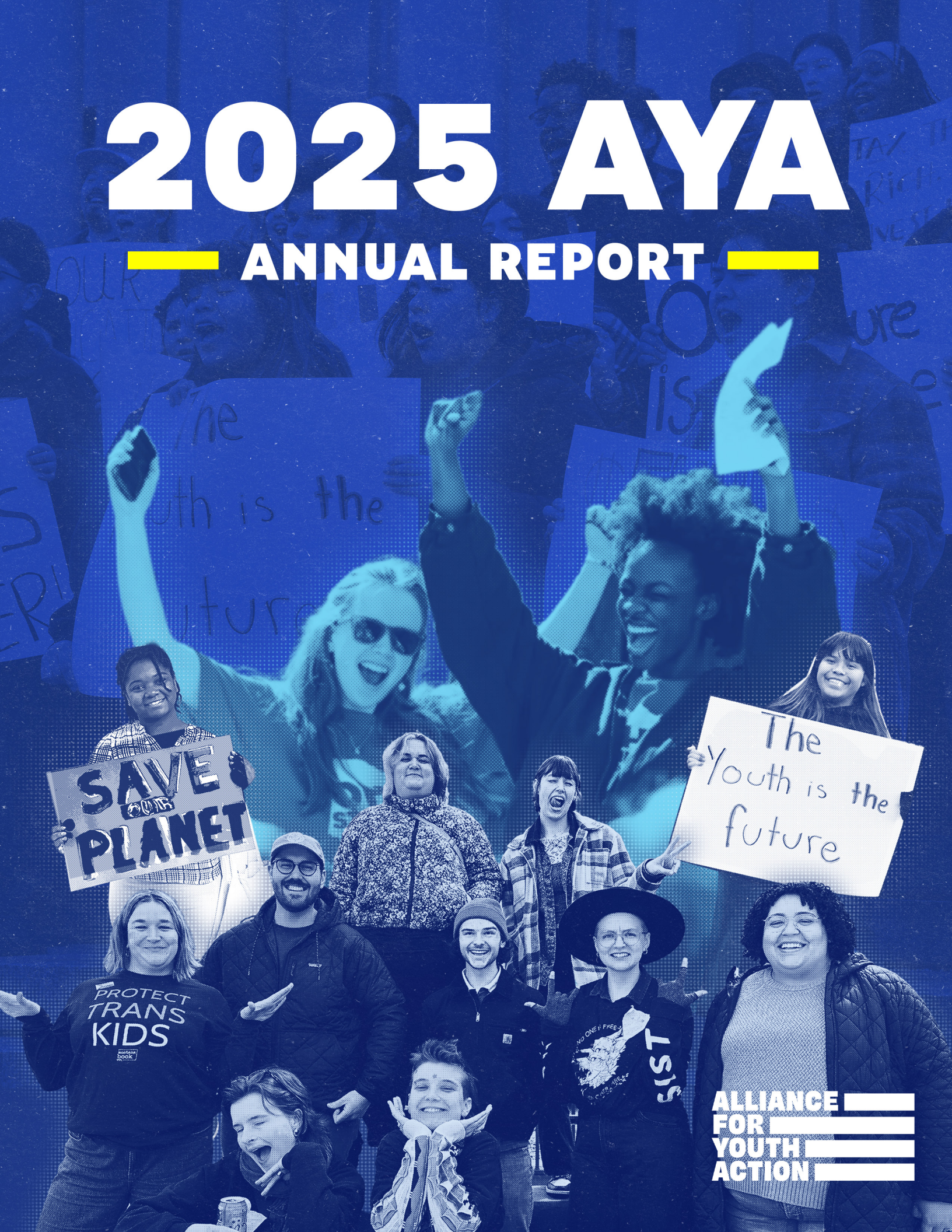


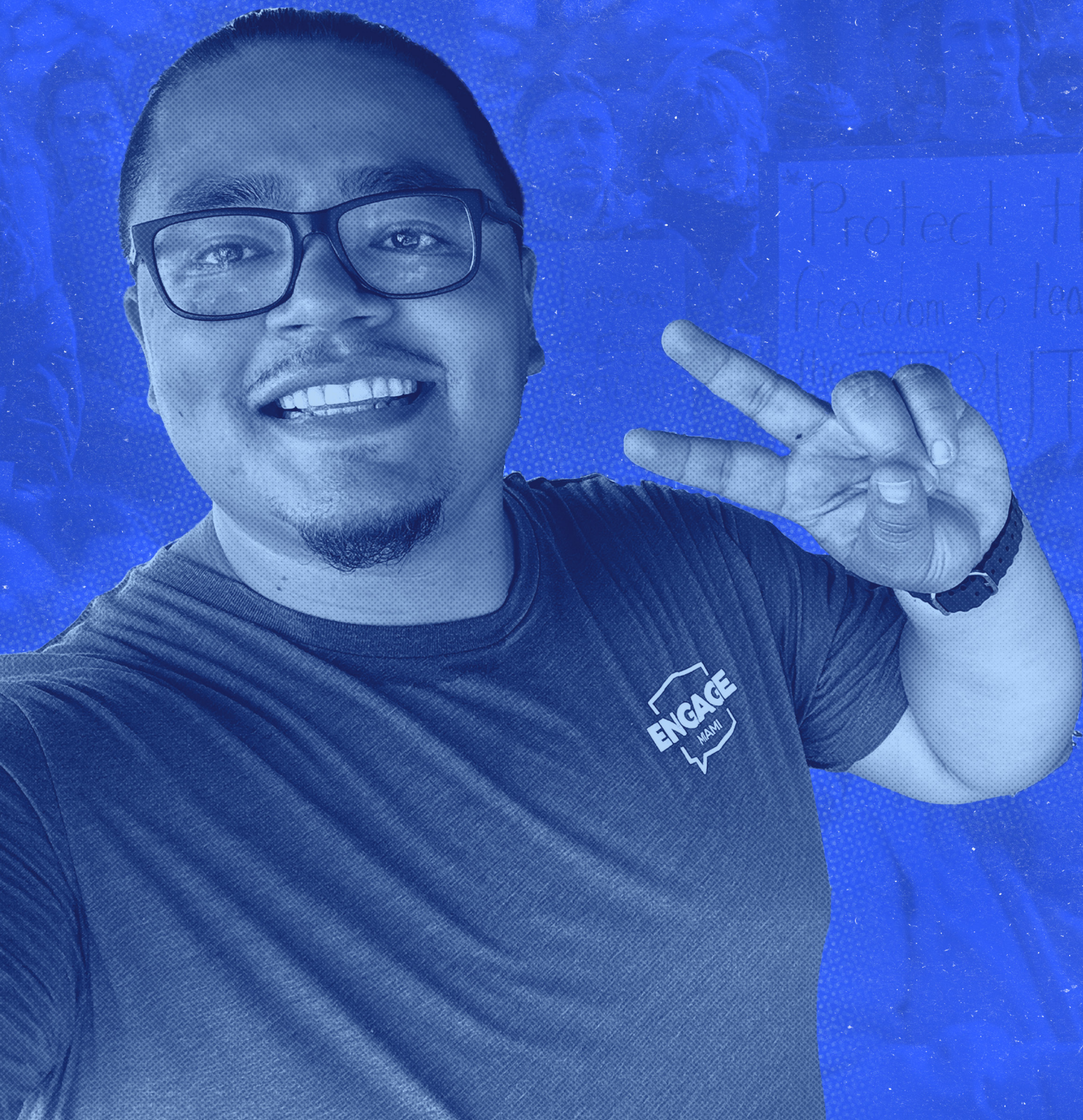
2025 AYA

ANNUAL REPORT



**ALLIANCE
FOR
YOUTH
ACTION**

LETTER FROM OUR ED



Dear Friends, Supporters, and Partners:

THE AUTHORITARIAN REGIME THAT TOOK POWER IN JANUARY 2025 PRESENTED AN EXISTENTIAL CHALLENGE TO DEMOCRACY.

In response, many in the progressive movement pulled back. Major donors questioned whether youth organizing was worth continued investment. Organizations paused programs and waited to see what would happen next.

We made a different choice.

The Alliance for Youth Action refused to retreat. Instead, we organized, both people and money, to stabilize the youth organizing field and build the infrastructure necessary to fight back. While others questioned the value of investing in young people, we doubled down on the long-term power-building that makes sustained resistance possible.

In 2025, we infused local organizations with \$1.6 million in direct funding as strategic investments in organizational capacity to continue expanding upon their strong foundations. We organized resources to ensure that youth-led organizations could weather authoritarian attacks with strong compliance systems, legal protection, and operational foundations. We provided every Affiliate with free legal counsel, risk assessment tools, and the data infrastructure needed to run sophisticated campaigns under increasing scrutiny.

We also launched the Youth Civic Accelerator (YCA), a national operations hub that provides the professional backbone young organizers need to focus on what they do best: organize. By centralizing finance, HR, legal, compliance, and fundraising, YCA allows us to launch new state chapters, with the infrastructure of seasoned political operations from day one, saving years of build-out time and hundreds of thousands of dollars per state.

As we enter 2026, the authoritarian threat intensifies. But so does our capacity. We've organized the money. We've built the infrastructure. We've trained the organizers. The Alliance for Youth Action isn't waiting to see what happens, we're making it happen.

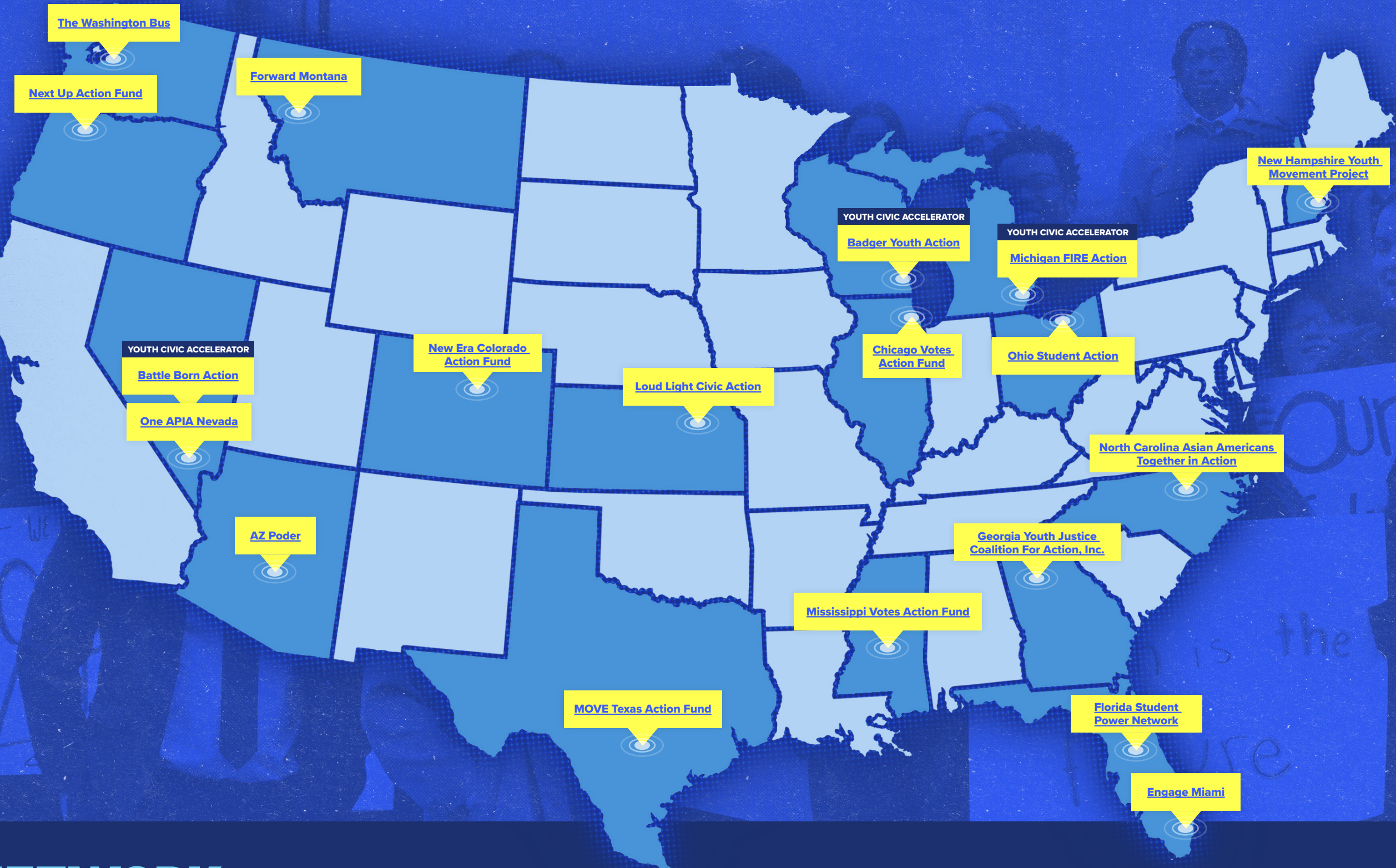
The time has chosen us. Young people need tools to organize against attacks. We're building it with defiance.

In solidarity,

Dakota Hall

Executive Director

Alliance for Youth Action



OUR NETWORK WHO WE ARE

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.

THE POWER OF OUR SUPPORT

As a national hub for progressive youth organizing and electoral infrastructure, the Alliance for Youth Action serves as both the central nervous system and financial engine of the field, connecting national resources to local efforts while providing a range of supports. We don't just fund organizations; we help build their capacity to scale voter engagement programs while coordinating strategic guidance across states. Our approach is grounded in our core values: centering movement building and BIPOC organizing, investing in local leadership, and prioritizing accountability and transparency at the national level.

\$1,600,000

Funding distributed

22

Organizations

18

States

400

Hours of ED coaching

53

Individual support projects for organizations

NETWORK HIGHLIGHTS

This year, our Network turned strategy into action across the country. The figures below capture the scale of that presence — behind every number is a young person who stepped into their power, an organizer who refused to quit, and a community that grew stronger because of this work. Together, our Affiliates are building something that outlasts any single election cycle: a generation-wide movement rooted in solidarity, leadership, and the belief that young people belong at the center of change.

107,263

Door Knocks

254,077

Calls Made

87,077

Voter Guides Distributed

231,480

Mail Pieces Sent

1,119,470

Texts Sent

1,714

Volunteer Shifts



NETWORK VICTORIES

Across the Network, young leaders are driving collective impact, transforming their communities while building lasting youth power. From bold campaigns to structural wins, these moments reflect the power of sustained investment in youth-led change.

OUR WINS



The **Georgia Youth Justice Coalition (GYJC)** knocked on over 132,000 doors to help flip two Public Service Commission seats, shifting control over energy and climate policy toward working families.



AZ Poder made Phoenix Public School District an immigration safe zone, requiring ICE agents to have superintendent approval to enter schools and prohibiting collection of immigration status information, protecting thousands of students.



New Hampshire Youth Movement (NHYM) helped push forward HB 631, HB 577, and SB 284, opening the door to more attainable and affordable housing near jobs and transit. They also helped elect progressive local leaders, with 11 of their 14 endorsed candidates winning city council, aldermen, and school board races across New Hampshire, bringing in leaders committed to building affordable cities where young people can thrive.



The **Ohio Student Association (OSA)** led a bold, statewide Save Higher Education campaign, mobilizing over 350 students across 11 campuses to organize protests, teach-ins, marches, and canvassing efforts. Together, they demanded that their institutions reject the current administration's proposed "campus compact" and resist the harmful impacts of SB1. Their campaign was successful: Kent State's president committed to not signing the compact.



Engage Miami distributed over 20,000 voter guides to help secure a Democratic win in the Miami mayoral runoff. They also lead a transformative push to bring fairness, transparency, and community voices to how Miami draws its political maps, resulting in the passage of a Charter Amendment establishing a Citizens' Redistricting Committee, approved by Miamians with an overwhelming margin in the November elections.



Forward Montana helped elect Emma Bode (former staffer at the organization!) to the Bozeman City Commission and defeated the misleading WARD initiative, protecting housing affordability and water access in the city.



The **Washington Bus** helped elect pro-youth leaders and pass the Seattle Shield Initiative to secure funding for emergency shelters, food access, gender-based violence services, small businesses, and worker protections.



New Era Colorado secured a win for every endorsed candidate in the City of Aurora, flipping the City Hall majority. Their most ambitious municipal program yet, they reached 100,000+ young people across three cities through canvassing, mail, text, digital outreach, and voter guides.



NEW EXECUTIVE DIRECTORS

In 2025 we welcomed six new Executive Directors:



Christina Soliz
New Era Colorado



Alice Boyer
Forward Montana



Mia Balderas
MOVE Texas



Isabel Garcia
AZ PODER



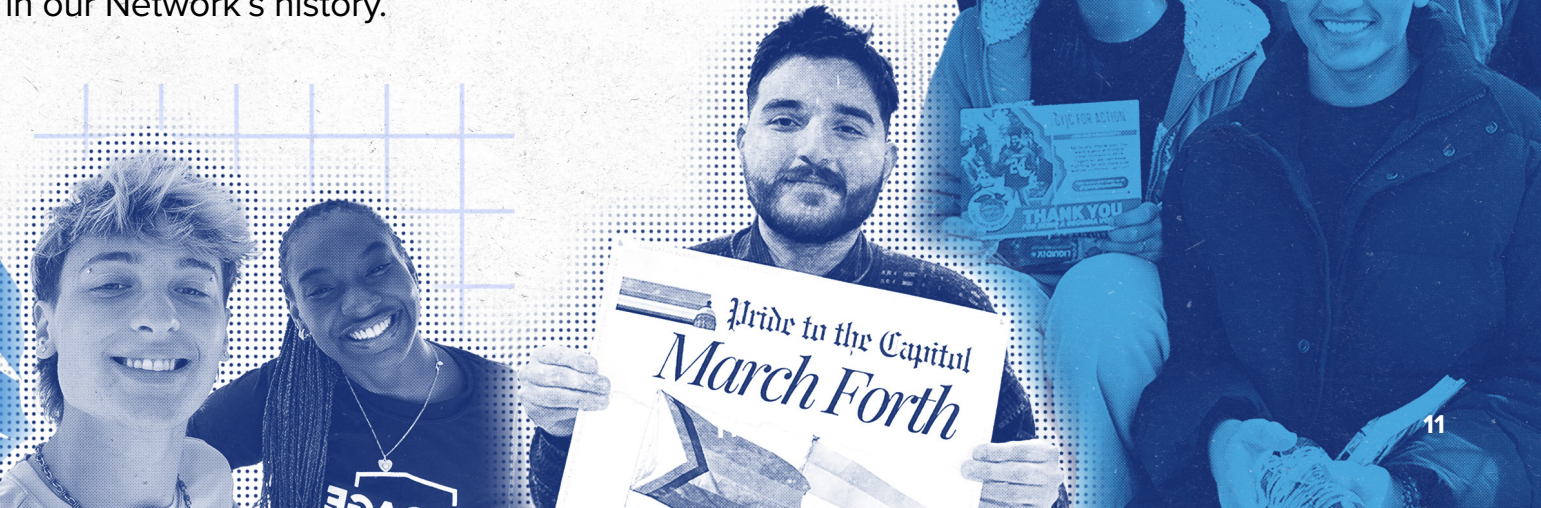
Ben Laughlin
AZ PODER



Kendra Koeppen Mulwana
Badger Youth Action

SEPTEMBER NETWORK CONVENING

Our Network came together in Atlanta to advance strategic planning for the year ahead. As a result, every organization developed a robust political plan, shaped through multiple rounds of feedback from our team of political experts. With high-quality plans completed a year in advance of the midterm elections, this marked the most comprehensive planning and support process in our Network's history.



YOUTH CIVIC ACCELERATOR

The Alliance Network is growing, and with it, the reach and impact of youth organizing nationwide. This year marked a major expansion as we welcomed new organizations and supported youth-led efforts building political power in their states.

NEW ORGANIZATIONS



Badger Youth Action (Wisconsin) brings together campus and community organizing to build durable, year-round infrastructure that strengthens youth power across the state.



Michigan FIRE Action amplifies the priorities of young adults and builds a sustainable and disciplined youth organizing infrastructure to win legislative policy, gain governing power, and elect champions who will deliver tangible wins that improve the quality of life for Michiganders.



Battle Born Action (Nevada) is launching multiracial chapters across the state with a focus on base building and preparing young organizers to play a decisive role in key 2026 races.

COMMS HIGHLIGHT

This year, Dakota Hall launched [a regular writing practice on Substack](#), building a space for thoughtful, accessible commentary on the issues that matter most. His posts break down the latest developments in policy, activism, and social movements — offering critical analysis of the forces shaping our communities.

Dakota spoke at Harvard Kennedy School as a part of a hybrid webinar on “[Understanding Generation Z’s Rightward Turn in 2024](#).” The conversation dove into the underlying causes of Gen Z’s shifting political attitudes and looked ahead into what the generational shift could mean for the future of American politics.

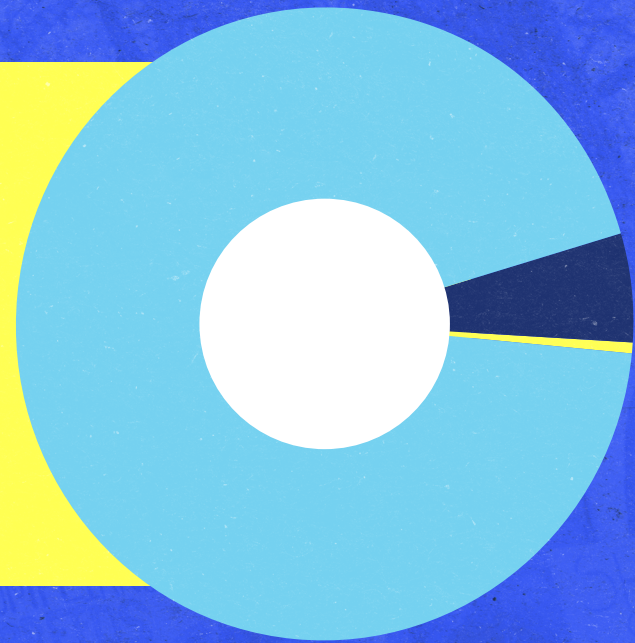
PRESS HITS

Rudy Garrett, Vice President of Capacity Building, joined the [Connecticut Public Radio](#) to discuss what’s influencing the youth vote on election day.

Dakota joined [The Great Battlefield](#) podcast to talk about student organizing to confront authoritarianism and build power to transform our future. He shared positive stories of youth engagement on [Good News for Lefties](#). He also appeared on the [Participation Trophy](#) podcast to discuss how young people are reshaping democracy and why we must work with them to win.



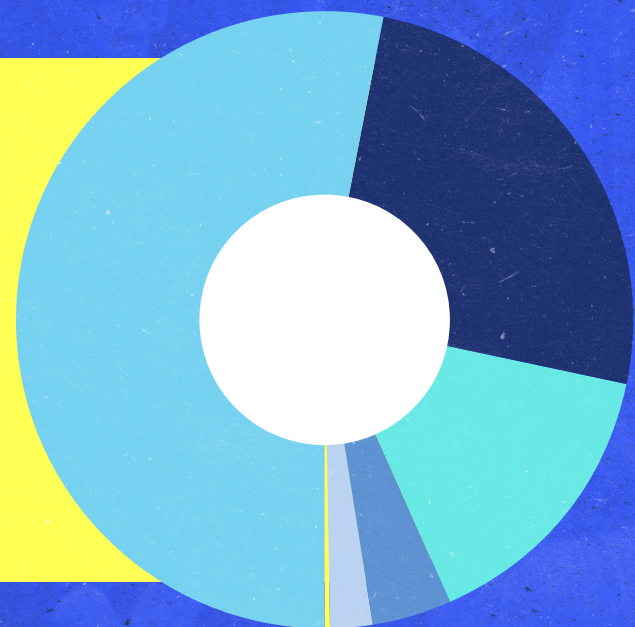
FINANCIAL OVERVIEW



INCOME

\$3,356,837

- **Foundations & Grants:** \$3,157,000
- **Individual Donors:** \$184,508
- **Other Income:** \$15,329



EXPENSES

\$3,350,388

- **Grants & Affiliate Contracts:** \$1,779,052
- **Personnel:** \$850,295
- **Professional Services:** \$502,537
- **Travel & Events:** \$138,863
- **Office & Shared Expenses:** \$78,343
- **Materials:** \$1,298

ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS

2025 WAS A TESTAMENT OF RESILIENCE.

Across the Network, our partners remained rooted in their communities and proved (again) that when young people are trusted, resourced, and organized, they strengthen democracy in real, tangible ways. This progress isn't possible without the foundations, partners, and individuals who have generously supported our work. We are proud to build this future alongside you.

The Alliance staff members dedicated their time this year to strengthening efforts to empower young leaders and advance civic engagement across the country. We are deeply grateful for each and every staff member's essential contributions to this work.

The Alliance for Youth Action is also grateful for the brilliant work of our Board of Directors, comprised of seasoned organizers and industry experts.



LOOKING FORWARD

At the Alliance and throughout the Alliance Network, we aim to cultivate a world where young people are deeply engaged in democracy, not just as voters, but as organizers and leaders, driving change that makes our communities more equitable and vibrant.

As we plan for the midterms and beyond, we recognize the threats of escalating authoritarianism, democratic backsliding, and deepening youth disillusionment. The stakes could not be higher. The 2026 midterm elections, the 2028 presidential race, and the 2030 Census will collectively determine electoral representation and resource allocation for the next decade. Without sustained, year-round youth organizing, the impact will extend far beyond any single election — shaping who is counted, who is represented, and who governs through 2030 and beyond.

With this in mind, we turn our focus toward building robust local infrastructure that prioritizes local base-building, civic engagement, and electoral work. We know the critical role that local governments play in safeguarding our communities and protecting vulnerable populations.

It is our time to rise up to meet this moment. We're dedicating ourselves to scaling our investment in young people to ensure they have the infrastructure and leadership pathways they need and deserve to lead.



LET'S STAY IN TOUCH!

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

Substack: <https://dakotaray.substack.com/>

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

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