



Disenfranchised Californians Lead the Campaign to Restore our Voting Rights

Building on decades of voting rights work begun in 2003 as All of Us or None, formerly incarcerated & convicted people campaigned over the past three years to restore voting rights to 50,000 Californians on felony parole, culminating in the passage of Prop 17.

Sometimes the effort is as important as the outcome. Securing the right to vote for 50,000 Californians on parole is a remarkable accomplishment in itself, but it helps to turn to history to fully understand the scope of the effort. Frederick Douglas stated “power concedes nothing without a demand,” and Malcolm X often quoted, “If you don’t stand for something you will fall for anything.” Both of these men were speaking to the effort associated with struggle. We have struggled too. The road to justice for Legal Services for Prisoners with Children and All of Us or None has been long. And we’ve had many allies. Unfortunately, all the

comrades and organizations that have walked with us will not be mentioned in this report—not because they were not important but because they are simply too numerous. However, the journey is often as important and rewarding as the destination, and I want to stress how much I appreciate all the people who assisted: from those who took just a few steps with us to those who are still walking beside us on this historical journey.

Our desire to address the disenfranchisement of people with felony convictions was inspired notably by the 2000 Presidential Election, when thousands of people in Florida who wore that scarlet ‘F’—and

many who were “mistakenly” ID’d as Felons—were denied the right to vote. That election, as you probably recall, was decided by fewer than six hundred votes, and stolen by a misguided ruling from the United States’ Supreme Court.

Less than three years later, in the spring of 2003, fifty formerly incarcerated people gathered at a house in the Oakland foothills, believing that enough was enough, and determined to start a movement led by and for formerly incarcerated people. We decided, emphatically and unanimously, that **the time had come for us to speak in our own voices**: we wanted to be heard, and we knew we would have to demand it. This meeting led to the founding of All of Us or None, with our mission from the very beginning to fight for the full restoration of our civil and human rights—with a main focus on employment, housing, education, and voting.



IN THE BEGINNING: In 2003, a group of formerly incarcerated & convicted people gathered in Oakland, CA, determined to speak in our own voice & actively advocate for structural change in employment, housing, education, & voting rights.



At a 2004 Peace & Justice Summit, SF Public Defender Jeff Adachi works with AOUON members to create more effective Clean Slate record clearance clinics and increasing voting access in county jail.

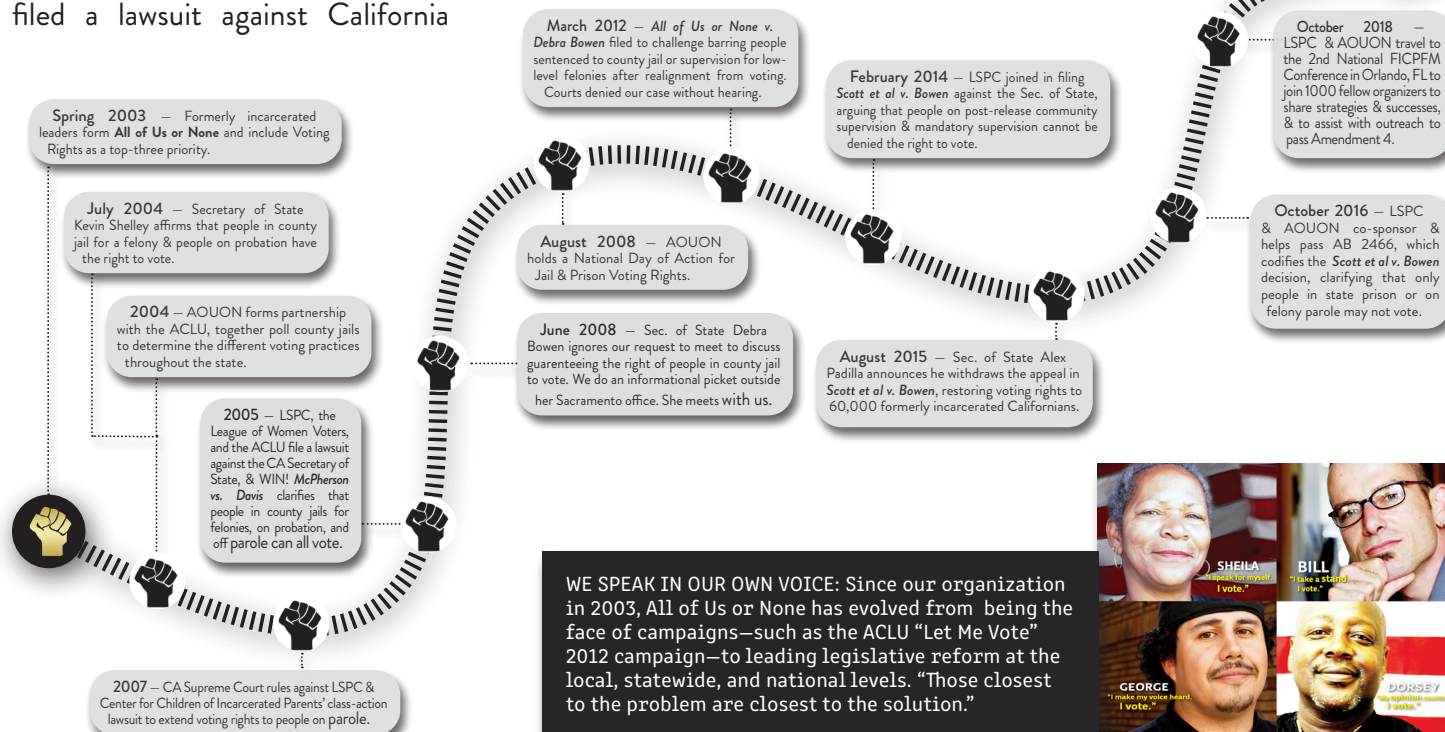


The following year, LSPC wrote to the California Secretary of State to ascertain if people held in county jails on felony charges had the right to vote. We eventually heard back that yes, they did have the right to vote—but we weren't notified in time for the election that fall.

So we started working to get a handle on what the county jail landscape looked like. In 2004, All of Us or None, in partnership with the ACLU, polled county jails up and down California to better understand the range of voting rights practices, and found they were all over the map. The following year, LSPC, The League of Women Voters, and the ACLU filed a lawsuit against California

Secretary of State Kevin Shelley—and won. *McPherson vs. Davis* clarified what we had believed to be true all along: people in the county jail for felonies, as well as those outside of lockup who were on probation, could vote. The only people who couldn't were those in prison and those on felony parole. But we needed the Secretary of State to take action, to craft a statewide policy that would make those rights tangible. That, it turned out, would take years. Then-Secretary of State Kevin Shelley had blown us off.

But we kept pushing.



THE BEGINNING OF AOUON ORGANIZING: In 2003-2004, formerly incarcerated people, family members, and allies gathered in Oakland for a series of Peace & Justice Summits to strategize and prioritize our issues, such as voting rights.



LSPC Ex. Dir. Dorsey Nunn (right) speaks at the 2015 press conference CA Secretary of State Alex Padilla (back left) called to announce his office's dropping of an appeal, effectively restoring voting rights to 60,000 people on supervision.

WE SPEAK IN OUR OWN VOICE: Since our organization in 2003, All of Us or None has evolved from being the face of campaigns—such as the ACLU “Let Me Vote” 2012 campaign—to leading legislative reform at the local, statewide, and national levels. “Those closest to the problem are closest to the solution.”



NATIONAL ORGANIZING

FICPFM Formerly Incarcerated, Convicted People & Families Movement



THE BEGINNING OF THE NATIONAL MOVEMENT: In 2011, the newly-formed FICPFM national network staged a "backwards march" across the Pettus Bridge to symbolize the long road to justice left to go.



Steering Committee members, including LSPC Administrative Director Hamdiya Cooks-Abdullah (above), welcome over 500 formerly incarcerated organizers to the first FICPFM National Conference in Oakland, CA in September, 2016.



Norris Henderson (far left) and VOTE (below left) successfully campaigned in Louisiana to eliminate non-unanimous juries and to restore voting rights to some people on probation or parole in 2018.



Desmond Meade (left) and the Florida Rights Restoration Committee successfully campaigned for the 2018 passage of Amendment 4, restoring voting rights to people with felony convictions. Above, AOUON members campaign for Amendment 4 during the 2018 FICPFM National Conference in Orlando, FL.

National members organized the first national presidential forum hosted by people directly impacted by the criminal legal system, as well as the 3rd FICPFM National Conference, in 2020.

Join a local Watch Party!

Justice Votes 2020: A Presidential Town Hall

**Eastern State Penitentiary Museum
Philadelphia, PA • October 28, 2019**

VOTERS
are called to
EDUCATE

WHAT'S AT STAKE:
2020 FORMERLY INCARCERATED CONVICTED PEOPLE & FAMILIES MOVEMENT CONFERENCE
A TWO-DAY VIRTUAL CONFERENCE GATHERING THE COMMUNITY OF FORMERLY INCARCERATED PEOPLE AND THEIR ORGANIZATIONS BUILT IN THE FIGHT FOR CRIMINAL JUSTICE REFORM.
REGISTRATION REQUIRED
FICPFM2020.COM

2018-2020:

Directly Impacted Leadership Delivers Historic Victories

Florida: The passage of Amendment 4 restores voting rights to 1.4 million Floridians with felony convictions

Louisiana: Amendment 2 eliminates non-unanimous juries. HB 265 restores voting rights to 36,000 people with felony convictions five years after release from prison

California: Prop 17 restores voting rights to 50,000 people on felony parole

WWW.FICPFM.COM

In June of 2008, we tried to reach out to the next Secretary of State, Debra Bowen. She ignored our request to meet. So we organized an informational picket outside her office. And guess what? Her staff met with us. But still, nothing came of it. We realized we needed to appeal to the court of public opinion: a few months later All of Us None held a National Day of Action for jail and prison voting rights, distributing information to jail visitors, reaching out to the media, and getting the message out through word of mouth.

Meanwhile, we also continued to press for voting rights for people on felony parole by filing a class-action lawsuit to demand those rights. But in 2007 we experienced a setback there, too, when the California Supreme Court ruled against us. We would have to resume that fight at a later time.

By this time, it had become painstakingly apparent to us that access to democracy for people with a felony conviction history was not an urgent issue for our courts. We needed to explore other approaches to secure those rights.

We went big. On February 28, 2011, LSPC and All of Us or None were among the key organizations that convened in Alabama with plenty of allies. All told, more than fifty formerly incarcerated organizers and leaders showed up. This event was hosted by a group called The Ordinary People Society, and the gathering gave birth to a new movement that has continued to grow to this day: the **Formerly Incarcerated, Convicted People's & Families Movement (FICPFM)**.

Once again, All of Us or None was pushing the notion that we had to speak in our own voices in order to make meaningful change. Once again, organizers agreed

During the campaign to pass ACA 6, LSPC / All of Us or None, supported by FICFPM and dozens of social justice organizations, activists, and legislators, ran a multi-week, state-wide advertisement in the *Sacramento Bee* Sunday edition, reaching tens of thousands of Californians.

that securing the right to vote for formerly incarcerated people would be among our top priorities. We marched across the Pettus Bridge to symbolize that we had important unfinished business, and to wed our effort to our nation's earlier fights for voting rights. An even larger meeting followed later that year in Los Angeles, on November 2, 2011. It was the first time we formally gathered under the umbrella of the Formerly Incarcerated, Convicted People's & Families Movement. We voted on the FICFPM platform, and once again voting rights ranked high on the issues we collectively concluded we had to pursue.

Though years had passed since the victory in *McPherson vs. Davis*, we still hadn't succeeded in getting ballots into county jails. Then, in 2011, California enacted "public safety realignment." The reform was historic: it shifted incarceration and supervision responsibility for many people with lower-level felonies from the state prison system to county sheriffs and probation departments, based on the idea that locals could do a better job. With many people no longer on parole, we believed they, under the *McPherson* ruling, had the right to vote. In March 2012, All of Us None filed suit against Sec. of State Bowen to challenge the fact that people sentenced to the county jail for low-level felonies after realignment were still being barred from voting. We thought we had it in the bag, but the court denied our case without a hearing. We were beaten, but not broken, and ready for the next fight.

Two years later, LSPC joined in filing yet another lawsuit against

Paid Political Advertisement

Our Voice Matters

Support ACA 6: Restore Voting Rights to Californians on Parole

We, the undersigned signatories, strongly urge the California State Legislature to stand on the right side of history and eliminate a major, unnecessary, and discriminatory barrier to full participation in our democracy: the denial of the right to vote while on parole.

We urge you to support the passage of ACA 6, a bill that will give California voters the opportunity to automatically restore voting rights to people immediately upon their release from prison. Fourteen states and the District of Columbia have already adopted similar policies. But here, in California—a state known for its supposedly progressive, inclusive, and forward-thinking approach to democracy—voting rights are denied to people released from prison, often for many years, simply because they are on parole. Although state and federal legislatures, city councils, and boards of education routinely make decisions that directly impact the lives of people on parole and their loved ones, voting rights are denied to this vulnerable population, as though their voices and lives don't matter. People convicted of similar offenses, but who are on probation rather than parole, do not face the same voting restrictions and exclusions.

Felony disenfranchisement has a long, sordid, and discriminatory history in the United States. California is no exception. It is no secret that racial bias has infected policing, prosecution, and sentencing here in this state and that centuries of oppression and unequal opportunities have contributed to disparate incarceration rates in California and beyond. African Americans comprise only 6% of this state's adult population, yet comprise 26% of the parole population. By contrast, white Californians comprise 41% of the adult population and comprise 26% of the parole population. While we firmly believe that people of all colors deserve the right to vote, we are especially cognizant of the discriminatory impact of felony disenfranchisement laws, including California's policy of denying voting rights to people as they strive to rebuild their lives following release from prison. We ought to be doing everything we possibly can to encourage people to vote and to support their efforts to contribute to their communities following release from prison, rather than barring them from the ballot and denying them an opportunity, individually and collectively, to improve their life chances and the well-being of their families, loved ones, and communities.

We ask the entire legislature to embrace this issue regardless of party affiliation. Voting is central to any democracy. If we do not extend the right to vote to all people, then we cannot call ourselves a truly equitable and inclusive democracy.

Aaliyah Muhammad
All of Us or None - Sacramento

Abdi Soltani
ACLU of Northern California

Alex Banda
All of Us or None - Fresno

Alex Mallick
Restore Justice

Alice Huffman
NAACP

Amber-Rose Howard
Californians United for a Responsible Budget (CURB)

Angela Y. Davis
Professor

Aurea Montes-Rodriguez
Community Coalition

Azadeh Zohrabi
Underground Scholars Initiative

Brendon Woods
Alameda County Public Defender

Brett Shears
Vote Allies

Cheavon Brown
Justice Now

Daryl Atkinson
Forward Justice

Dennis Malone
All of Us or None - San Diego

Desmond Meade
Florida Rights Restoration Coalition

Diana Block
California Coalition for Women Prisoners (CCWP)

Dolores Huerta
Dolores Huerta Foundation for Community Organizing

Don Specter
Prison Law Office

Dorsey Nunn
Legal Services for Prisoners with Children (LSPC)

Esteban Nunez
Anti-Reentry Coalition (ARC)

Eva Paterson
Equal Justice Society

George Galvis
Communities United for Restorative Youth Justice (CURYJ)

Jason Bell
Project Rebound

Jessica Nowlan
Young Women Freedom Center

John Jones III
Just Cities

Keith Carson
Alameda County Board of Supervisors - District 5

Kim Carter
Time for Change Foundation

Kimberly Richman, Ph.D
Alliance for CHANGE

Laura Magnani
American Friends Service Committee

Lisa Yarbrough-Gauthier
Mayor, East Palo Alto

Marc Philpart
PolicyLink

Maureen Kildee
East Bay Community Law Center (EBCLC)

Michael McBride
Live Free

Michael Tubbs
Mayor, Stockton

Michelle Alexander
Author, *The New Jim Crow*

Nancy Skinner
California State Senator - 9th District

Norris Henderson & Bruce Riley
Voice of the Experienced (VOTE) - New Orleans

Nube Brown
California Prison Focus

Rodney Holcombe
Drug Policy Alliance (DPA)

Sammy Nuñez
Fathers and Family of San Joaquin

Sevgi Fernandez
Together We Stand

Susan Burton
A New Way of Life / All of Us or None - Los Angeles

Tamisha Walker
Safe Return Project

Tshaka Barrows
W. Haywood Burns Institute

Ucedrah Osby
All of Us or None - Bakersfield

United States Student Association
USSA

Vonya Quarles
Starting Over, Inc. / All of Us or None - Riverside

Wendy Still
Alameda County Probation Department

Zachary Norris
Ella Baker Center



File Photo: Legal Services for Prisoners with Children
All of Us or None Organizer Sandra Johnson (right) registers people to vote in Oakland, CA.



Photo: Peter DaSilva, New York Times
All of Us or None members meet with State Senator Nancy Skinner (center) to advocate for legislation to remove barriers to successful reentry from incarceration.



Photo: Office of Assemblymember Kevin McCarthy
Dauras Cyprian, currently on parole, calls for the restoration of his and 50,000 other Californians' voting rights at the ACA 6 press conference in Sacramento - January 28, 2019

This ad has been paid for by All of Us or None and other formerly incarcerated people who believe that voting is an inalienable right and that both communities and our democracy will be strengthened by our participation.

All of Us or None is a grassroots organizing project of Legal Services for Prisoners with Children • www.prisonerswithchildren.org



At the 8th Annual Quest for Democracy in May 2019, over 650 formerly incarcerated organizers rallied at the Capitol in Sacramento to speak directly to legislators about their personal experiences with the criminal legal system and to advocate the importance of passing ACA 6.



the Secretary of State: *Scott et al v. Bowen* argued that people who, due to realignment, were now on post-release supervision and mandatory supervision (rather than on parole) could not be denied the right to vote. We prevailed. Bowen's office appealed. It seemed endless.

But by August 2015 we had a new Secretary of State: Alex Padilla. And to our relief, he withdrew the appeal, effectively affirming the right to vote to 60,000 jailed and formerly incarcerated people on supervision in California. Thus a confusing convolution of rules became simplified: everyone can vote except people with felony convictions serving time in state prison or on parole. We co-sponsored Assembly Bill 2466 to codify the *Scott et al v. Bowen* decision, and we assisted in its passage. With that, we began planning for our next big fight.

In September 2016, the Formerly Incarcerated, Convicted People's & Family Movement convened for the first-ever national conference, here on our home turf in Oakland, California. Over 400 formerly incarcerated people attended from all over the country. It was a special time for LSPC because the FICPFM steering committee publicly called on funders to steer resources our way. We were no longer acting like crabs in a barrel fighting over scraps—we were now a genuine network of organizations led by formerly incarcerated people. We held the conference at the Hilton Oakland

Airport, but so many people attended we had to use the neighboring Holiday Inn for overflow. In addition to the funders who accepted our invitation to attend, we also hosted other dignitaries to demonstrate how much we had grown, and to signal that we were more than capable of organizing large events. We displayed the movement platform—the one we'd arrived at back in 2011 in Los Angeles—and, utilizing phone app surveying representing a new technology to our organizing, asked all our members to select their top priorities. The results confirmed that voting rights still ranked high.

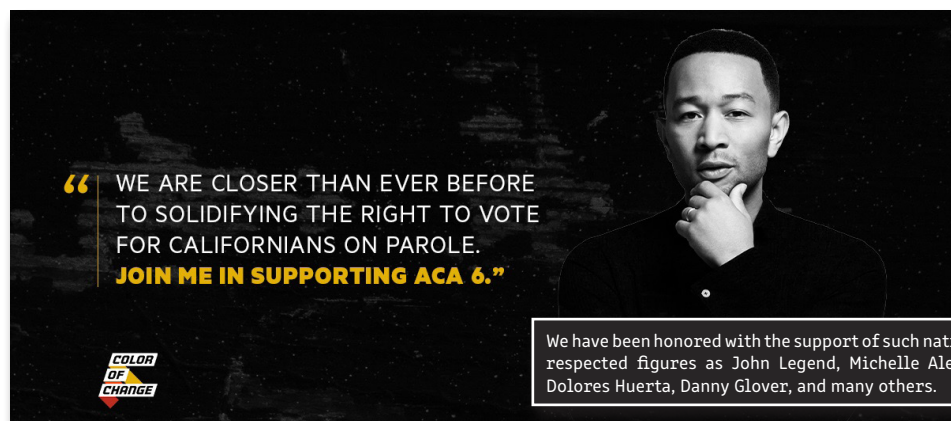
Meanwhile, LSPC continued to grow. In 2018 we purchased our own building, moving from San Francisco to North Oakland, and opened the **Freedom and Movement Center**. We looked at it as a small down payment on our self-determination, and made a singular point to employ the labor of many formerly-incarcerated contractors and subcontractors to complete the renovations. We also became



ACA 6 passed the Assembly 54-16 on September 5, 2019. It would not pass the Senate until June, 24, 2020 on a 28-9 vote. This situation left only four months to conduct a statewide campaign to pass the ballot measure, now labeled Prop 17.

landlords to several local businesses located in our building, and were able to put the rent we received toward movement-related expenses.

Flush with the pride of new “home” ownership, LSPC and All of Us or None co-sponsored and helped to organize the second FICPFM National Conference in Orlando, Florida in September, 2018. This time, a thousand organizers showed up to share strategies and successes. That was a turning point! While we



assisted in the local campaign for Amendment 4, we started learning new and relevant skills about how to move public policy through the ballot box, about phone banking and the power of text messaging, and the importance of market branding our political campaigns. Voting rights remained very much on our radar.

The following month, as most people watched nationwide election results come in with an eye to which politician had won, many formerly incarcerated people were watching other contests. We wanted to know whether 1.4 million disenfranchised people with felony convictions in Florida had secured the right to vote through the passage of Amendment 4. And they did. We wanted to know if Louisiana's Amendment 2 would prevail. That one entitled people being tried for crimes to a unanimous jury verdict of twelve people for a conviction to stand, instead of just ten. It did. We wanted to know if we had kicked Jim Crow in the balls twice. And yes we did.

Those were monumental and instructive victories. We were ecstatic and ready to take on the remaining disenfranchisement in California. So on January 17, 2019, we organized a major event at UC Berkeley to host Desmond Meade, of the Florida Rights Restoration Coalition (FRRC), and Norris Henderson, of Louisiana's Voice of the Experienced (VOTE), so they could share the lessons from their campaigns and connect our state to the larger national movement. These two experienced, formerly incarcerated organizers showed us what could be accomplished through ballot propositions—lessons and skills that would prove incredibly useful to us in our continuing journey.

LA OPORTUNIDAD DE VOTAR

Este es un LLAMADO A LA ACCIÓN para cambiar solo cuando la gente se presenta a la pelea. ¡Los que estamos tras las rejas también podemos generar cambios! ¡Habla con tu gente! Para aquellos que tienen familiares y amigos que se preocupan y viven en California, por favor infórmeles sobre la Proposición 17 y animélos a votar SÍ a la Prop 17 en Noviembre. Para obtener más información sobre la Proposición 17, comparte este enlace: <https://freethevote2020.org/>

Los familiares o amigos pueden verificar su estado de votante aquí: voterstatus.sos.ca.gov/

DERECHOS DE VOTO a 50,000 californianos elegibles en libertad condicional

Pagado por Servicios Legales para Prisioneros con Niños

¡Sí a la Prop 17

FRESNO/BAKERSFIELD

:30 RADIO SPOT

Right now in California, more than 50,000 men and women are denied the right to vote because they're on parole.

They didn't just pay their debt to society – they're actively improving society by holding down jobs, raising families and paying taxes.

But California law gives them no say in their children's future.

We know what that is – taxation without representation, and it's unAmerican.

This November, vote YES on Prop 17 to Free the Vote. Because democracy means everyone.

Ad paid for by Legal Services for Prisoners with Children.

SPREAD THE WORD: YES ON PROP 17!

Restore Voting Rights to 50,000 Californians on Parole!

LEGAL SERVICES FOR PRISONERS WITH CHILDREN, a civil rights legal service non-profit led by and for people directly impacted by the criminal legal system, is running radio ads for Prop 17 all the way through Nov. 3!

CHECK US OUT ON:
 KDAY-FM • Los Angeles
 KMYI-FM & KSSX-FM • San Diego
 KISV-FM & KKBB-FM • Bakersfield
 KBOS-FM & KFBI-FM • Fresno
 KRBQ-FM • Oakland/San Francisco

JOIN US: www.freethevote2020.org

Made for by Legal Services for Prisoners with Children

FREE 20 VOTE

Outreach for Prop 17 included phone banking 50,000 and texting 200,000 people, mailing informational fliers in English and Spanish to people incarcerated in prisons and jails, as well as airing ads on both radio and app-based music services.

LIBERELVOTO

freethevote2020.org

Getting a measure on the ballot about the voting rights of people on felony parole was a complex, multi-part process, requiring a change to the state Constitution. Our effort began when we co-sponsored Assembly Constitutional Amendment 6 (ACA 6), authored by Assemblymember Kevin McCarty (D-Sac). We immediately faced the enormous hurdle of convincing the California Legislature to agree, by a two-thirds margin in each chamber, to put the issue before the voters. We formed a unique coalition consisting entirely of organizations either led or staffed by formerly incarcerated organizers. We knocked on countless doors asking legislators for their support. We sought out those who were on the fence and, in some cases, used our first-hand experience directly impacted by disenfranchisement to successfully change their minds to

support the amendment. We secured resolutions of support from the city councils of Oakland and Richmond, and from the boards of supervisors of Alameda and San Francisco counties. We purchased and developed the web domain www.freethevote2020.org.

With the support of FICFPM, we were able to run a full page ad in the Sacramento Bee. We ran it three times in the Sunday paper—the day with the largest circulation of 168,000. Over the course of the same two weeks, our ad received 369,017 digital impressions. The ad had star power, highlighting the names of a host of influential supporters, among them Angela Davis, Michelle Alexander, Eva Patterson, Susan Burton, Dolores Huerta, and, of course, the FICFPM steering committee.

We also highlighted ACA 6 during our annual Quest for

Democracy, our signature lobbying event, in May 2019. And at this year's Digital Quest for Democracy we featured a breakout room to discuss it with legislators. LSPC staff, fellows, and interns, and AOUON chapter members joined with many allies hosting countless planning meetings, setting up informational tables in many cities, and canvassing the streets to meet our communities where they are. Our efforts succeeded: ACA6 passed the legislature.

ACA 6 became Proposition 17 on the ballot. Finally, we got the opportunity we'd been working towards for so many years: the people of the state of California would have a chance to weigh in on a basic right we believe our state government should have embraced and defended decades ago. In more "firsts" for formerly incarcerated-led organizing, we hired a communication strategy group to ramp up our digital presence, run op-

eds, and refine our messaging ahead of the November 2020 election. We wanted to center the voices of the formerly incarcerated, so we collected video testimonials from people directly impacted, and we rolled those out on Instagram, Twitter, and Facebook. We supplemented those key voices by including high-profile influencers such as Michelle Alexander, John Legend, Dolores Huerta, and Danny Glover, who, like so many who have done time in lockup, are also people of color.

We furthered our commercial media presence by running radio ads in Bakersfield, Fresno, Oakland/San Francisco, Los Angeles, and San Diego three times a day over a three week period. Recently we expanded our reach through Spotify and Pandora. We purchased from Spotify 192,000 impressions to be run in Los Angeles and 190,000 in San Diego over the last two weeks of the campaign. We purchased 250,000 impressions from Pandora to cover Sacramento,

294,000 to cover Los Angeles, and 294,000 to cover San Diego. We also advanced our media presence by appearing on both commercial and public radio talk shows—progressive, liberal, and conservative—in both Northern and Southern California.

By Election Day, our staff and stipended AOUON members made 50,000 phone calls in our phone banking efforts, as well as sent out over 300,000 text messages.

We distributed over 10,000 "Yes on 17 – Let All People Vote" face masks in front of stores, on buses, on corners, at rallies, in laundromats, at re-entry and drug treatment centers, in barber shops, and at every other imaginable place where our staff could gain entry. This was a statewide effort that reached deep into numerous communities, including Stockton, Bakersfield, San Diego, Riverside, Los Angeles, and East Palo Alto. To ensure that our message was reaching people



ABOVE: AOUON CA members constantly pounded the pavement all over California, registering voters, sharing personal stories, and distributing Prop 17 info and masks.

BELOW: Concurrent with our Prop 17 campaign in California, AOUON chapters across the country organized voter registration and GOTV campaigns for formerly incarcerated people, specific to their local and state elections.



incarcerated in the local county jails, we distributed hundreds of masks to the Offices of the Public Defender in San Francisco and Alameda counties, and to the office of San Mateo County's Private Defender Program. To make sure that we touched all possible areas, we also distributed masks to non-profits and coalition partners located across the state.

And to guarantee that our engagement didn't escape the attention of our inside-prison membership, we directly mailed Prop 17 information in English and Spanish, as well as leveraged our newly established 12-page AOUON newspaper to include ads for Prop 17, articles about felony disenfranchisement, and share stories of directly impacted people.

To live up to our commitment to breaking bread with each other instead of wrestling over crumbs, we shared financial resources with other All of Us or None chapters across California to engage in the get-out-the-vote efforts.

Now that the election is over, and 50,000 Californians on felony parole have their voting rights restored, I am anxious to learn the outcome of such a massive effort. Will it be challenged and mitigated by more Jim Crow-style laws, as has happened in Florida? Will it bring us the respect that such a long-fought struggle deserves? Will Black and Brown communities see our votes as their gifts? Now that Prop 17 has passed, will people across the nation be able to connect the dots and realize that **formerly incarcerated people have successfully amended three**

state constitutions in three years? Will they be able to extrapolate that so many caged bodies, if released, could produce fundamental political change in marginalized communities? Will we be viewed as potential assets, instead of liabilities, to our communities? Will we be accepted as the leaders with the experience necessary to lead the movement for the restoration of our own rights? Because next: **we're restoring voting rights to all people in prison.**

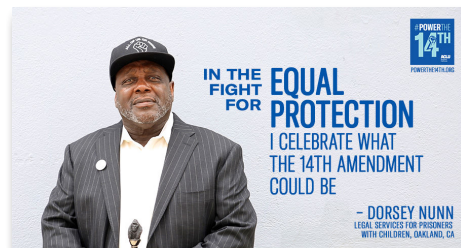
John Lewis, who was brutally beaten in pursuit of voting rights, taught us more than slogans. He taught us the necessity of sound practices and endurance. No matter the outcome of the election, the ultimate prize could come from the lessons we learned, the hands-on experience we gained, and the willingness to fight back using the law as our tool. We have got to make Black Lives Matter, and we believe we can and will get there.

—Dorsey Nunn



The Free the Vote 2020 coalition was instrumental to the success of the campaign. Thank you to all who worked so hard, but especially:

Young Women's Freedom Center
PolicyLink
LA Voice
CURYJ
Sister Warriors
A New Way of Life Reentry Program
Starting Over Inc.
Center for Employment Opportunities (CEO)
Just Cities
Underground Scholars
Lawyers' Committee for Civil Rights of the San Francisco (LCCRSF)



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**Legal Services for
Prisoners with Children**

All of Us or None

