

ABFE

A Philanthropic Partnership for Black Communities

3rd Thursdays



Building a Strong Infrastructure for Black Civic Engagement & Political Giving



WELCOME

Please join us for a webinar to discuss how to incorporate civic engagement and political giving into your philanthropic strategy. In the upcoming year the significance of voting in the Black community will be at the forefront of most news cycles. However, most of our philanthropic efforts do not address many of the root issues - the underinvestment in Black political infrastructure. We will highlight the value of c4 resources and the best vehicles to leverage your c3 dollars to help build Black political infrastructure and strengthen the organizations that are leading this work.

Our guests will include leaders from the civic engagement and political world. The panel will be moderated by Cietta Kiandoli, Director of the Black Civic Engagement Fund at the Democracy Alliance. We look forward to your participation in what promises to be a robust discussion about what we can build together.



ABFE

A Philanthropic Partnership for Black Communities

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TODAY'S SPEAKERS

Edward Jones, ABFE

Terrance Pitts, Black Social Change Funders Network

Anthony Thigpenn, President, California Calls

Erin Byrd, Executive Director, Blueprint NC

Charlene A Carruthers, Black Youth Project 100

Ludovic Blain, Director, Progressive Era Project

Moderator

Cietta Kiandoli

Black Civic Engagement Fund,
Democracy Alliance



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EDWARD JONES, ABFE



Edward M. Jones is the director of programs at ABFE. Prior to joining ABFE, he was the director of conference programming at the Council on Foundations located in Arlington, Virginia and had been with the Council since 2001. Prior to the Council, Edward worked for Micros Systems, as an operations manager, and at Amtrak, as manager, manpower utilization. Edward volunteers or supports several organizations through time, talent, and treasure. He was recently added to the 2013 Who's Who in Black Washington, DC 3rd edition. Edward is a founding member of Black Benefactors, a social investment club/giving circle comprised of individuals, local businesses and organizations that are dedicated to addressing the societal ills facing the African American community in the DC region. He also serves on the board of Black Philanthropic Alliance and the HIV/AIDS organization, Us Helping Us, People into Living, Inc. Additionally, he is on the editorial board for Community Health Links, (Medstar) and is an active member/volunteer of Zion Church in Landover, Maryland. Edward was recently appointed to Mayor Vincent C. Gray's Serve DC commission. Born in Los Angeles, Edward is a graduate of the University of Akron (OH). He especially enjoys connecting people.

TERRANCE PITTS, BSCFN



Terrance has over 20 years of experience in the fields of criminal justice reform, racial justice advocacy, and international human rights. His experience spans a variety of sectors including philanthropy, non-profit advocacy, international organizations, and documentary film. As a former program officer in U.S. Programs at Open Society Foundations (OSF), Terrance's grantmaking focused on police accountability, death penalty abolition, and ending the harsh punishment of juveniles.

Terrance's artistic orientation incorporates photography, short film, and blogging to examine issues like black identity, the politics of race, movement building, policing in America, gun violence, and structural racism. He is currently directing and producing a documentary about the impact of gun violence on Black and Latino youth. His short films have been featured at the L.A. Film Festival, Smack Mellon gallery in Brooklyn, Colorlines magazine, and Open Society Foundations. His education includes photography, videography, and film at The New School, International Center of Photography, and School of Visual Arts in New York. He has an undergraduate degree in political science from Stanford University; a Master of Arts in Law & Diplomacy from the Fletcher School at Tufts University; and a J.D. from Northwestern University. His international studies include French (Sorbonne) and law at Sciences Po in Paris.

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CIETTA KIANDOLI, DEMOCRACY ALLIANCE



Cietta Kiandoli, a trusted civic engagement strategist for over 15 years, is the newly appointed Director of the Black Civic Engagement Fund responsible for directing all strategy and growth of the Funds. Kiandoli got her start working on Capitol Hill for the Congressional Black Caucus, then continued on to work with labor unions, political campaigns, and state-based community organizations. Her work has ranged from campaign finance reform to building multi-state civic engagement programs. She gained her political experience working on campaigns that ranged from presidential to county executive races, running everything from voter registration programs to large scale GOTV programs. In 2004, she helped run America's Families United (AFU), the first multi-organizational voter registration program for the 501c3 sector. Over 20 national organizations helped to register over 1 million voters with a focus on communities of color. Most recently, as the National Program Director at State Voices, she helped build the non-partisan civic engagement network from 15 state tables to 20, with reach in all 50 states. She managed State Voices' multi-state voter registration work in 2012 and oversaw the development of their national voter registration working group in 2013. Kiandoli is a Boston College graduate and is originally from the DC metropolitan area.



BLACK CIVIC
ENGAGEMENT & ACTION
FUND

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BLACK CIVIC
ENGAGEMENT & ACTION
FUND

- ▶ created to address the chronic underfunding of Black organizing and civic engagement infrastructure
- ▶ established in **2012**
- ▶ have granted over **\$8 MILLION** to local and national organizations

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The Goal:

BUILD POLITICAL POWER
WITHIN THE BLACK
COMMUNITY TO ACHIEVE
TRANSFORMATIVE POLICY
REFORMS THAT WILL HAVE
REAL IMPACT FOR AFRICAN
AMERICANS

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HOW WE ACHIEVE THAT GOAL: [LONG-TERM]

Strengthen and rebuild the organizing and political infrastructure serving Black communities

Create a steady drumbeat on the issues that matter to Black communities, priming the political climate for legislative advances

Foster a new generation of Black civic and political leadership

Increase Black voter participation

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ANTHONY THIGPENN, CALIFORNIA CALLS



Mr. Thigpenn currently leads California Calls an ongoing alliance of 31 organizations in 12 counties around the state of California committed to achieving systemic reform of California's broken tax policies and state budget to ensure equity and economic justice for all Californian by educating and motivating new and infrequent voters who are traditionally not part of the political process. Over the past 5 years California Calls has help win major policy victories in the areas of tax policy, education, healthcare, criminal justice by engaging over half a million young people, people of color, low-income residents, and immigrants and significantly increasing their levels civic participation.

Most recently Mr. Thigpenn launched the African American Civic Engagement Project, a project that is doing capacity-building and training of a cohort of 12 Black organizations in California to add Integrated Voter Engagement to their ongoing power building strategies.

THE AFRICAN AMERICAN CIVIC ENGAGEMENT PROJECT

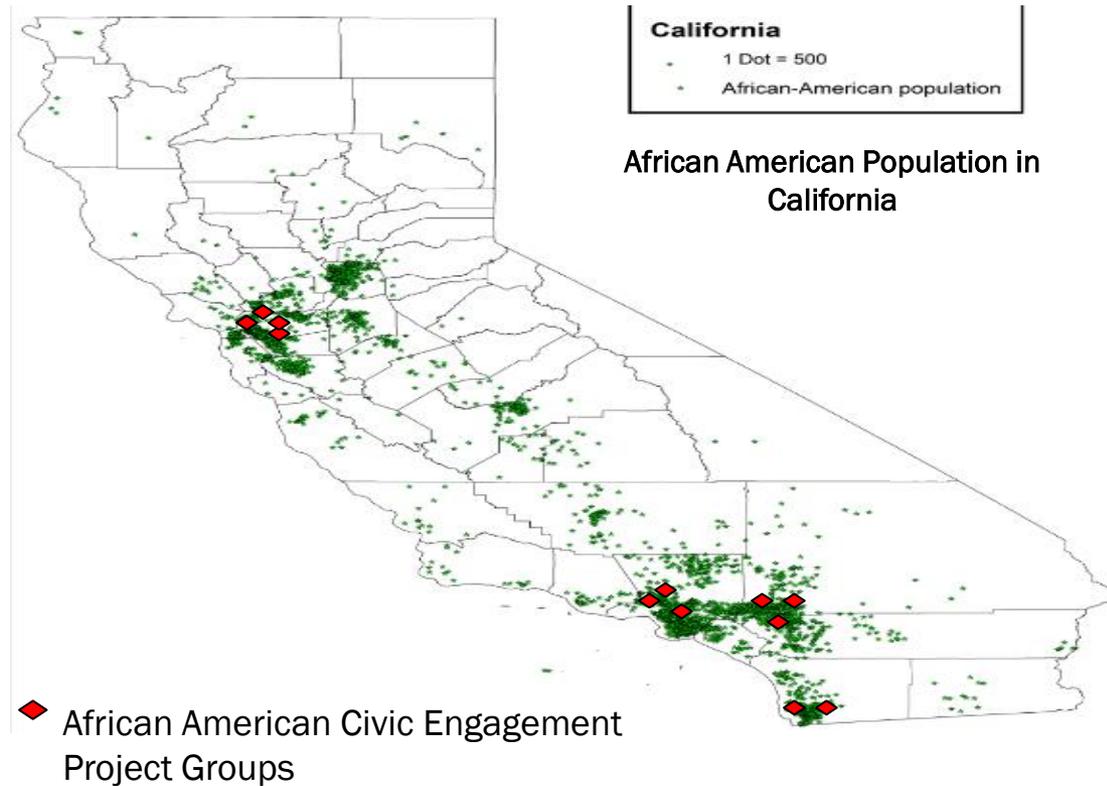
Training and supporting 12 African American Groups in adding integrated voter engagement to their power- building strategies.

CONTEXT

- ◆ Increased awareness and activism around Police Violence & Mass Incarceration.
- ◆ Declining African American Vote.
- ◆ Political Power Building aspect of Movement- building.

KEY CONSTITUENCIES

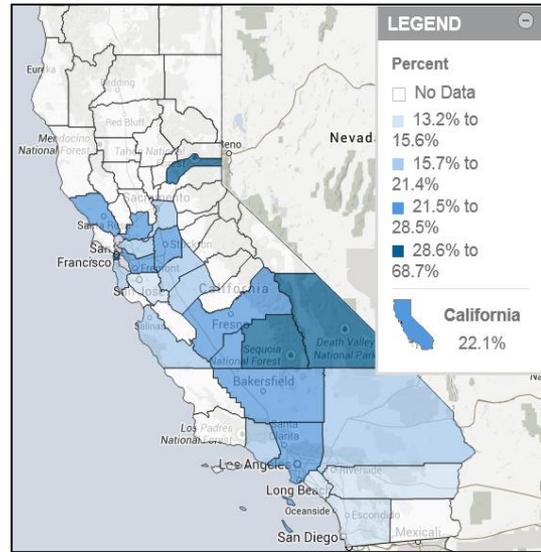
1. African American Young Adults
2. African American Formerly Incarcerated
3. African American Women
4. African American Immigrants



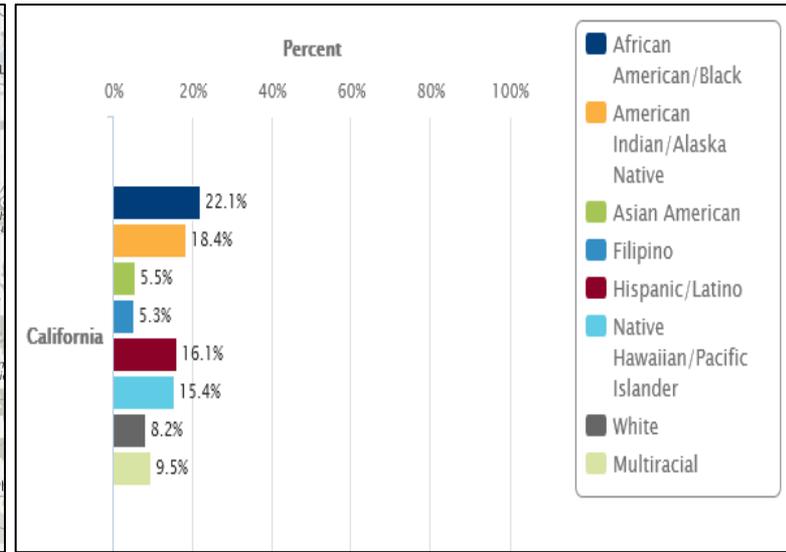
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Why do African Americans in California need an Empowerment Strategy?

African Americans continue to disproportionately suffer the pervasive affects of discrimination and the growing economic inequality.



African American Poverty Rate in California is 29%



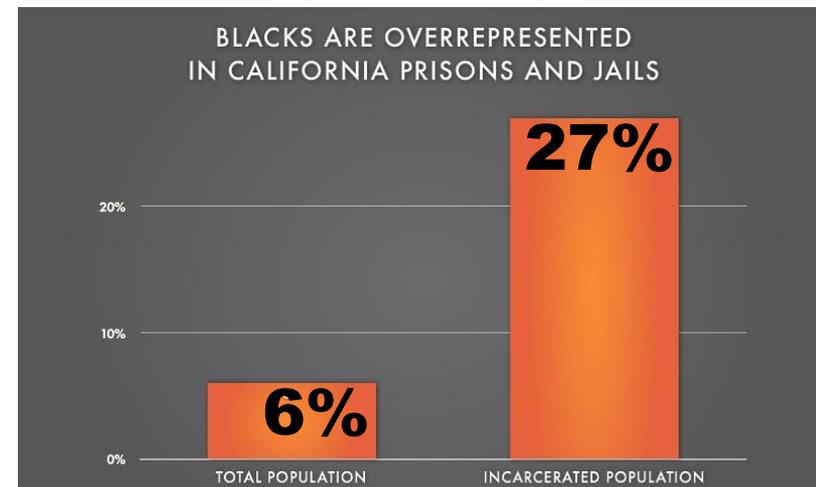
African American Dropout Rate in California is 22%

African Americans in California Health Indicators

Indicator	African Americans	Whites
Life Expectancy: Male	68.6	75.5
Life Expectancy: Female	75.0	80.7
Infant Mortality (per 1000 live births)	12.7	5.0
Low Birth Weight	12.0%	6%
Diagnosed Diabetes	12%	7%
Diagnosed hypertension	38%	28%
Diagnosed Asthma	20%	15%
Tuberculosis (per 100,000 population)	9.0	1.4

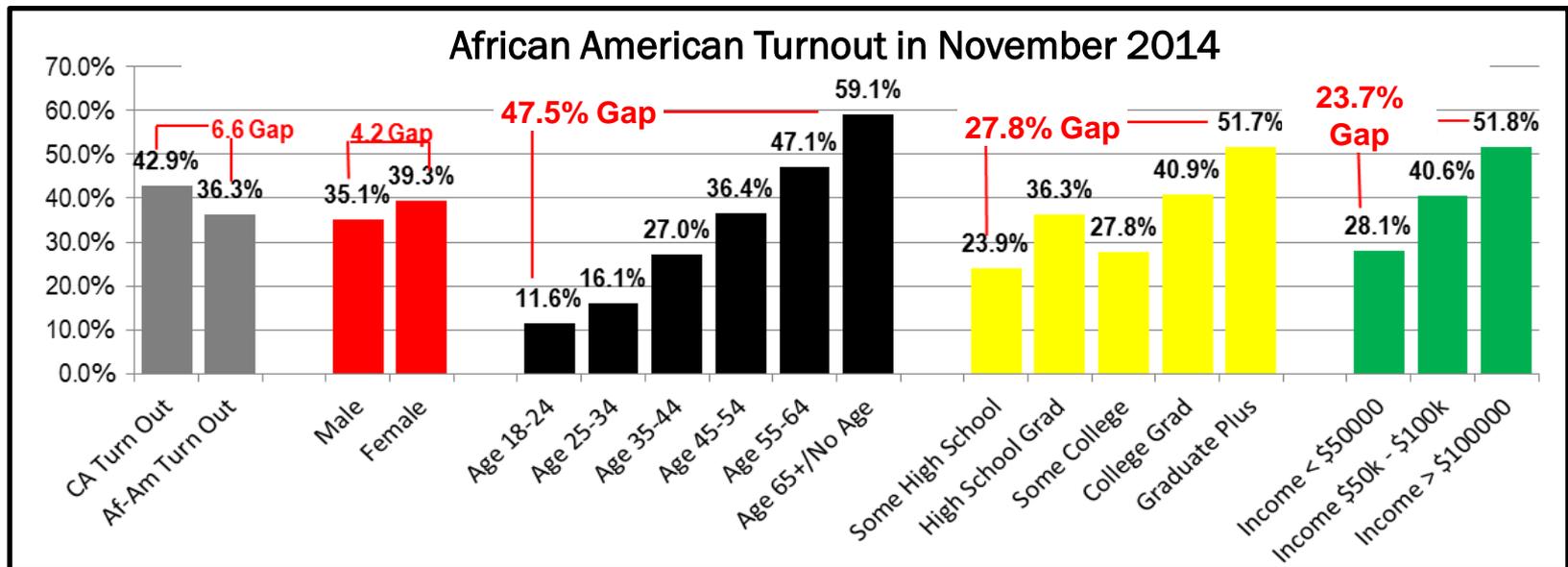
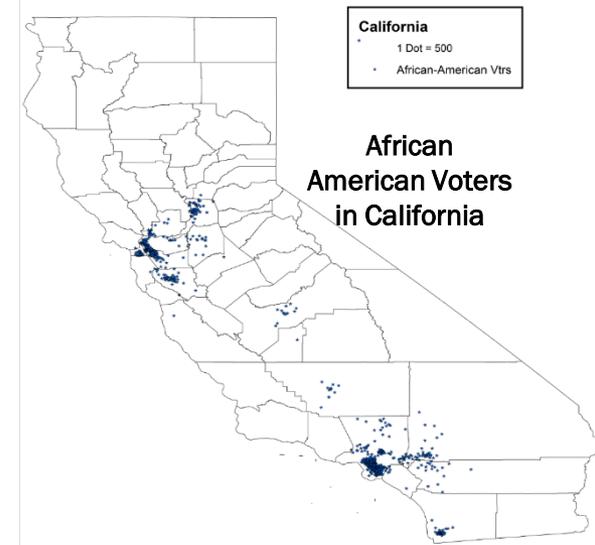
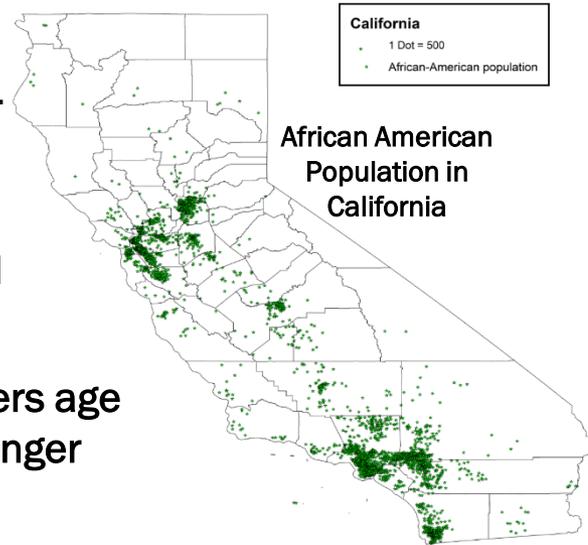
Source: US Census Bureau, 2005-2007 American Community Survey

African Americans in California & Criminal Justice System



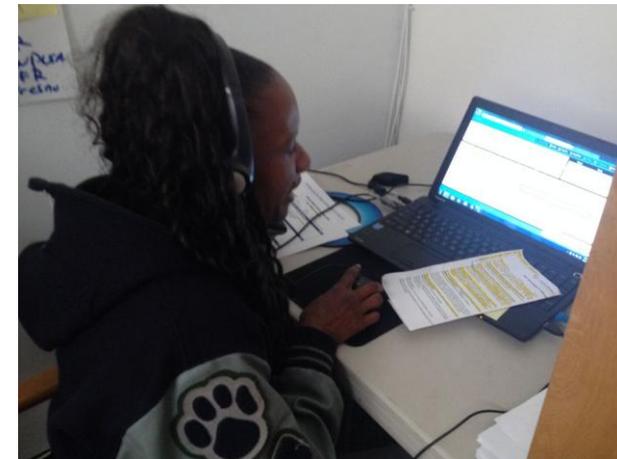
Why do African Americans in California need an Empowerment Strategy?

1. African American Turnout in 2014 was **6.6%** below the state average.
2. African American voters age 65 or older turned out at **59%**, while African Americans 18 to 24 turned out at **11.6%** (**47.5% gap!**).
3. As the Likely African American voters age they are not being replaced by younger African American voters.

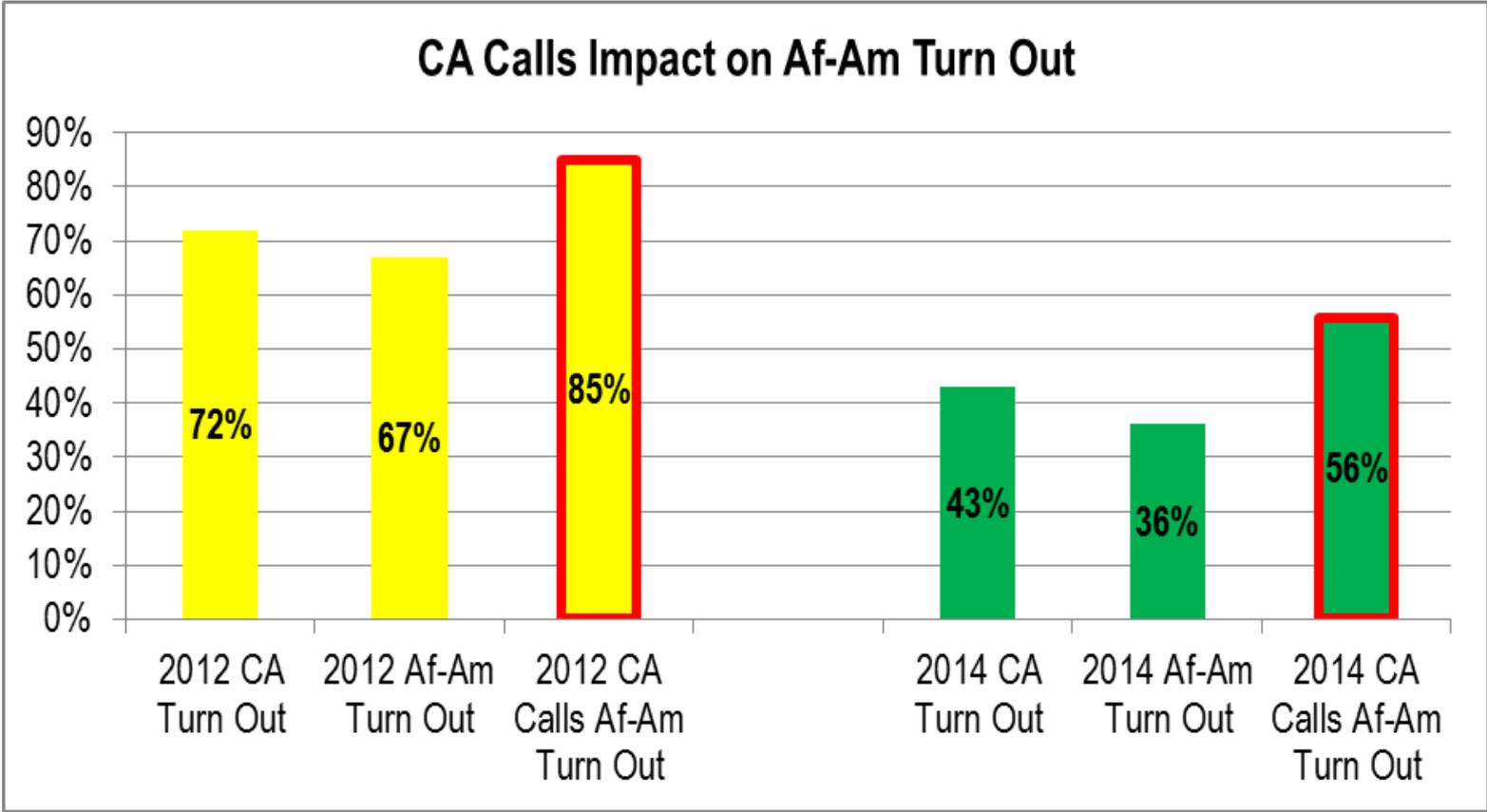


WHAT IS INTEGRATED VOTER ENGAGEMENT (IVE)

1. Multi-year strategy to increase the voter participation of communities and constituencies traditionally underrepresented in electorate.
2. Engaging target voters year round to build a relationship, educate on issues, motivate to increase voter and civic participation.
3. Centered in local, community-based organizations that are rooted in communities embrace IVE as an integrated part of their organizing strategy & ongoing work.
4. Development of Grassroots Leaders in communities as the primary voter engagement organizers.
5. Use of voter engagement technology to increase the capacities of CBOs to reach a new scale of engaging target constituencies.
6. Systematic tracking of engagement and results through a living and growing voter database.



How Do We Know It Works

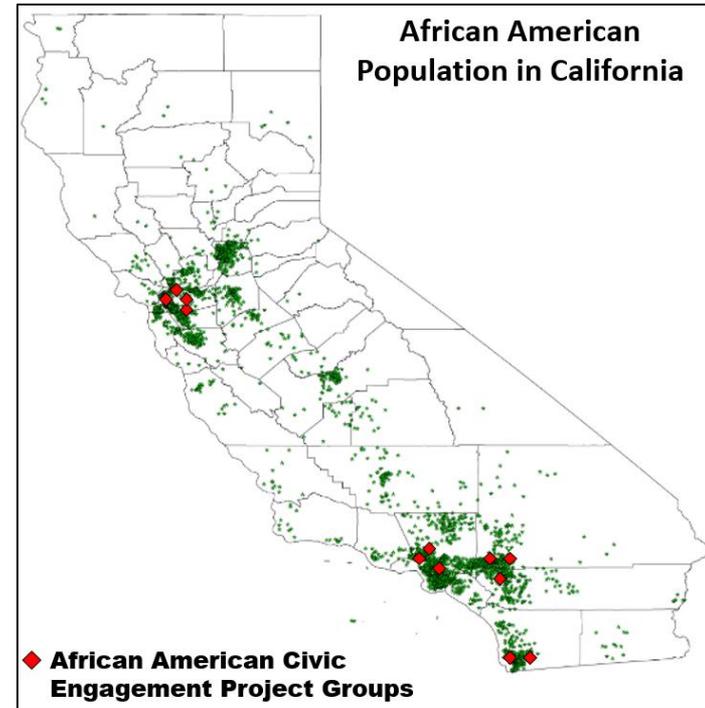


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THE AFRICAN AMERICAN CIVIC ENGAGEMENT PROJECT

THE PROGRAM

1. Three Year Project
2. Core Support Grants
3. Executive Director Coaching
4. Organizational Development Technical Assistance
5. Power Analysis, Issue Campaigns, Community Organizing Training
6. State-of-the-Art Voter Engagement Technology & Data Management Technical Assistance
7. Ongoing Planning, Implementation, & Evaluation



ERIN DALE BYRD, BLUEPRINT NC



Erin Dale Byrd is a mother, community activist, political strategist, and cultural worker in Raleigh NC. She was raised in a military family with roots in Tennessee and Texas. As Executive Director of Blueprint NC, a collaborative of 41 progressive organizations working for a fairer more just North Carolina. Blueprint NC is part of the State Voices national network. As director she is responsible for fundraising, compliance, managing staff and driving the organizations vision for collective impact. Her expertise is in campaign planning, coalition building and community organizing. She has over 15 years of experience in successful coalition work on campaigns including increasing the minimum wage, public financing of judicial campaigns and same day voter registration. Erin's work focuses on organizational capacity building with an emphasis on culture, civic engagement/organizing, planning, communication and evaluation. She is Board Chair of Southern Partners Fund, a member of Black Workers for Justice and a founding member of the Fertile Ground Food Cooperative in Southeast Raleigh. She has been awarded the Ella Baker Award from the Youth Organizing Institute, Women to Watch from Women AdvaNCe, SiStars Award from the National Coalition on Black Civic Participation, Annie Mackie Ward from NC Women United, the William C. Friday Fellowship for Human Relations and most recently won Local Hero Citizen of the Year for 2015 from Indy Week magazine. Erin is most proud of her accomplishment as a mother of two Prince Kings. She has a degree in Sociology from the College of William and Mary.

blueprintnc.org



Collective Impact

Organizing Principals

Blueprint NC believes that only through working together can we create a more equitable and just North Carolina



Race Equity

Pillars of Our Work



Building Civic Engagement

- Grow our membership
- Promote civic education
- Increase voter turnout
- Cultivate leaders
- Implement shared measurement, accountability and tracking systems



Shifting the Public Dialogue

- Deploy shared narratives to promote the power of collective solutions
- Develop public storytellers



Strengthening Skills

- Bring in national trainers on best practices
- Offer on-demand staff coaching
- Provide peer-to-peer learning opportunities

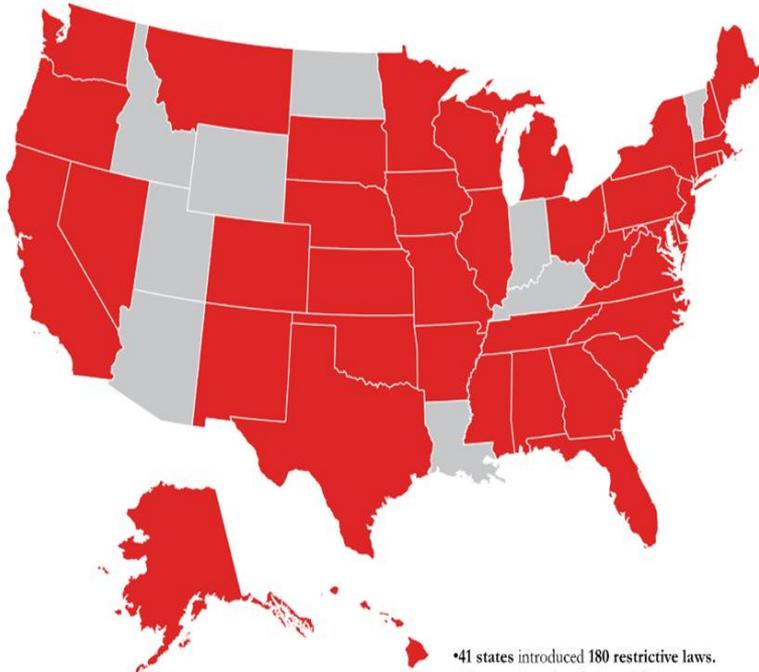


Innovating and Learning Through Experimentation

- Nourishing a learning space to fail forward
- Experiment to challenge best practices
- Encourage a work environment that rewards innovation and tests new technologies

Restrictive Voting Laws Passed In the South and in NC

States with restrictive voting legislation introduced since 2011



BRENNAN CENTER
FOR JUSTICE

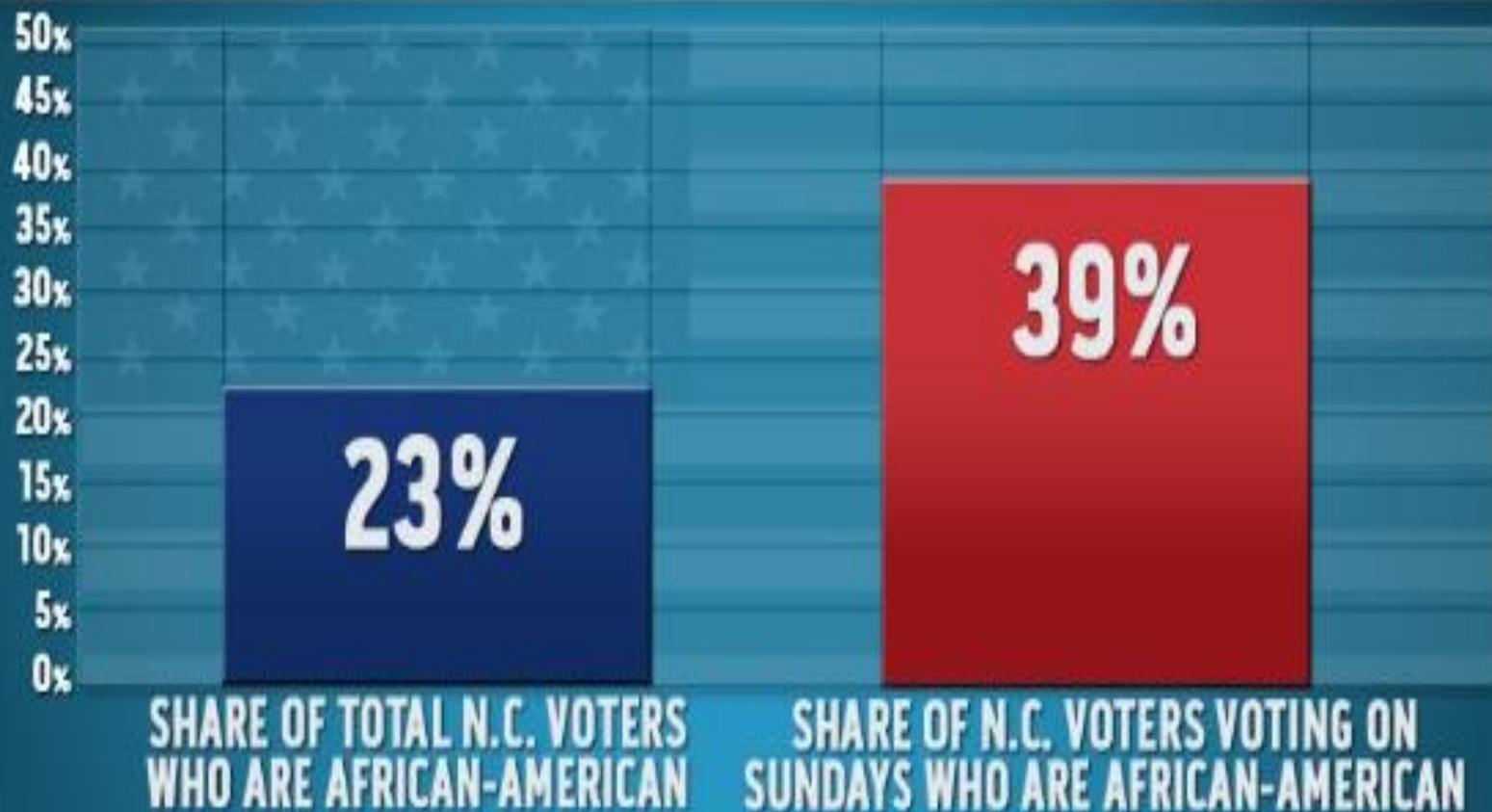
- 41 states introduced 180 restrictive laws.
- 34 states introduced photo ID laws.
- 17 states introduced proof of citizenship requirements.
- 16 states introduced bills to limit registration.
- 9 states introduced bills to reduce early voting periods.

In North Carolina

- Cut a full week of early voting
- Eliminated same day registration (injunction in place until the court rules)
- Enacted Voter ID in 2016
- Eliminated pre-registration for 16-17 year olds
- Eliminated out-of-precinct voting
- Eliminated straight party ticket voting
- Eliminated judicial public financing

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USE OF SUNDAY VOTING BY AFRICAN-AMERICANS IN NORTH CAROLINA



SOURCES: EXIT POLL DATA, AND MIKE McDONALD, GEORGE MASON UNIVERSITY

CHALLENGES TO BUILDING BLACK LED INFRASTRUCTURE

Cycle of Disinvestment:

- Black led organizations are smaller scale volunteer operations (no full time staff) typically disconnected from the larger progressive infrastructure (where majority of funding flows)
- Resources directed toward nonprofit organizations working in communities of color, but not led by them.
- North Carolina is one of the least unionized states in the country. GS 95-96 outlaws collective bargaining for public employees

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OUR STRATEGY

- Black Women's Roundtable (co-convened with Spirithouse – black women led)
 - Resilience, healing, culture - organizing principles
- Black Leadership and Organizing Collective
- Planning Grants to develop statewide black infrastructure
- Share collective brain power/Continuously develop strategy to advance black liberation throughout the year/Build communities that heal/Operate with unifying Ethic (prevent division, see others as impt)/Stay connected to other BLM movements/Be rooted in the Black tradition/Decolonizing our processes, or not replicating oppressive culture
- Police Accountability Community Taskforce (PACT)
- Leadership development, activist mobilization, basebuilding grants

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CHARLENE CARRUTHERS, BLACK YOUTH PROJECT 100



Charlene A. Carruthers is a Black, queer feminist community organizer and writer with over 10 years of experience in racial justice, feminist and youth leadership development movement work. She currently serves as the national director of the Black Youth Project 100 (BYP100), an activist member-led organization of Black 18-35 year olds dedicated to creating justice and freedom for all Black people. Her passion for developing young leaders to build capacity within marginalized communities has led her to work on immigrant rights, economic justice and civil rights campaigns nationwide. She has led grassroots and digital strategy campaigns for national organizations including the Center for Community Change, the Women's Media Center, [ColorOfChange.org](https://colorofchange.org) and National People's Action, as well as being a member of a historic delegation of young activists in Palestine in 2015 to build solidarity between Black and Palestinian liberation movements. Charlene is the winner of the "New Organizing Institute 2015 Organizer of the Year Award" and has served as a featured speaker at various institutions including Wellesley College, Northwestern University and her alma mater Illinois Wesleyan University. Charlene also received a Master of Social Work at Washington University in St. Louis. Charlene was born and raised on the South Side of Chicago where she currently resides and continues to lead and partake in social justice movements.

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**I'M YOUNG.
I'M BLACK.
& I VOTE.**

**BLACK YOUTH
PROJECT 100**



**WWW.BYP100.ORG
@BYP_100**

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LESSONS FROM 2014 + 2016

- Convergence of Field and Direct Action strategies is possible and necessary to engage many of the young Black activists doing the work in this moment
 - Risk-taking is central in a time of deep uncertainty
 - Young Black folks are poised to advance policy agendas & shift dominant narratives
 - Power doesn't require candidate endorsement
 - Local leadership connected to national infrastructure matters
- 

HOW WE LEARNED WHAT WE KNOW...

Three state GOTV program in 2014



Cook County States Attorney Primary

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WHERE WE'RE GOING ACROSS THE ECOSYSTEM

- Building independent Black political power
- Investing resources in the South
- Deep integration of direct action and electoral organizing to win policy victories

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LUDOVIC BLAIN, THE PROGRESSIVE ERA PROJECT



Ludovic Blain is a racial justice entrepreneur, and has worked on three continents. He directs the Progressive Era Project and the Color of Democracy Fund, California donor tables building state infrastructure to win bold social justice policies by investing in voter engagement, leadership pipelines, candidate and initiative campaigns and policy advocacy by and for people of color. He is also a co-founder of the CA Civic Participation Funders Table. He has held leadership positions at Closing the Racial Wealth Gap, Demos, NYC Environmental Justice Alliance, Equal Voice Campaign and the Center for Social Inclusion. He's led campaigns inserting racial justice into economics, democracy and environment for 25 years. He's also worked in Haiti, The Gambia, Northern Ireland, Denmark and Canada.

Ludovic was one of the first college graduates in his family when he received a BA in Political Science from City College of New York, while working full-time. He's a Bronx native, the son of an immigrant, and lives in Berkeley with his wife and son.

progressiveeraproject.org



WHAT WE DO

WE SUPPORT POLICIES AND PEOPLE THAT MOVE OREGON FORWARD

Our Mission: Communities of Color for a Just Oregon, or Color PAC, exists to endorse, invest and otherwise support progressive candidates, regardless of party, that will advance racial equity and correct social and economic inequalities experienced by communities of color.

Our Focus:: We have a broad mission, but a clear focus: making Oregon's local and state elected offices more representative of Oregonians themselves. WE are committed to helping progressive people of color prepare, run and win elected office.

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Our Vision

- We have a vision of our elected officials at all levels reflecting the diverse voices and communities of Oregon.
- We have a vision of campaigns run and won by putting conversations above commercials, and knocking on all doors, regardless who lives there.
- We have a vision that our elected officials and voters, regardless of color, support policies that advance equity.

Our Work

- Endorse.* We endorse candidates and policies and allow that endorsement to be publicly acknowledged
- We invest.* We invest funds in candidates and policies.
- Fundraise.* We raise funds to invest in candidates and policies and the infrastructure of the PAC.

Learn about us

PowerPac is committed to long-term, real progressive change.

We work year-round, and during each election cycle, to direct financial and human resources to strategic local, state and national campaigns.

Our mission is to increase voter participation among underrepresented communities.

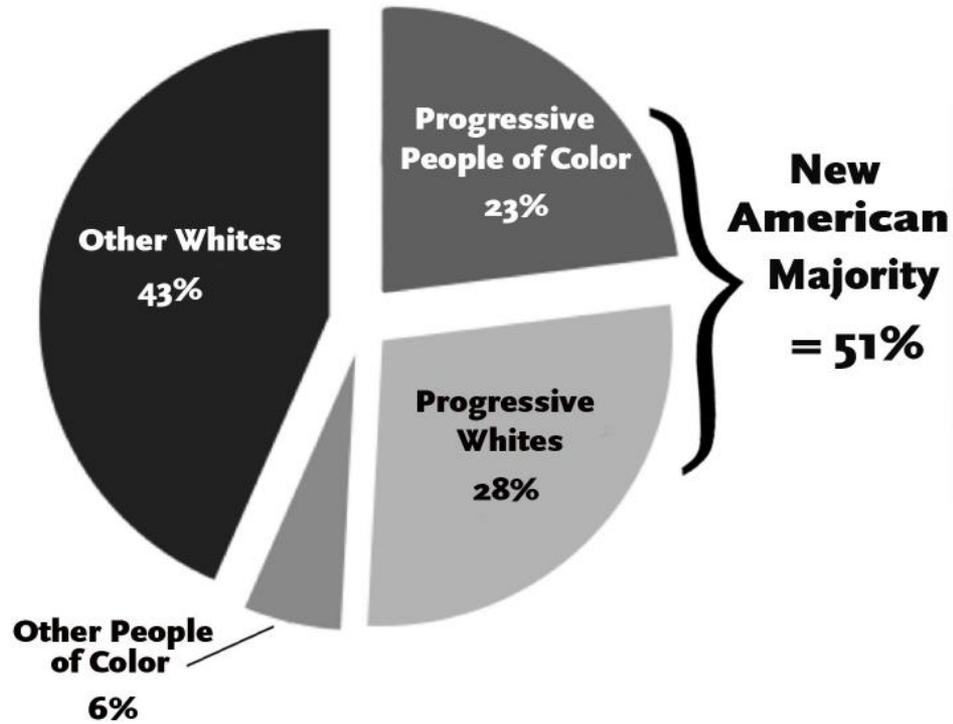
Read more about PowerPac and our programs. If you can, contribute to our work!



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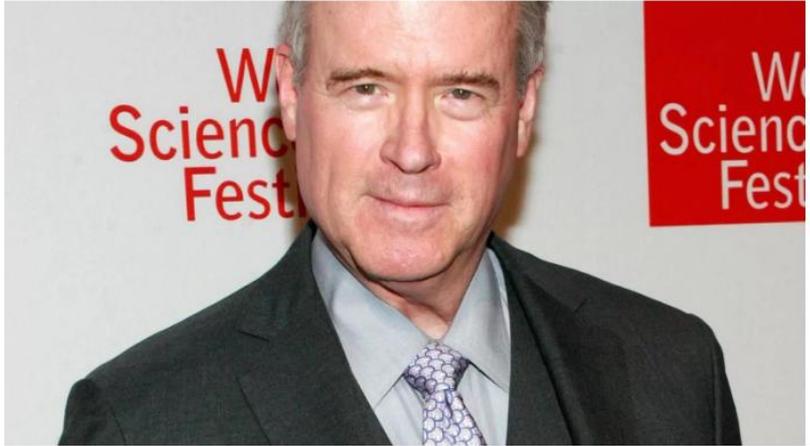
Composition of the New American Majority

(Percentage of All U.S. Eligible Voters)



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Rich, white, conservative men are funding the Black Americans for a Better Future Super PAC



FUSION ON TV



Lin-Manuel Miranda says Donald Trump is spreading 'a virulent strain of a virus'



Donald Trump makes a 'yuge' announcement on TCGS



SHARE TWEET TUMBLR EMAIL

Charles Pulliam-Moore

FOLLOW

FEED

To look at the Black Americans for a Better Future's [YouTube page](#), you might get the impression that the Super PAC is the result of the combined efforts of dozens of well-off, black conservatives seeking to put a Republican in the White House. Technically speaking, you'd be wrong.

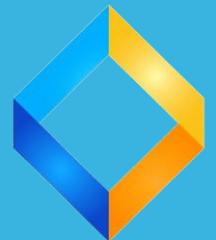
According to [recent FEC filings](#), the Black Americans for a Better Future is being almost entirely funded by reclusive billionaire and hedge fund manager Robert Mercer, a white man. At present, Mercer's

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PLEASE POST YOUR QUESTIONS IN THE CHAT BOX



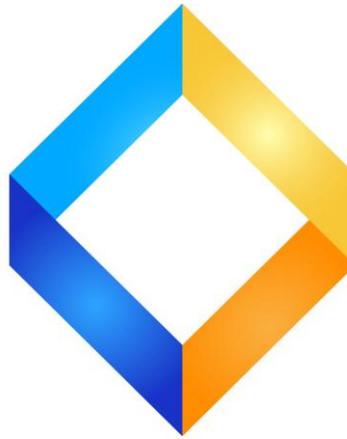
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ABFE

THANK YOU!

PLEASE COMPLETE THE SURVEY WHICH WILL BE SENT TO YOU SOON!



ABFE

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#EmpowerPhilanthropy

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