

Thu, Jun 8, 2023

CALIFORNIA



Twenty Californians are gearing up for the PPC's next national action! You can meet them and learn more about the event's vital mission in a video below. If you missed our fundraiser, you can check that out too (and maybe chip in a few bucks for the delegation while you're at it). We also have a recap of an Inland Empire event, a report on Bishop Barber's recent rallies with Sen. Bernie Sanders, and more.

Announcement



Meet our Moral Poverty Action Congress delegates!

Our 20-member moral fusion delegation is getting ready to attend the Moral Poverty Action Congress in Washington D.C. Want to know who they are? This short [video](#) highlights their stories, struggles and hopes for our work together to create a more just society.

The Moral Poverty Action Congress is a vital step toward our 2024 campaign, which will include actions at statehouses nationwide, the third Mass Poor People's and Low Wage Workers' Assembly and Moral March on Washington and to the Polls, and our nonpartisan Get Out the Vote effort. It provides a crucial opportunity for us to build on our work and strategize for the coming year, ensuring that the voices of poor and low-wealth individuals are well-represented in the upcoming election and beyond.

You can help get our delegation there by [making a donation](#). Every dollar helps!

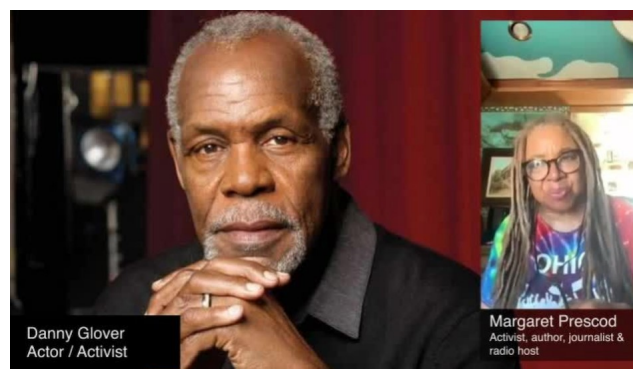
Upcoming meetings

Third Reconstruction Agenda / Close the Wealth Gap, CA! planning

Wednesdays, 6:30pm | [RSVP](#)

Join our Close the Wealth Gap, California! initiative and help build momentum for the Third Reconstruction Agenda to Heal the Nation. [Drop by online any Wednesday](#) to find out how you can be involved.

Recaps



Fundraiser highlights: King screening, Danny Glover interview and more

Last Sunday, CA PPC supporters gathered to view a special screening of part 2 of the profound documentary *King: A Filmed Record...from Montgomery to Memphis*. It was our only statewide fundraiser to support our delegates attending the 2023 Moral Poverty Action Congress in Washington D.C.

The film, an unnarrated compilation of news footage and other primary material, allowed viewers to witness the deep meaning of Dr. King's commitment to justice achieved through nonviolent means. It was both unsettling and inspiring.

We were reminded that the movement that grew up around Dr. King was a moral fusion, like ours, including people deeply impacted by poverty and racism as well as allies who find the violent treatment of poor Black people and poor people of all races and ethnicities unacceptable.

Following the film, Margaret Prescod [interviewed](#) the event's special guest: actor and activist Danny Glover. She asked him, "Danny, as a young person during the Civil Rights era, can you recall a specific event that made you think 'I want to be a part of this'?"

"I remember watching the Montgomery bus boycott every night, one year after Brown v. Board of Education, and the attention that my parents paid to that," Glover replied. "They were a young couple, my mother from the Deep South and the first to graduate college in her family. Her parents were sharecroppers, but when there was school, the children didn't work in the fields. That changed the whole dynamics of the family.

Whatever has happened to me, it's because my mother didn't pick cotton in September; she went to school."

Those who attended were moved to give "what they could, if they could." We exceeded our goal of \$4,000.

Besides the fundraising, the delegates are working on logistics for the Moral Poverty Action Congress, which will include teams making visits to the offices of representatives and senators.

We appreciate the many kinds of support that have been offered, including the financial donations. Missed the event? [You can still donate.](#)



California PPC's workshop at Rising Voices Conference

This past Monday through Wednesday, California PPC activists participated in a special event called Rising Voices: Inland Valley Community Engagement Conference. Hosted by the Center for Community Action and Environmental Justice, the Ontario Future Alliance and the Hispanic Coalition of Small Businesses, it was an opportunity for the local community to leverage

partnerships and mobilize community resources in order to advance equity and explore potential collaborations.

Three of the four CA PPC quad chairs—Rose Guidel-Escobar, Nell Myhand and Nancy Berlin—held a workshop introducing participants to the PPC and listening to the stories, struggles and concerns of local community members. It was a valuable step toward continuing our work in the Inland Valley. Ted Burnett, CA PPC coordinating campaign member, helped organize the event. (Nell, Rose and Ted are pictured above.)

As Rose explained, “By coming together across race, place and sectors, we can collectively build a brighter future in which all businesses, families, workers and students can thrive.”

News



Senator Sanders and Bishop Barber lead three-city rally to “Raise the Wage”

Framing living wages as a moral issue, Bishop Barber and Sen. Bernie Sanders (D-VT) recently engaged local leaders and advocates in three rallies to demand change. Their first stop was [Durham, North Carolina](#), where they stood with local leaders like Nida Allam, the Durham County Commissioner. “The state is not doing its job when one in five NC children is living in poverty,” the commissioner said. Local union leader Chris Daugherty spoke of his experience trying to get by on low wages, asking, “Why is Congress allowing corporations to pay us unlivable wages?”

Next up was [Nashville, Tennessee](#). State Rep. Justin Jones joined in, saying “We are fired up, we are fed up, and we’re not going to take it anymore! We have a movement being led by young people, parents, teachers and clergy, all saying that we want to live in a state where it’s easier to get a living wage job than it is to get an AR-15.” Senator Sanders committed to working in D.C. to increase the federal minimum wage. “In the year 2023, no one in America should be forced to work for starvation wages,” he said. “I don’t care where you are in America—you can’t make it on \$7.25 an hour, you can’t make it on \$9 an hour, you can’t make it on \$12 an hour.”

The final stop was [Charleston, South Carolina](#), where Bishop Barber called \$7.25 an hour a death wage, given that poverty is the fourth-leading cause of death in America. “Poverty is a death sentence, and lack of a living wage is an accessory to crime,” he said.

Additional coverage can be found at [NC News](#), the [TN Lookout](#), and the [Post and Courier](#).

Support the California PPC!

When over 140 million Americans are poor or living with low-wages, it's time for systemic change. We are building a movement led by poor and impacted folks, building across all lines of division, in order to topple the interlocking pillars of racism, poverty, militarism, environmental destruction and this country's distorted moral narrative. Please help us achieve this goal by clicking below and chipping in whatever you can.

DONATE

PPC in the media

Mississippi PPC joins lawsuit to fight bill restricting protests

A new law, set to take effect on July 1, requires that people obtain permission from state law enforcement prior to any protest near state government buildings, which could result in peaceful protestors being prosecuted and imprisoned. A city-issued permit is already required for demonstrations in downtown Jackson.

The lawsuit, filed last Thursday on behalf of a coalition of organizations including the Mississippi PPC, was brought against two leaders: DPS Commissioner Sean Tindell and Capitol Police Chief Bo Luckey. “These two officials, both white men, will now have veto authority over protests that have included, and will continue to include, criticisms of their own expanded authority and actions as well as that of other state officials” in a majority Black city, the lawsuit states. “This chills free speech.” The story has been covered locally in the [Magnolia Tribune](#), as well as more widely by the [AP](#).

Thanks for reading. If you have any questions, you are welcome to reply to this newsletter or email california@poorpeoplescampaign.org.