

Thu, Sep 21, 2023

CALIFORNIA



Moral Action Teams, one the PPC's biggest initiatives of this year and next, is about to take off. Are you in? Check out the orientation invite below; you'll also find inspiring recaps of a panel discussion on public health and a climate march in Sacramento and more.

Announcement

Poverty=Death

We Have Solutions
to End Poverty

Join a Moral Action Team
to reach out to your
member of Congress
with our message...

Poverty is a
Policy Choice!

bit.ly/CAPPC_MATPrep



prep session
Saturday
September 30
10:30 -12:00
on zoom



Moral Action Team prep session Saturday Sep 30, 10:30am | [RSVP](#)

When was the last time you heard your congressman talk about ending poverty? Never? Here's your chance to change that, and to make sure our elected officials are truly addressing how to end poverty from the bottom up. By joining a [Moral Action Team](#), you will be working with others in your community to engage your member of congress, push out the Campaign's demands and spread our Third Reconstruction Agenda far and wide.

Attend our prep session and learn what a Moral Action Team is and how you can be part of this exciting and necessary campaign to shift the narrative about who is poor and why. [RSVP](#) now!

Upcoming meeting

Los Angeles regional meeting

Sunday Oct 1, 3pm [RSVP](#)

Please join us this first day in October, when we'll begin efforts to reach out to elected officials in our Moral Action teams and practice our PPC "elevator pitch" that we can use with decision makers and community groups. We'll also have updates on local and state issues we're supporting. Invite your friends, neighbors, community members—all are welcome.

News



Bishop Barber fires up the Clinton Global Initiative

Speaking to a community of global leaders and influencers (youth advocates, grassroots activists, heads of government and leaders from the worlds of NGOs, business, labor and finance) at the Clinton Global Initiative's 2023 meeting, Bishop Barber delivered an

impassioned [speech](#) calling for all people to address the interlocking crises of poverty, climate change, racist violence, LGBTQ discrimination and voting rights.

Launched in 2005 by President Bill Clinton, the CGI brings leaders together to explore effective models for making lasting positive change and works with partners to develop Commitments to Action: new, specific and measurable efforts in climate resilience, health equity and inclusive economic growth.

In a [tweet](#), President Clinton thanked Bishop Barber and shared highlights from his speech, during which the crowd got to their feet and repeated after him, “Ain't gonna let nobody, no injustice, no hate, no wrong, no bad policy, no mean president, no mean governor...to turn us around. Not now! Not ever!”

Recaps



Bay Area PPC takes our message to the classroom

On September 13, members of the CA PPC's Bay Area region spoke to a class of students at San Francisco State School of Public Health, emphasizing the relationship between health and poverty. Approximately 40 Latinx, Asian and Black students were present, ranging in age from 18 to 20. Our panel presented four community organizing efforts addressing how policy violence affects people in our state and beyond. (Pictured above from left to right are Jon Sullivan, Rachel West, Rev. Dr. Monica Starks, Michelle Hayes, Melvin Starks and Ward Kanowsky.)

Michelle Hayes opened with an overview of our connection to Dr. King's radical legacy, the 2017–2018 relaunch of the Poor People's Campaign and the 3rd Reconstruction. Laney College PPC Chapter member Jon Sullivan raised awareness of homelessness among students and their work to get affordable student housing; Jon also provided QR codes so that attendees could sign a petition and register for a fall teach-in. Rachel West of US PROStitutes Collective described the ongoing fight to decriminalize prostitution and address poverty as an underlying cause. And Alison Little, from the civilian oversight org Fixin' San Mateo County, addressed how the intersection of the poverty and mental health crises affects the lives of residents and all too often results in death by law enforcement.

The presentations were followed with a Q&A, with the issue of student housing getting the most questions. Ward Kanowsky closed the event by encouraging the students to join the PPC and get active. We look forward to seeing them at future events.



March to End Fossil Fuels: the scene in Sacramento

Last Sunday, CA PPC was well represented at the Sacramento site of the Global Day of Action to End Fossil Fuels. We joined a crowd of over 500 people assembled at the waterfront in Old Sacramento, where speakers implored President Biden and Governor Newsom to take more dramatic action against the climate crisis that is already in motion.

CA PPC organizers and supporters from as far away as Oxnard made the trek to emphasize the fact that poor communities are hit first and worst by climate disasters—and to demand a bold climate agenda to put the needs and concerns of the poor and dispossessed first. When we lift from the bottom, everybody rises!

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



“March for Our Lives, faith leaders call on Florida lawmakers to ‘cease and desist’”

Joining forces with student activists from Edward Waters University and March for Our Lives, among others, Bishop Barber and other faith leaders continued the “take back the mic” events calling on lawmakers in Florida to “cease and desist” their hate-fueled rhetoric and policies. [Religion News](#) and [USAToday](#) reported on the events, which included a march to the State Capitol on Friday, September 15, where they delivered the cease-and-desist letter to Governor DeSantis and other lawmakers in Tallahassee. The next day saw a moral gathering at Bethel Baptist Church in Jacksonville.

Among many highlights, March for our Lives’ leader David Hogg spoke to the group, reflecting on Dr. King’s words on the interlocking injustices of militarism, racism and poverty. “Racism, anti-semitism, islamophobia and xenophobia are not caused by mental illness...they are caused by hatred of ‘others,’” he said. “We must stand together, united against hatred, now, in this critical moment of our democracy, when we are becoming a truly multiracial democracy for the first time.”

He shared his experience listening to the same hateful rhetoric from a Republican lawmaker in the House Judiciary Committee as that of the El Paso shooter, and said “we must call out politicians who use the same hatred and division as shooters do.” Bishop Barber thanked David for his continued activism, which he said has been a true inspiration.

Watch video replays of the events on [Friday](#) and [Saturday](#) and be inspired for more to come

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