

Thu, Oct 10, 2024

CALIFORNIA



Good morning! In this issue...

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- New PPC documentary
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Announcements



Save the Date! National GOTV pep rally

Monday Oct. 21 | Details to come

Join with activists from across the country as we get energized to Get Out The Vote! We'll have inspiring music, powerful stories and updates on what you can do in these final weeks before Election Day. Check here next week for details on how to join online.

More canvassing opportunities

Los Angeles

This Saturday, Los Angeles activists will be back at Alexandria House in Koreatown, talking to families and visiting nearby encampments. Later in the month, we'll be heading to Long Beach. For more information, contact Nancy at 323-422-2830.

Bay Area

Up north, we'll be canvassing with the Wood Street Commons and Friends organization of homeless helping homeless. They provide basic needs support and harm-reduction supplies to people living in encampments in Oakland. If you're in the Bay Area and want to support, email california@poorpeoplescampaign.org.

PPC resources for your GOTV efforts

Our [PPC GOTV flyers](#) are available in English and Spanish and can be used by all of us, for tabling at events, for door-to-door canvassing, to share with libraries, senior centers, congregations—in other words, anywhere in your community where low-income voters will see them. Be creative!

- **Presidential candidate scorecard ([English](#) | [Spanish](#)):** A nonpartisan, thoroughly fact-checked flyer showing where the presidential candidates stand on issues that matter most to our community. Remember: Our campaign is not about left or right; it's about right and wrong!
- **Voting information:** A flyer to help people check their voter registration status, register to vote and get information about polling places and early voting; includes voter hotline numbers, 866-OUR-VOTE. (Note: This flyer is located beneath the [presidential scorecard](#). The two documents can be printed front-to-back.)

- **Remember You Can Vote (English | Spanish):** A flyer specifically for California to reinforce the rights of our unhoused neighbors and formerly incarcerated people to vote.
- **Voter Protection Poster:** A bold, colorful flyer to display as a poster in public places, listing hotline protection numbers in various languages.

We'd love to know what you're doing so that we can be aware of the amazing work happening across the state. Please take a moment to fill out this brief [GOTV feedback form](#) and let us know any questions you have.

Are you ready to vote?

Visit [Vote.org](#) to check your registration, register to vote, request an absentee ballot, find out what's on your ballot and get election reminders to make sure you know about early voting options as well as where to vote on Election Day.

If you're registered to vote, you should have received your CA Voter Guide in the mail, and ballots are on the way! If you have not received mail about voting, now is the time to [check your registration](#).

Meetings & events

Ain't Gonna Pay for War No More

The Cost of the War Machine from the U.S. to the Philippines

Wednesday Oct. 16, 5pm | [Register](#)

Join this webinar, organized by International Coalition for Human Rights in the Philippines —U.S. Chapter and their allies, to deepen our analysis and solidarity from the U.S. to the Philippines. While Congress uses our tax dollars to provide billions for war and violence around the world, poverty is the fourth-leading cause of death in the United States. Recently the U.S. announced an additional \$500 million in military aid to the Philippines, funding the ongoing suppression of people's movements there, rather than funding a desperately needed social safety net here at home, as millions face hunger and housing insecurity.

Nell Myhand, California PPC quad chair, is a panelist to help us connect the dots between the U.S. war machine in the Philippines and beyond and the violence of poverty in this country. Together we can take action to support people's movements in the Philippines and the U.S. that are demanding an end to this immoral use of our tax dollars!

Statewide Meeting: Faith All-Call

What's on the Ballot open mic

Wednesday Oct. 23, 6:30pm | [RSVP](#)

Join our California PPC monthly faith call to share our collective wisdom about the state ballot measures, particularly those that most impact our communities. California PPC is not advocating positions; rather this will be an open discussion and a time to hear differing points of view. We'll also have updates on Get Out The Vote efforts for the final weeks of the election season.

While our Faith All-Call meetings are a space especially for those who are moved to take action through the lens of faith, all are welcome!

Recaps



Bay Area PPC supports Wood Street Commons Solidarity Bike Ride

Last Friday morning, cyclists from the Wood Street Commons and Friends organization of homeless helping homeless prepared for the Third Annual Unhoused Solidarity Bike Ride from Oakland's Wood Street Commons to Sacramento's Camp Resolution community.

In addition to connecting with the displaced residents of Camp Resolution, the cyclists brought their demands to elected officials on Monday, calling on Assemblymember Mia Bonta and State Senator Nancy Skinner to advocate for a solution to homelessness led by those with lived experience.

At a press conference kicking off the day, CA PPC coordinating committee member and cyclist Genie Sullivan shared the purpose of the ride: "What began three years ago as a bike ride in support of residents of Camp Resolution has become a broader fight for housing and specifically in protest of the Governor's recent executive order ([N-1-24](#)), which has resulted in numerous sweeps and evictions in communities up and down the state. It is traumatizing for unhoused individuals to lose their belongings, be forced elsewhere and sometimes be arrested and fined since Grants Pass v. Johnson. We have the resources in California to provide housing, and we know there are at least three housing units sitting vacant for every one unhoused person. And yet the police have been emboldened by the executive order, which is costing taxpayers even more, and making matters worse. We need to invest in solutions."

A strong group of supporters came to encourage and uplift the group on their two-day, 110-mile journey, including fellow CA PPC Bay Area activists Rev. Dr. Monica Cross, Virginia Hollins-Davidson (who gave a rousing talk), Ward Kanowsky, Mary Manning and Amy Simpson.

"Disinvestment in public and subsidized housing, alongside stagnant wages, have created a massive housing crisis," Virginia said. "The most concentrated and visible expression of poverty in the U.S. today is houselessness. Rather than address the root causes of homelessness, cities and law enforcement have focused on criminalizing people who are homeless. We have to hold elected officials accountable."

She went on, her voice booming: "The California Poor People's Campaign is here in solidarity with our Wood Street Commons family. You have a right to defend your human

rights. We're here to let you know you're not alone, you are not alone, you are not alone! We call on all eligible voters to use the power of the ballot box to vote the tyrants out!"

[Watch a video of Virginia's talk.](#)



Canvassing in Hollywood!

Los Angeles PPC activists came prepared to get out the vote in Hollywood last Saturday. Our colorful table and moral fusion team attracted lots of interested voters. Barbara Alvarado Gyorgyovich, one of our canvassers, told this story: "A woman I spoke with asked for a flyer in Spanish for her mother and another one in English for her son, who just turned 18. It's great to have the resources we need for our communities. We talked to families at a community resource fair and gave out flyers at nearby apartment buildings, reaching more than 200 households."

We are the swing vote! Join our GOTV team!

"If just 20 percent of poor and low-wage voters in swing states vote, they could shift the outcome of the election, becoming the chief cornerstone of this society. The Bible speaks of the stone that the builders reject becoming the chief cornerstone, the builder of society." —Bishop Barber



We are mobilizing 15 million poor and low-wage workers and people to the polls this November. You can be part of this effort.

SIGN UP

In the media

New PPC documentary hits the road

[An Unsettling Force](#), a film that explores the history of the PPC and its mission to eradicate poverty in the U.S., is screening in a handful of East Coast cities—and is available to people with the resources to set up screenings of their own. If you would like to host a screening for your class or community, you can fill out the [request form](#).

“Although the film’s topic is serious, the movement is a joyful one,” says filmmaker Dara Kell, “and it is my hope that this film can inspire many movements, refresh our conscience and challenge our stereotypes, as it begins its journey through the world.”

“Rev. William Barber II demands focus on poverty, proposes debate format to 'put facts out'”

Following last week’s vice presidential debate, Bishop Barber spoke with [USA Today](#) about the need for poverty to take center stage.

“I think there’s a great failure of the press, of those who planned the debate, and even the politicians themselves, for not putting millions of people at the center of the political debate,” he said. He went on to suggest a new debate format—one that would feature, as USA Today put it, “a non-partisan expert on the topic providing the facts prior to any question being asked by a person affected by the topic.” We would certainly tune in for that.

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