

**CRITICAL
RESISTANCE** 



Abolition Is Essential in 2021

ANNUAL REPORT 2021



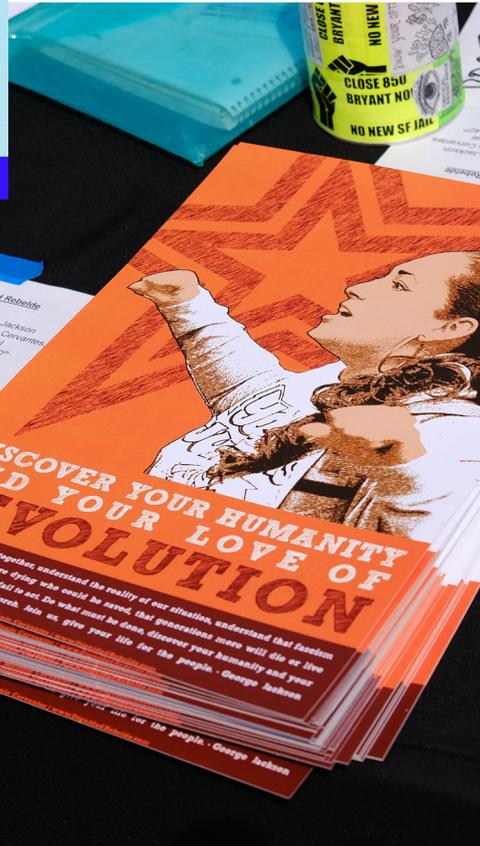
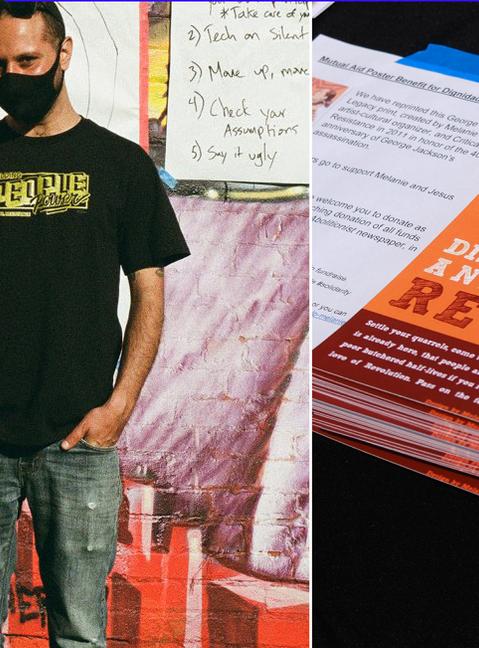
TO SLIP AWAY"
- George Jackson




PIC + ABOLITION
2-PART INTRO WORKSHOP SERIES

COHORT 1 FEB 13 & MAR 13	COHORT 2 APR 10 & MAY 8
COHORT 3 JUNE 12 & JULY 10	COHORT 4 AUG 14 & SEPT 11
COHORT 5 OCT 9 & NOV 13	

CRITICAL RESISTANCE REGISTER AT [BIT.LY/3BrPtK4](https://bit.ly/3BrPtK4)



Cover image is from a Shut 'Em Down rally at Soledad State Prison

A collage of images: Mass releases car caravan, intro to the PIC + abolition sessions flyer; CR members and community members at youth workshop; CR concentric circles; Critical Resistance poster

Critical Resistance (CR) uses a transformational approach to dismantling the prison industrial complex. We aim to make abolition common sense through political education, media work, and campaigns and projects that achieve concrete abolitionist reforms. We elevate positive life-affirming solutions as we tear down walls, cages, and policing.

Dear friends and fellow travelers,

In 2021 Critical Resistance (CR) and our coalition partners forged ahead with campaigns to close prisons in California, to chip away at systems of immigrant criminalization and imprisonment in New York and New Jersey, to shift resources out of the Oakland Police Department, and to build organizing connections with imprisoned people in Oregon. It was an ambitious year!

From these campaigns to a virtual all-membership National Retreat, the organization and our membership were busy at work across the board. Though Covid-19 had us mostly physically separated, we drew on our organizing history, our networks, our pre-Covid practices and our since-Covid learnings to stay active and purposeful. In addition to the campaigns mentioned above, we released three bilingual issues of *The Abolitionist* newspaper to over 5,000 people inside prisons, jails, detention centers, and re-entry, and developed a new training for our phone line volunteers and Prisoner Solidarity organizing. We also internally passed our first full national Strategic Plan for External Organizing.

As 2022 takes off, we want to share a report-out of political education resources, materials and more from 2021. We know that time moves fast these days, yet we made these materials for a reason, and we are still referring to them and sharing them. We offer this Annual Report as a compelling recap and strategic trove. We hope you will use these tools, refer to the lessons, and share them with your networks. Share this link to our annual report! bit.ly/CRAnnualReport2021

As of March 2022 our Development Director, Jess Heaney, has transitioned off staff and back into a general supporter role for CR. We are so thankful for her years of service in growing our fundraising base, our budgets, and a strong rainy day fund to help CR weather the storms. You can read her exit reflection and our transition plans at bit.ly/CRDevTransition2022.

This year we aim to continue the strategic campaigns and project work we have begun. Together we hope to stay focused and sharp in our efforts to shift power away from the prison industrial complex. Your involvement is essential. Please continue to support CR so we can keep advancing abolition as a practical and irresistible strategy. Thank you so much for your gifts, actions and commitment.

In solidarity,



Jess Heaney, Mohamed Shehk and Woods Ervin, CR National Co-Directors
Shirley Leslie, Development Coordinator, Nick DeRenzi, Development
Assistant, and CR National Fundraisers



Dismantle Change Build art

Mission

Critical Resistance (CR) seeks to build an international movement to end the prison industrial complex (PIC) by challenging the belief that caging and controlling people makes us safe. We believe that basic necessities such as food, shelter, and freedom are what really make our communities secure. As such, our work is part of global struggles against inequality and powerlessness. The success of the movement requires that it reflect communities most affected by the PIC. Because we seek to abolish the PIC, we cannot support any work that extends its life or scope.

About CR

Critical Resistance is a national grassroots organization building a movement to abolish the prison industrial complex (PIC). We think of the PIC as the system of surveillance, policing, and imprisonment that government, industry and their interests use as solutions to economic, social, and political problems. Because the PIC is a huge, complicated system, we have to attack it from different angles using many different strategies. Our broad abolitionist strategy embraces a three-part holistic framework:

- + **Dismantle**
- + **Change**
- + **Build**



Youth workshop

We fight to dismantle the prison industrial complex, including the caging, policing, practices, and larger systems that harm, control, and impoverish communities and greater society

We strive to change common sense, resource allocation, and practices (at all scales) away from harm, punishment, and control, and toward practices that empower communities and address harm and problems at their root cause.

As we dismantle and change, we build: practices, skills, relationships and resources that address the needs of our communities. From interpersonal to local community to state and larger-scale, we demand that investments be made that are life-affirming and enable us to thrive.

We are building toward liberation for everyone, most especially people of color, poor people, queer people, immigrants, youth, and other oppressed communities who are targeted by the PIC.

Bringing Our Mission to Life

Our goal at CR is to work for concrete steps that dismantle cages, surveillance systems, and policing, while we continue to lift up internationalist visions of freedom and self-determination. The core of CR's work is to advance material changes and a reinvigorated common sense in which the key to health and safety is not aggression, policing, & imprisonment, but healing, stability, & liberation. We do this through grassroots mobilizations, popular education, campaigns & coalitional efforts.



A collage of images: Mass releases car caravan; community workshop and centric circles; California prison boom presentation during Freedom Fridays; CR members holding *The Abolitionist* newspaper

Prohibition: 200 probable state government contributions from considering min. tax, an. of ethnicity, specifically in the areas of public employment, public contracting, and public education.

994 Billions in federal money for prisons and police

994 Women Care Co. and the imprisoned: 400 inmates (80% for prison) in one operation.

994 Three strikes

994 Billions in federal money for prisons and police

994 Billions in federal money for prisons and police

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Organizational Structure

We are a member-led organization with volunteer members and supporters across the country. Our work reflects the local problems we think are most pressing and local solutions we think are most appropriate. Therefore, our organizational structure is based in chapters. Local chapters coordinate and communicate with sister chapters, other members, and national staff that make up CR's national organization.

Chapter projects range from fighting policing in working class communities of color, to community education and prisoner correspondence projects, to grassroots campaigns opposing policing policies, imprisonment and jail construction. These projects are united by a commitment to working for the eventual elimination of the prison industrial complex as well as to taking practical steps to create the communities we envision for ourselves.

Chapters and our national office correspond with over 10,000 imprisoned people each year across the United States.

Chapters

- + New York City, New York
- + Los Angeles, California
- + Oakland, California
- + Portland, Oregon

NATIONAL STAFF IN 2021

- **Jamani Montague**, Membership Coordinator
- **Jess Heaney**, Development Director
- **Liz Atkins-Pattenson**, Operations Coordinator (started August 2021)
- **Marcelena Menard**, Office Administrative Assistant (part-time)
- **Mohamed Shehk**, Campaigns Director
- **Molly Porzig**, Communications Coordinator and Project Coordinator of The Abolitionist newspaper
- **Nick DeRenzi**, Development Assistant (part-time, started September 2021)
- **Shirley Leslie**, Development Coordinator
- **Skye Chilberg**, Operations Coordinator (exited August 2021)
- **Tahirah Rasheed**, Building Project Manager
- **Woods Ervin**, Media and Communications Director

COMMUNITY ADVISORY BOARD

Our Community Advisory Board is a movement-building and membership-development resource for our organization that work hand-in-hand with membership and staff. Community Advisory Board members are scholar-activists, organizers with coalition partners, CR co-founders, and former political prisoners.

Our 2021 Community Advisors are:

- **Avery Gordon**, University of California, Santa Barbara
- **Beth Richie**, University of Illinois at Chicago
- **Bonnie Kerness**, American Friends Service Committee
- **Claude Marks**, Freedom Archives
- **Craig Gilmore**, California Prison Moratorium Project
- **Darryl Jordan**, Former Director, American Friends Service Committee's Third World Coalition
- **Dennis Childs**, University of California, San Diego
- **Dolores Canales**, California Families Against Solitary Confinement
- **Eddy Zheng**, Asian Prisoner Support Committee
- **Ellen Barry**, Women and Justice Issues Consulting
- **Fahd Amed**, Desis Rising Up and Moving (DRUM)
- **Hashim Benford**
- **Jason Lydon**, Unitarian Universalist Prison Ministry of Illinois
- **Kai Lumumba Barrow**, Gallery of the Streets
- **Lara Kiswani**, Arab Resource and Organizing Center
- **Laura Pulido**, University of Oregon
- **Layne Mullet**, Decarcerate PA
- **Linda Evans**, All of Us or None
- **Linda M. Thurston**, War Resisters League*
- **Mariame Kaba**, Project Nia and Survived & Punished
- **Melanie Cervantes**, Dignidad Rebelde
- **Phil Scraton**, Queens College, Belfast
- **Ruthie Gilmore**, City University of New York
- **Tamika Middleton**, Kindred Southern Healing Justice Collective
- **Walt Senterfitt**, Public Health Epidemiologist, Los Angeles Tenants Union, HIV Prevention Justice Alliance

Affiliations listed for identification purposes only.

* Linda M. Thurston passed away on the weekend of May 22, 2021. We invite you to read our message celebrating Linda's life, here: <http://criticalresistance.org/linda-thurston-presente/>

Carrying Out Our Mission: CAMPAIGNS AND PROJECTS

Through campaigns and projects, we've continued to demonstrate that abolition is relevant and essential. Bringing an end to policing and imprisonment not only means freedom for our communities, but also allows us to materially address intersecting crises that affect all of us— such as climate change, lack of affordable and safe housing, compromised healthcare, food insecurity and economic disenfranchisement. The essential political struggles toward liberation. Without cages and cops, more is possible.

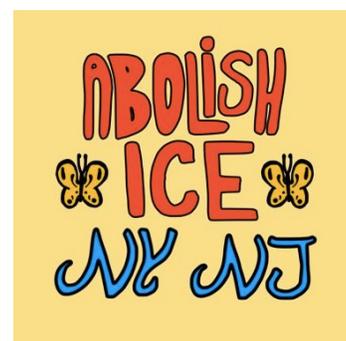
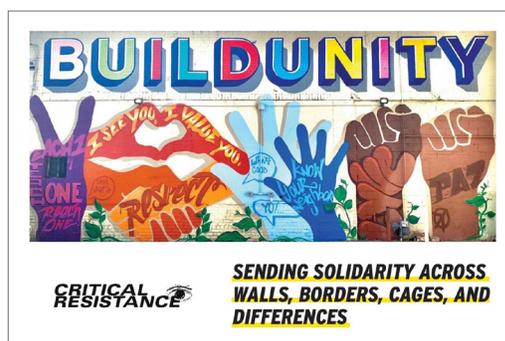
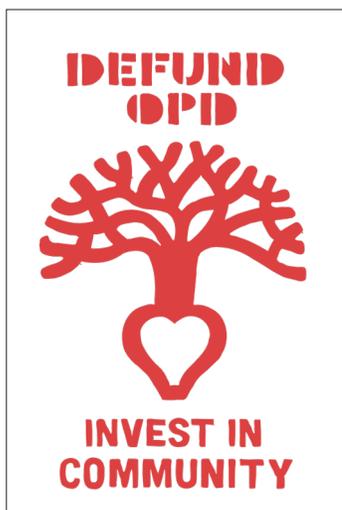


CR member holding Free Them All sign; Close California Prisons poster

2021 HIGHLIGHTS

With your support in 2021, Critical Resistance:

- + Collaborated with movement partners across California and in the CURB coalition to close a prison in Tracy, CA!
- + Increased resistance to immigrant detention and deportation in New York and New Jersey with the Abolish ICE New York- New Jersey coalition.
- + Helped shift \$18 million from the Oakland Police Department budget to community resources with the Defund Police Coalition.
- + Shared political education, mutual aid and organizing resources with over 19,000 imprisoned people through our phone lines, prison mail programs, and *The Abolitionist* newspaper.



Defund OPD poster; Build Unity prisoner solidarity postcard; Abolish ICE NY NJ tile



CR Oakland members hosted a teach-in on the California Prison Boom and the renewed fight to close prisons at 4400 Telegraph, Oakland, CA in July 2021.

Carrying Out Our Mission: CAMPAIGNS AND PROJECTS

In 2021, Critical Resistance forged ahead:

FIGHTING CAGES

Following successful multi-year campaigns and 2019-2020 victories with coalitions against local jail expansion, **CR Oakland and Los Angeles chapters joined the campaign to close prisons in California with our partners in the CURB (Californians United for a Responsible Budget) coalition.** CR Oakland and Los Angeles members are supporting with media, outreach to organizations and community members, legislative strategy, and connecting California prisoners to the campaign.

As a result of years of anti-imprisonment organizing gaining momentum in California, Governor Newsom deactivated Deuel Vocational Institution (DVI) this year, with no one being held there as of September 30, 2021. Another prison, California Correctional Institution, in Susanville is also slated for closure. **CURB and CR see the closure of DVI as a strong start to the campaign, and we are forging the fight forward to close more prisons in 2022!**

CR New York City increased the local, regional and

national resistance to detention and deportation with the Abolish ICE NY-NJ coalition. This year CR members supported strategic media communications, and participatory defense for people locked up in ICE-contracted jails (mostly in NJ). Together we are demanding that both New Jersey and New York Governors use their emergency power to stop transfers of people from local law enforcement agencies into ICE custody, end ICE-jail contracts, and that ICE release people locally instead of transferring them to distant ICE facilities.

RESISTING POLICING AND DEFENDING COMMUNITIES

In Oakland, CA, where over 50% of the city's general fund goes to the Oakland Police Department (OPD), the Defund Police coalition and CR Oakland are campaigning to shift power out of OPD and back into community. In 2021 CR Oakland contributed to Defund Police coalition planning, Defund OPD campaign strategy, media, youth education, and outreach efforts. We co-hosted 2 lively socially-distanced Community Forums (Akoma Market and 4400 Telegraph Freedom Fridays), and made numerous presentations to decision-makers, the media, and community organizations.

Invite to California prison closure Freedom Friday

CRIS/Ance
FOOD, MUSIC, MOVEMENT
MAKE CHANGE WITH ACTIVIST ART
EXPERIENCE AN EXHIBIT OF OUR STATE'S
PRISON BOOM



BUILDING PEOPLE POWER FOR THE CALIFORNIA PRISON FIGHT

**July 30th, 2021
3-7pm**

4PM - MINDFUL MEDITATION AND YOGA
5PM - POLITICAL ACTION POETRY AND COLLAGE w/ THE ABOLITIONIST NEWSPAPER
6PM - PRESENTING THE CALIFORNIA PRISON BOOM EXHIBIT

4400 TELEGRAPH AVE.

Carrying Out Our Mission: CAMPAIGNS AND PROJECTS

With the Defund Police Coalition, we successfully passed a number of anti-policing recommendations through a special city task force and the city council in the spring. **In June 2021, the coalition helped Oaklanders achieve another campaign win: Oakland City Council voted to reallocate \$18 million dollars away from OPD to community programs.**

BUILDING POLITICALLY WITH IMPRISONED PEOPLE

Through the Covid-19 pandemic, CR steadfastly continues to build connections across cages and walls. Since the onset of the pandemic, we have been rerouting all our office's collect calls from imprisoned people into a robust and creative volunteer-staffed system. In 2021 we strengthened the project with better training materials and practices tied to CR's history of prisoner solidarity organizing and The Abolitionist newspaper.

The Abolitionist newspaper editorial collective continued its renewed production stride and sent three bilingual issues of the paper to over 4,500 subscribers in prisons, jails, detention centers and re-entry, completely for free (see more in the MATERIALS MADE section). In addition to content creation, over 150 volunteers supported distribution by individually looking up thousands of imprisoned people's current addresses to ensure they received their papers.

In 2021, Critical Resistance Portland (CR PDX) achieved the goal of their Write Them All (WTA) campaign (initiated in 2020). With over 1,200 volunteers in ten months' time, we individually contacted all 14,000 people currently imprisoned in Oregon with handwritten letters and a mailing kit offering resources, information on abolition, and community connections. Over 1,000 imprisoned people have engaged back directly,

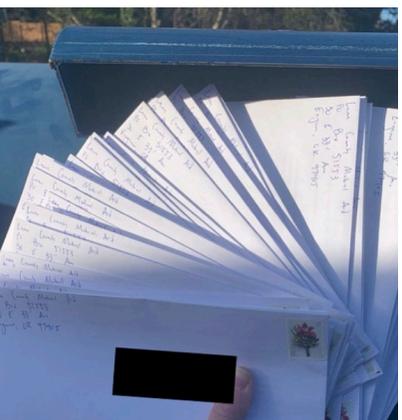


highlighting issues that we are investigating and and we continue to build politically. **Building on this effort, CR PDX has joined the Oregon Prisoner Coalition to build our statewide prisoner solidarity capacity.**

MOVEMENT BUILDING

In the past year, we have made over 150 presentations to supporters, decision-makers, media and movement partners, including workshops for public health allies, formerly imprisoned and systems-impacted youth, the AbolitionNOW network, and more. Additionally, we trained 73 new members and volunteers through 6 cohorts of Intro to the Prison Industrial Complex and Abolition workshops in 2021.

For a full year, we activated the backlot at our 4400 Telegraph building in North Oakland, CA into a community organizing site. From December 2020 to present, we co-hosted Freedom Fridays series and encouraged collective political action, sharing political knowledge, and increasing connections against the odds. Over 1,000 people have joined calls to action to defund the Oakland Police Department, close California prisons, release prisoners, drop Life Without Parole sentencing and grant clemency, and more.



Freedom Friday movement partners from Chulita Vinyl Club, Eastside Arts Alliance, Bandung Books, and more... Photos from July's Freedom Fridays by Stephen Flynn Photography!

CRITICAL
RESISTANCE
ANNUAL
REPORT 2021

Making Media

We create grassroots media projects and utilize mainstream media to amplify strategies to dismantle imprisonment and policing, to change common sense notions of safety, and to build life-affirming resources and practices that support Black, Brown, working class, immigrant, trans and gender queer communities.

MEDIA FROM THE GRASSROOTS

We create materials that educate, activate and uplift community expertise and resistance to imprisonment, policing and the rest of the PIC as a core grassroots organizing strategy. Members, staff and movement partners (including imprisoned people) work collaboratively to research, draft and design these materials.

We want to share with you a roundup of tools made this year for campaigns, projects and political education. We hope these are useful to communities and organizers who are challenging the belief that caging and controlling people makes us safe. **Here are some highlights from 2021:**

TOOLKITS

- On the Road to Freedom: An Abolitionist Assessment of Pretrial and Bail Reform, from CR and [Community Justice Exchange](#).
- Lessons in Liberation: An Abolitionist Toolkit for Educators, co-edited by CR K12 Abolitionist Educators and the Education for Liberation Network. Buy a copy directly from CR [here](#).
- Resource Guide for Teaching and Learning Abolition, from CR post-secondary Abolitionist Educators. [See all tools and more here.](#)
- Concentric Circles: “Picturing the Prison Industrial Complex” tool
- Reformist reforms vs. Abolitionist Steps to End Imprisonment Poster
- We also endorsed the 2021 launch of the DefundPolice.org website, an awesome tool hub. <https://defundpolice.org/>

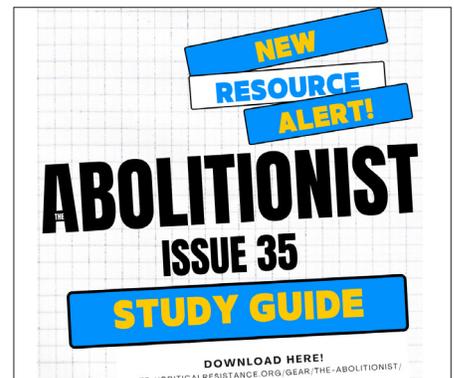
THE ABOLITIONIST

ISSUE 35: Defund Policing

Subscribe today!
Paid subscribers fund free papers for imprisoned readers.

Contributors include:

Andrea Ritchie, Miski Noor, Lara Kiswani, Marbre Stahly- Butts, Jackie Byers, Stop LAPD Spying Coalition and more.



Collage of images: The Abolitionist Issue 35 subscription tile and study guide tile; Abolition Is Essential webinar invite; FREE THEM ALL article in *The Abolitionist* newspaper

Making Media

VIDEOS AND MULTI-MEDIA

- “Advice to New Abolitionists,” a video made by Rachel Herzing and Isaac Ontiveros in 2020, featuring interviews with several long-time abolitionists, including CR members. [Published in March 2021 on CR’s YouTube page here.](#)
- Lessons in Liberation: Toolkit Launch Webinar series on [our YouTube channel here.](#)
- VIDEO INTERVIEW: “Graham Finocchio Demands Prison Closures across CA: Endorse CA’s People’s Plan for Prison Closure!” by CR members, [here.](#)
- “Join the Fight! California Prison Closure” outreach brochure by CR members for the statewide campaign with CURB coalition.
- “Close Prisons in California” Graphic by CR Oakland members Sarah Fathallah and Nick DeRenzi, made in the “Posters for the People” Summer 2021 online class with Dignidad Rebelde and the Center for Political Education.*
- “Discover your humanity and your love of revolution,” George Jackson poster by Melanie Cervantes, 50th anniversary edition. [Available here.](#)
- “Reflecting on the Roots of Black August & George Jackson” article by Critical Resistance, [here.](#)
- * Listen to interviews with CR and other organizations in the “Posters for the People” podcast series, produced by CPE and Dignidad Rebelde

THE ABOLITIONIST NEWSPAPER

- VIDEO INTERVIEW: “Minister King X on The Abolitionist newspaper” by The Abolitionist editorial collective, recorded at Freedom Fridays at 4400 Telegraph. [Watch here.](#)
- Issue 34: “Fascism and Neoliberalism”, [Available for free download.](#)
- Issue 35: “Defund Policing”, [Available for free download.](#) Also check out the [Study Guide for Issue 35](#)
- Issue 36: “Pathways Toward Freedom”, [Check out the “sneak peek” of Issue #36 online here.](#)



Testimonial video from Minister King X about *The Abolitionist* newspaper

INFLUENCING THE AIRWAVES

From major national media outlets to local radio stations and publications, CR boosted the goals, language, leadership and demands of campaigns and coalitions such as the Close California Prisons campaign with CURB coalition, the fight to challenge police funding in Oakland, CA with the Defund Police Coalition, and efforts to free people from immigrant detention with the Abolish ICE NY-NJ Coalition.

Our media work is a key strategy to shift common sense and popular perception. In 2021, CR gave dozens of interviews and garnered over 50 media hits in a range of publications and platforms:

Ms. Magazine, The Nation, Democracy Now, Vox, MSNBC, Washington Post, and numerous other local and regional outlets in our chapter cities.



Copies of *The Abolitionist* Issue #35; Tile with Truthout article about California prison closure



BUILDUNITY



Building for Our Movement: BUILDING PEOPLE POWER AT 4400 TELEGRAPH

Build Unity mural at 4400 Telegraph backlot; Building People Power art at front of 4400 Telegraph

From December 2020 to December 2021, we hosted the Freedom Fridays series at 4400 Telegraph in North Oakland, CA. Freedom Fridays came to life out of political commitments and questions of necessity:

How might we build and reinforce abolitionist efforts through our new North Oakland home-base? What does it mean to be a good neighbor? How might we safely work around the limitations of the COVID-19 pandemic to inspire people into action? And how might we center and strengthen prisoner solidarity through all of this?

While the pandemic threatened to fray our connections, we knew it was necessary to keep organizing for abolition, act in solidarity with people in cages and to stay present in the neighborhood. **With the people power of over 25 movement partners, local artists and educators, hundreds of neighbors, and comrades on the inside, we successfully built a community space that hosted 12 Freedom Fridays! Thanks to our collective efforts, we engaged upwards of 1,000 community members over 12 months.**

Through each Freedom Friday, we supported concrete steps to advance campaigns, build and distribute mutual aid, engage with art, and share political education. With the support of CR movement partners, staff, members and volunteers, we enacted our Visuals and Neighborhood goals through vibrant visuals and creative community connections.



Freedom Fridays event logo

Other exciting Building People Power developments in 2021 include the preparation of a new organizational container to own the building and fulfill renovation. **The aim is for Building People Power to permanently hold offices for CR and organizational partners in a movement center where people can come together to dream, strategize, and organize for abolition.**

We have the building and a \$5M seed gift from a loyal major donor— and are aiming to raise a matching \$5M from our donors and supporters to bring our vision to life. In 2022-2023, we will be inviting our networks to join the cause. **We'll need passionate and dedicated folks to make it happen— stay tuned for how you can help.**

The Zachary Project

The Zachary Project is a mutual aid fund of Critical Resistance Oakland to help us face the needs of our members and organizing community with creative, generous readiness. **We distributed a total of \$10,500 in funds to 18 community members (in comparison to \$6,300 in funds to 13 people in 2020).**

In 2021 The Zachary Project supported our people to secure safe housing after release from prison and temporary housing after fires and other emergencies; to purchase food and basic needs during unanticipated health deterioration; to access medication, skilled support, intensive mental health care resources, and more.

Read more about this fund and our impact in our annual Zachary Project newsletter: bit.ly/ZacharyProjectNewsletterJan2022

The Zachary Project is maintained through individual grassroots donations and family gifts. You can [make a gift online](#) (under Program Designation, make sure to select “The Zachary Project”) or by check (payable to Critical Resistance, memo: Zachary Project).

SUPPORT MUTUAL AID FOR ABOLITION



DONATE TO THE ZACHARY PROJECT

[HTTP://CRITICALRESISTANCE.ORG/DONATE/THE-ZACHARY-PROJECT](http://CRITICALRESISTANCE.ORG/DONATE/THE-ZACHARY-PROJECT)

Tile with information about The Zachary Project

Address and Office Location Update

Please note that Critical Resistance has new addresses.

We are still working on the renovation of 4400 Telegraph Ave, in Oakland, and we had to move to a new office location in the meantime.

We've decided to rent a large P.O. Box very close to 4400 Telegraph that will become our permanent mailing address.

Please direct all of your mail to the P.O. Box, as we are no longer at 1904 Franklin St.

Mailing Address:

Critical Resistance,
P.O. Box 22780
Oakland, CA 94609-2301

Physical Address:

Critical Resistance
2929 Summit Street, #207,
Oakland, CA 94609

Financial snapshot

Since 2012, we have intentionally and successfully transitioned from being funded primarily by foundations to being funded primarily by grassroots donations. Grassroots donors provide 67% of our total budget, which increases our financial stability and shifts more power and leadership into the hands of our organization and membership. We also seek and appreciate the support of foundations, and are appreciative of foundation funders who are committed to Critical Resistance with general operating support.

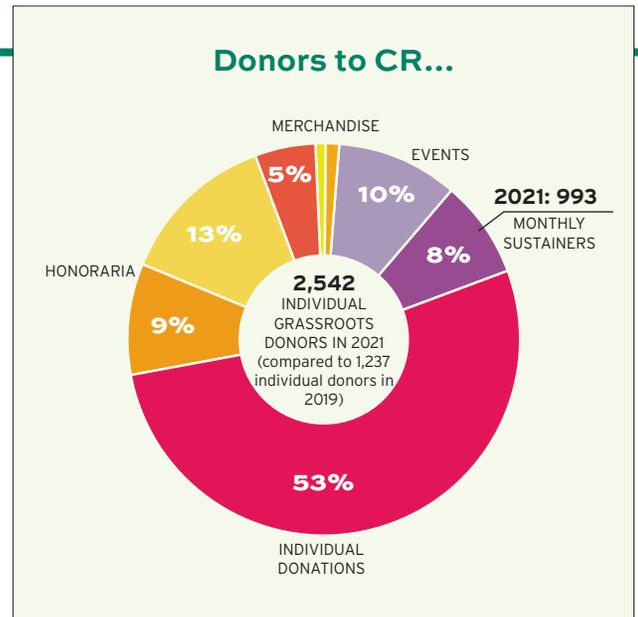
Further, since 2014, we have more than **tripled** our budget, expanding our national infrastructure and chapters' capacities. Thank you for helping us grow our organization and the movement for abolition.

GIVING SCALE

- Every penny helps chip away at the prison industrial complex!
- 11,504 grassroots gifts to CR in 2021, totaling \$1,575,019

The smallest gift was...	\$2
1,405 people* gave	\$1-\$25
629 people	\$26+
393 people	\$100+
47 people	\$500+
28 people	\$1,000+
15 people	\$2,000+
16 people	\$5,000+

*Some people gave multiple times or as monthly sustainers; this spread is meant to give you an idea of the range of people's generosity!



Donut chart of percentages of donation categories in 2021

Take action! Your support helps keep this work strong and vibrant.

- **Share this report** with friends, family, and networks, and invite them to join the movement.
- **Make a gift today.** You can donate online at www.criticalresistance.org, mail a check to our National Office (see back cover), or call us at 510-444-0484 to donate using your credit card.
- **Workplace Matching or Monthly Gifts:** Many companies have matching gift program that enable you to increase the value of your gift. Some workplace giving programs can also facilitate monthly donations. Please check your personnel department for these opportunities.
- **Legacy/Estate Giving:** A generous way to support Critical Resistance in the future is by remembering us in your estate plans. You can do this by simply including Critical Resistance as a beneficiary of your will or living trust, your retirement plan, bank account or in your life insurance policy.
- **Host a party, happy hour, donor briefing or other event** to amplify abolition and encourage people to raise resources for CR.

For more information on any of these options or to let us know that a gift is on the way, please contact Shirley Leslie, Development Coordinator, at (510) 444-0484 or email Shirley@criticalresistance.org

Support

In 2021, Critical Resistance was supported by an amazing, broad base, ranging from grassroots individual donors to organizations, colleges, universities, and foundations.*

FOUNDATIONS AND FUNDS:

- Blackbaud Giving Fund Donor-Advised Funds
- Schwab Charitable Donor-Advised Funds
- Fidelity Charitable Donor-Advised Funds
- Morgan Stanley Donor-Advised Funds
- RSF Social Finance Donor-Advised Funds
- Bank of America Charitable Gift Fund
- BMO Charitable Fund Program
- Alcibie Alliance
- Amalgamated Charitable Foundation
- American Endowment Foundation
- Arch Community Fund
- Circle Justice Initiative
- David Rockefeller Fund
- East Bay Community Foundation
- Gerrish H. Milliken Foundation
- Heising-Simons Foundation
- Hill Snowdon Foundation
- Jewish Community Foundation
- Jewish Federation of Silicon Valley
- Libra Foundation
- Maine Community Foundation
- New World Foundation
- RESIST, Inc.
- Seeding Justice
- Silicon Valley Community Foundation - California Black Freedom Fund
- Sills Family Foundation - Boston Foundation Fund
- Steans Family Foundation
- The Hyman Levine Family Foundation - L'dor V'dor
- The Oregon Community Foundation
- The San Francisco Foundation
- UK Online Giving Foundation
- Winky Foundation
- Youth Emergency Service, Inc. – The Phogg Phoundation for the Pursuit of Happiness

ORGANIZATIONS AND BUSINESSES:

- Associated Students of Stanford University – Student Organization Fund
- Associated Students of the Univ. of California - Graduate Assembly of the UC Berkeley
- Bakers Against Racism PDX
- California Institute of the Arts
- Ethnic Studies Library – UC Berkeley
- Park Day School, Inc.
- Sming Sming Books
- The Uprise Collective
- Wendy's Subway, Inc.

In addition to financial resources, we were supported by donations of time, passion and creativity from thousands of Critical Resistance organizers, supporters and allied organizations. Thank you!

We hope you will renew your commitment to CR this year and support this exciting next phase of our organization.

* This list does not include all of our grassroots organizing movement partnerships; it reflects groups and organizations who contributed donations, grants, or sponsorship of programming. Our movement partner list for campaigns and projects is even bigger! See some names in the Campaigns and Projects section.



VISION

Group picture
of workshop for
CURYJ youth

Critical Resistance’s vision is the creation of genuinely healthy, stable communities that respond to harm without relying on imprisonment and punishment. We call our vision abolition, drawing, in part from the legacy of the abolition of slavery in the 1800s. As PIC abolitionists we understand that the prison industrial complex is not a broken system to be fixed. The system, rather, works precisely as it is designed to—to contain, control, and kill those people representing the greatest threats to state power. Our goal is not to improve the system even further, but to shrink the system into non-existence. We work to build healthy, self-determined communities and promote alternatives to the current system.

Critical Resistance (CR) is building a grassroots coalitional movement to challenge the use of punishment to “cure” complicated social problems. We know that more policing and imprisonment will not make us safer. Instead, we know that things like food, housing, and freedom are what create healthy, stable neighborhoods and communities. We work to prevent people from being arrested or locked up in prison. In all our work, we organize to build power and to stop the devastation that the reliance on imprisonment and policing has brought to ourselves, our families, and our communities.

CRITICAL RESISTANCE

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