

Toward Abolitionist Horizons





CR tabling at an Angela Davis speaking event at the Oakland Museum of California



CR and CURB members at Quest for Democracy in California



CR's 25th Anniversary Celebration panel. From left to right: Andrea Ritchie, Ny Nourn, Angela Davis, Kamau Walton



Audience at CR's 25th Anniversary Celebration

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

Dear friends and fellow travelers,

2023 marked 25 years since the founding conference of Critical Resistance (CR), and we are proud to still hold the spirit and vision of that conference across our decades of work. We were grateful to have hosted an anniversary celebration where we reflected upon the past 25 years of CR's ceaseless organizing, analysis, and continued commitment to building community power.

In our 25th year of organizing against the prison industrial complex (PIC), CR advanced our work to close California prisons, built resistance to immigrant detention in New York, bolstered our political relationships with imprisoned people, showed up in major ways for movement partners across sectors, and more. Throughout these recent moments of escalated crisis – particularly the genocide in Palestine – we've remained steadfast in our work to build an international movement for prison industrial complex abolition.

In addition to our current statewide campaigns, CR released two bilingual issues of *The Abolitionist* newspaper to over 4,700 people inside prisons, jails, and detention centers for free – Issue #39 on reproductive justice and Issue #40 on control units.

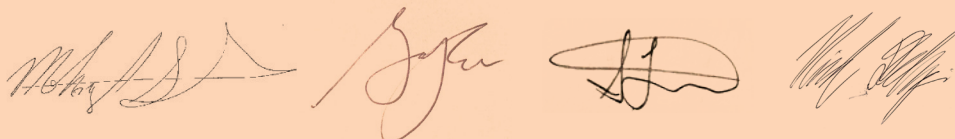
CR also worked to sharpen the ways we carry out our mission toward PIC abolition, both internally and with movement allies. Along with the political education sessions we engage in regularly across the organization, we hosted a full year of regular conversations with our community advisory board and close movement partners to assess how the anti-PIC landscape is shifting. Across our campaigns, projects, and internal workgroups, we continued to strengthen the organizing of our individual members, the organization as a whole, and the movement for liberation at large.

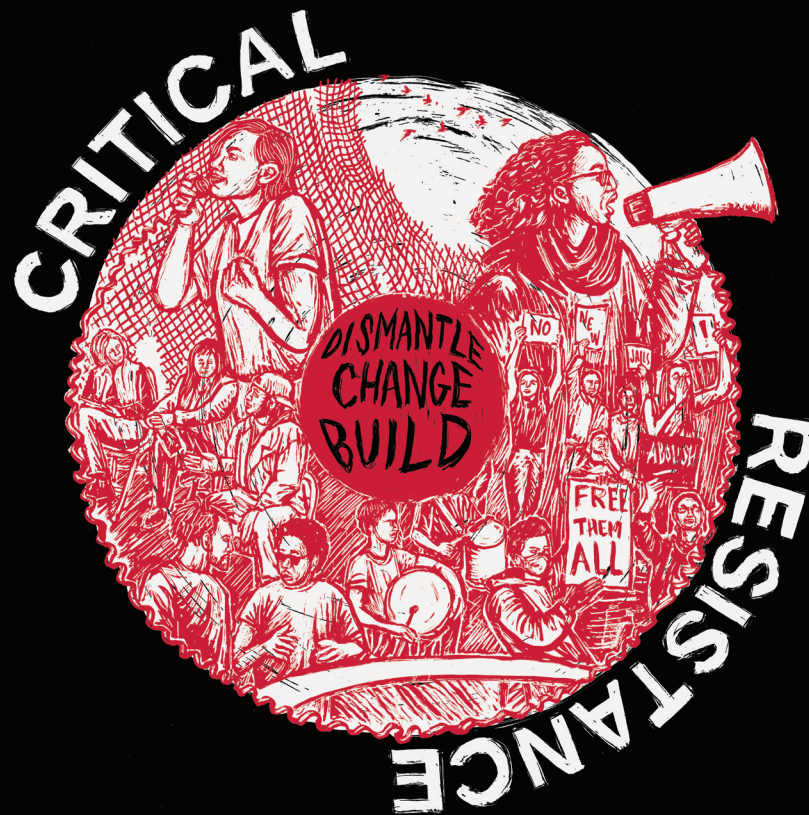
As we enter what's bound to be an eventful 2024, we wanted to share this compilation of campaign and project updates and wins, political education resources, and more from 2023. We utilize these materials in our analysis-building and organizing, and we hope you will too.

This year, we will forge on with our strategic campaign organizing, project work, and movement building to bolster the larger fight for liberation. We look forward to closing more California prisons, ending immigrant detention in New York, connecting with imprisoned organizers, and fostering connections with movement partners and allies. Your contributions to this work are essential, and we invite you to continue supporting CR's organizing toward the long-term vision and practical organizing strategy of PIC abolition in 2024 and beyond. Thank you for sustaining us with your actions, resources, and commitment!

In solidarity,

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





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**

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, and imprisonment, but healing, stability, and liberation. We do this through grassroots mobilizations, popular education, campaigns, and coalitional efforts.



CR OAK members leading an exercise during a labor workshop for Close California Prisons campaign



CR LA and CURB members doing outreach outside California Rehabilitation Center in Norco, CA.

Organizational Structure

We are a member-led organization with volunteer members and supporters across the country. Our work reflects the local problems we see as most pressing and local solutions we believe are most appropriate. Therefore, our organizational structure and campaign work 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 programs; to grassroots campaigns opposing policing policies, imprisonment, and immigrant detention. 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.

National staff, chapter members, and dedicated volunteers across our chapter cities correspond with thousands of imprisoned people each year all across the United States via our mail programs and phone lines.

CHAPTERS

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

NATIONAL STAFF

- **Alex Camacho**, Building Project Manager
- **Anastasia Franco**, Prisoner Correspondence Fellow
- **Liz Atkins-Pattenson**, Operations Manager
- **Marcelena Menard**, Office Administrative Assistant (2021 – March 2023)
- **Jay Steinberg**, Office Administrative Assistant (August 2023 – present)
- **Mohamed Shehk**, Campaigns Director
- **Molly Porzig**, Communications Manager & Project Coordinator of *The Abolitionist* Newspaper
- **Nick DeRenzi**, Development Assistant
- **Rehana Lerandeanu**, Membership Organizer
- **Shirley Leslie**, Development Director
- **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 works hand-in-hand with membership and staff. Board members are scholar-activists, organizers with coalition partners, CR co-founders, and former political prisoners.

OUR 2023 COMMUNITY ADVISORS WERE:

- Andrea James (National Council for Incarcerated and Formerly Incarcerated Women and Girls)
- Andrea Ritchie (Interrupting Criminalization)
- Avery Gordon (University of California, Santa Barbara)
- Beth Richie (University of Illinois Chicago)
- Bonnie Kerness (American Friends Service Committee)
- Claude Marks (Freedom Archives)
- Craig Gilmore (cofounder of California Prison Moratorium Project)
- Dolores Canales (California Families to Abolish Solitary Confinement)
- Eddy Zheng (Asian Prisoner Support Committee)
- Ellen Barry (Legal Services for Prisoners with Children)
- Fahd Ahmed (Desis Rising Up and Moving)
- James Kilgore (former Prisoner, author)
- Jason Lydon (Black and Pink)
- Kai Lumumba Barrow (Gallery of the Streets)
- Lara Kiswani (Arab Resource and Organizing Center)
- Laura Pulido (University of Oregon)
- Laura Whitehorn (Releasing Aging People in Prison)
- Layne Mullett (Decarcerate PA)
- Linda Evans (All of Us or None)
- Mariame Kaba (Project Nia, Survived and Punished, Interrupting Criminalization)
- Melanie Cervantes (Dignidad Rebelde)
- Rukia Lumumba (People's Advocacy Institute):
- Ruthie Wilson Gilmore (City University of New York)
- Tamika Middleton
- Tash Nguyen (Restore Oakland, Decarcerate Alameda County)

Affiliations listed for identification purposes only

Carrying Out Our Mission: Campaigns and Projects

As the connections between oppressive global systems continue to reveal themselves, the need to have strong organized efforts to combat them has intensified. In the midst of heightened worldwide liberation struggles, deterioration of public welfare systems, and the deployment of the PIC to quell uprisings, grassroots organizing remains pivotal to maintaining and building community power. Abolitionist campaigns and projects allow us to push back against the isolation imposed by the PIC, build meaningful and long-term political connections between interwoven struggles and community members, and materially chip away at the reach that policing and imprisonment have on our lives.



Dignity Not Detention New York rally



CR LA and CURB members doing outreach outside California Rehabilitation Center in Norco, CA.

2023 HIGHLIGHTS

With your support in 2023, Critical Resistance:

- Collaborated with California coalition partners to confirm the closure of one state-owned prison and one privately-owned prison - bringing our closure total up to 4 prisons since our campaign to close 10 prisons by 2025 began.
- Organized with New York coalition partners to build up community resistance against immigrant detention and gained support for the Dignity Not Detention Act from 63 state legislators.
- Corresponded with thousands of imprisoned comrades through our mail programs and phone lines, sharing resources, information, and political dialogue to strengthen organizing across the walls.
- Shared The Abolitionist newspaper Issue #39 on Reproductive Justice and Issue #40 on Control Units with 4,700 people inside prisons, jails, and detention centers for free, as well as hundreds of paid subscribers and movement partners.

Carrying Out Our Mission: Campaigns and Projects

In 2023, Critical Resistance forged ahead:

FIGHTING TO TEAR DOWN CAGES – CALIFORNIA

Since 2021, our Los Angeles and Oakland chapters have been tirelessly working in tandem as part of the statewide California campaign to shut down 10 state prisons by 2025 – and **we've made huge gains!** Organizing alongside a number of organizations in the Californians United for a Responsible Budget (CURB) coalition, CR continues to support this essential work by doing in-person and virtual outreach to build broad bases of local support, developing legislative strategies and tools, strengthening media and press tools and outreach, and connecting imprisoned comrades with the campaign through CR's reinvigorated and streamlined prisoner correspondence programs. As a result of this collective work in 2023:

- **Two additional prisons have been confirmed for shutdown!** Chuckawalla Valley State Prison will close by March 2025, and the state of California will move to end its contract with the privately-owned California City Correctional Facility by March 2024 – effectively ending its use as a prison.
- The Legislative Analyst Office (a state-level nonpartisan government agency that makes budgetary and policy recommendations to the state legislature) is now **recommending that a total of nine prisons** could be closed in the next few years, a tremendous growth from their 2020 recommendation of 5 prisons.

These major advancements are a result of rigorous strategizing and implementing tactics to build public support for this campaign – both inside and outside of

prisons – while targeting the governor and key decision makers to make our demands a reality. In 2023, CR and our movement partners organized digital and in-person rallies, press conferences, info sessions, and new workshops; crafted diverse outreach strategies to build our coalition and bases of support, including in-person outreach days at a Norco, CA prison; integrated organizational partners into the campaign, as well as began outreach to build strategic alliances with labor unions and workers; mobilized partners and community members to state budget hearings and met with decision makers; sent in hundreds of letters and surveys to people in prisons; published op-eds or secured features in mainstream and independent news outlets; drafted resources like the CURB Prison Closure Roadmap to pressure decision makers and make prison closure common sense in California communities; and maintained regular communication with our comrades behind prison walls to provide updates and strategize together. We are pushing for Governor Newsom to name more prisons in the upcoming 2024-2025 budget. Prison closure organizers also built legislative and media pressure to combat Governor Newsom's plan to expand San Quentin State Prison into a rehabilitation center instead of closing it, and we will fiercely continue to combat this plan for prison expansion. If you are a member of a labor union, loved one of someone inside a California prison, or a community member interested in getting more involved with the campaign, contact croakland@criticalresistance.org or crla@criticalresistance.org!

When we see more victories, we will be on track to shrink California's prison system by nearly one-third in just over five years. Step by step, and year by year, we are abolishing the state's ability and capacity to cage, disappear, harm, and separate our communities.



CR and CURB members at Quest for Democracy in California



CR LA members attending the Interfaith Movement for Human Integrity Pilgrimage to end immigrant detention

Carrying Out Our Mission: Campaigns and Projects

FIGHTING TO TEAR DOWN CAGES - NEW YORK

On the other side of the country, our NYC chapter has continued to advance the Dignity Not Detention NY (DND) campaign, as part of the Abolish ICE New York-New Jersey Coalition. Immigration and Customs Enforcement (ICE) currently works with sheriff departments across New York to use county jails to detain immigrants, and when successfully passed, the adoption of the DND legislation will effectively break all collaboration between ICE and local/state entities in NY.

CR NYC members have supported the overall strategic planning for the coalition, while advancing the areas of outreach and base-building, media and communications, and inside-outside organizing to advocate for releases not transfers. In 2023, CR members and coalitional partners:

- Joined movement partners at **rallies** at county jails and the state capitol, and **led press conferences**.
- Hosted a **weekly phone and email zap system** for community members to call and pressure state legislators to pass the Dignity Not Detention Act.
- **Published press releases and garnered media attention** in grassroots and traditional media, to advance the campaign and to bolster our efforts to free people from immigrant detention and deportation.
- **Fundraised** to directly support detained immigrants that were suddenly transferred out of NY across the country, as well as those still held in the state.

These combined efforts have resulted in **63 state representatives adding their name as sponsors in support of passing the Act**. We are that much closer to getting the Dignity Not Detention Act passed in the upcoming legislative cycle!



Dignity Not Detention rally at Rensselaer County Jail

Carrying Out Our Mission: Campaigns and Projects

BUILDING POLITICALLY WITH IMPRISONED PEOPLE

CR members continue to correspond with thousands of imprisoned people via mail programs and phone lines, through which we share campaign and project updates, get input on our organizing strategies, and build strong political relationships with our people inside. This year, we created and launched a digital tool that has centralized and streamlined our mail and phone correspondence with imprisoned people. We trained dozens of volunteers and members across our chapters on how to utilize this tool, which resulted in strengthened mail nights and even restarted mail programs that had been dormant. Nearly all of our chapters now host in-person, virtual, or hybrid mail nights where our members and volunteers build political relationships with each other and with imprisoned people. We did intentional recruitment of volunteers and members into our remotely-run phone lines as well, with an even more robust set of trainings which allowed for deeper political relationships to be made with our imprisoned comrades. Through consistent volunteer recruitment and political grounding in CR's approach to prisoner solidarity, CR recruited a reliable pool of volunteers to coordinate and answer our remotely-run phone lines. These revamped systems and

targeted recruitment efforts poised CR well for the coming year of building formidable relationships with our comrades inside and supporting our ability to strategize with - and uplift the demands of - imprisoned organizers within our campaigns and projects.

The Abolitionist newspaper editorial collective released two bilingual (English/Spanish) issues of the newspaper this year and distributed them to 4,700 imprisoned comrades for free, made possible by hundreds of paid subscriptions for individuals and organizations. [Issue 39](#) focused on Reproductive Justice and abolition, and had an accompanying [webinar](#) tying together struggles for PIC abolition, reproductive justice, queer liberation, abolition of family policing, and more. [Issue 40](#) was on Control Units, and pulls together some of our sharpest pieces on one of the biggest arms of repression inside carceral facilities. **Subscribe now and grab your issues if you haven't already!**

In 2023, CR and *The Abolitionist* Editorial Collective also launched a new collaboration with the [Beyond Prisons Podcast](#): a special episode series on each forthcoming issue of *The Abolitionist* newspaper called "[Over the Wall: The Abolitionist Hour with Critical Resistance](#)". Stay tuned for the next podcast on Control Units!



CR NYC hosting its annual holiday postcard-writing event



CR OAK hosting its annual holiday postcard-writing event

Movement Building

This year, CR collaborated and deepened relationships with movement partners across many organizing sectors. Whether it was when CR members went to Atlanta to support with community canvassing to Stop Cop City; joined our movement partners at a Bay Area port to delay a US military vessel from making its way to Israel; or hosted a workshop on PIC abolition and anti-imperialism as part of organizing efforts against the Asia-Pacific Economic Cooperation (APEC); CR worked to deepen the connections between all our liberation struggles and strengthen movement relationships.

We hosted numerous workshops and trainings for movement partners to share PIC abolitionist analysis and strategy, engaged in mobilizations and strategy sessions, gave testimony to decision-makers to propel our campaigns, made statements to media outlets to shift common sense and narratives toward PIC abolition, participated in panels, and hosted volunteer trainings to strengthen our collective capacity.

CR chapters also held Covid-safe and accessible in-person events to build analysis around our statewide campaigns, share space with movement partners, and engage with local community members.



CR NYC members tabling at an NYC Abolitionist Block Party

CR OAK members at the Asia Pacific Economic Cooperation counter-summit (No to APEC), where we hosted a workshop on abolition and anti-imperialism



Photo by Brooke Anderson | @movementphotographer

Block the Boat action at the Port of Oakland

Making Media

We utilize mainstream media and our grassroots media projects 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. **Here are some highlights of materials made for organizers:**

Tools, Recordings, and Resources

- CR's Close California Prisons organizers co-authored the [CURB Prison Closure Roadmap](#) which outlines a concrete strategy for timely and safe prison closure in California that would support the communities impacted by imprisonment and the towns where prisons will be closed.
- CR's Close California Prisons organizers developed a new workshop as a political education resource for cross-sector movement building, focused on the [intersections between labor struggles and the PIC](#) to explore why prison closure is an urgent workers' struggle in CA. – [Let us know](#) if you'd like us to host this workshop for your group!
- CR hosted a [Building and Winning Abolitionist Campaigns webinar](#) that brought speakers together to discuss the importance and impact of campaigns against prisons, jails, and policing across the country, and to share powerful and invaluable insights into their successful campaign organizing.
- CR organized a [webinar on Abolition and Palestinian liberation](#) where we and our movement partners discussed how our organizations and people everywhere can mount effective resistance to genocide against Palestinians, and how we can use abolitionist strategies to do so.
- CR and *The Abolitionist* Editorial Collective launched a new collaboration with the [Beyond Prisons Podcast](#): a special episode series on each forthcoming issue of *The Abolitionist* newspaper called "[Over the Wall: The Abolitionist Hour with Critical Resistance](#)". – Stay tuned for the podcast on Issue #40!
- We released two issues of *The Abolitionist* newspaper - [Issue 39 on Reproductive Justice](#), and [Issue #40 on Control Units](#). Subscribe to receive your copies today!



CR OAK members hosting a workshop on the intersections of prison closures and labor struggles.



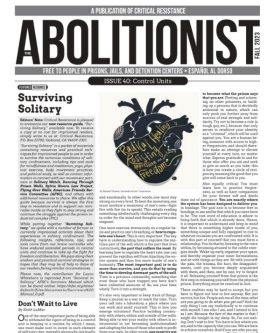
"Close California Prisons" newspaper by Ashley Hunt.

- CR contributed to the film "[Ghosts of Adelanto: the Rise of Abolish ICE](#)" by Mayon Denton, Cinthya Martinez, & Setsu Shigematsu.
- CR and CURB members co-created a newspaper about the Close California Prisons campaign with Ashley Hunt, a longtime CR collaborator, artist, and filmmaker. This paper served as a companion piece to Ashley's work, "[Degrees of Visibility](#)".
- CR contributed with [Justseeds](#) artist Erik Ruin to create the "Visualizing Dismantle, Change, Build" design we've utilized in our programming and merchandise

THE ABOLITIONIST NEWSPAPER

[Issue #39](#) focused on Reproductive Justice and abolition, and had an accompanying [webinar](#) tying together struggles for PIC abolition, reproductive justice, queer liberation, abolishing family policing, and more.

[Issue #40](#) is on Control Units, and pulls together some of our sharpest pieces on one of the biggest arms of repression inside carceral facilities.



INFLUENCING THE AIRWAVES

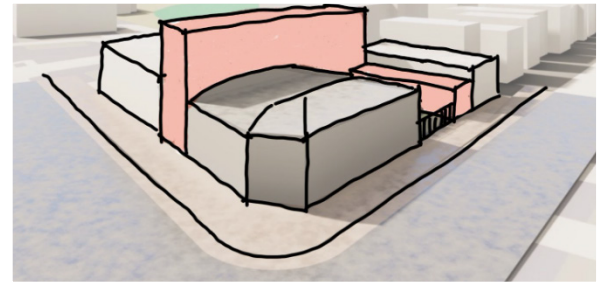
From major national media outlets to local radio stations, CR boosted the goals, language, leadership, and demands of campaigns and coalitions such as the Close California Prisons campaign and the Dignity Not Detention New York campaign.

Our media work is a key strategy to shift common sense and popular perception. In 2023, CR gave dozens of interviews and garnered over 100 media hits in a range of publications and platforms: *Truthout*, *The Forge*, *Prism Reports*, *The Guardian*, *Jacobin*, *Beyond Prisons Podcast*, *Al Jazeera*, and many other local, regional, and national outlets.

Building People Power at 4400 Telegraph



Current rendering of the building at 4400 Telegraph Ave



Working rendering of the building at 4400 Telegraph Ave post-construction, with the pink segments being new additions

We are pleased to share that due to the work of our 4400 Building Project Manager, Alex Camacho, as well as dedicated CR Oakland members, this project is moving strongly! We have begun working with designers to dream up the final schematics for this space that will house CR offices and be a community hub for organizing and care.

We have the building and a \$5M seed gift from a loyal major donor— and are aiming to raise additional funding for renovations and operational costs over the next 2-3 years to bring our vision to life. In 2024, 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

2023 marked eight years of mutual aid through Critical Resistance (CR) Oakland's [Zachary Project](#), a community fund named in honor of beloved former Oakland chapter member, Zachary Ontiveros, to support community members in need. In our largest year to date, we were able to distribute resources to help our people get through difficult periods, or when they just needed that extra help so they could show up as their full selves. We distributed \$17,000 in funds to over 30 community members to support with living-expenses, commute costs, medical bills, and more.

Your incredible gifts in 2023 sustained a year of many requests – read more in our [2023-2024 newsletter here](#). We hope to sustain our broader outreach about the fund so people continue to utilize it. Therefore, we must replenish the fund after a big year of mutual aid and do some

fundraising together. To support this crisis prevention fund, you can make a gift online: <https://donatenow.networkforgood.org/criticalresistance> – under Program Designation, select “The Zachary Project”. You can also send checks to our P.O. Box: Critical Resistance, attn: Zachary Project, P.O. Box. 22780, Oakland, CA 94609-2301. And please share [these outreach materials](#) to get your networks to contribute as well!

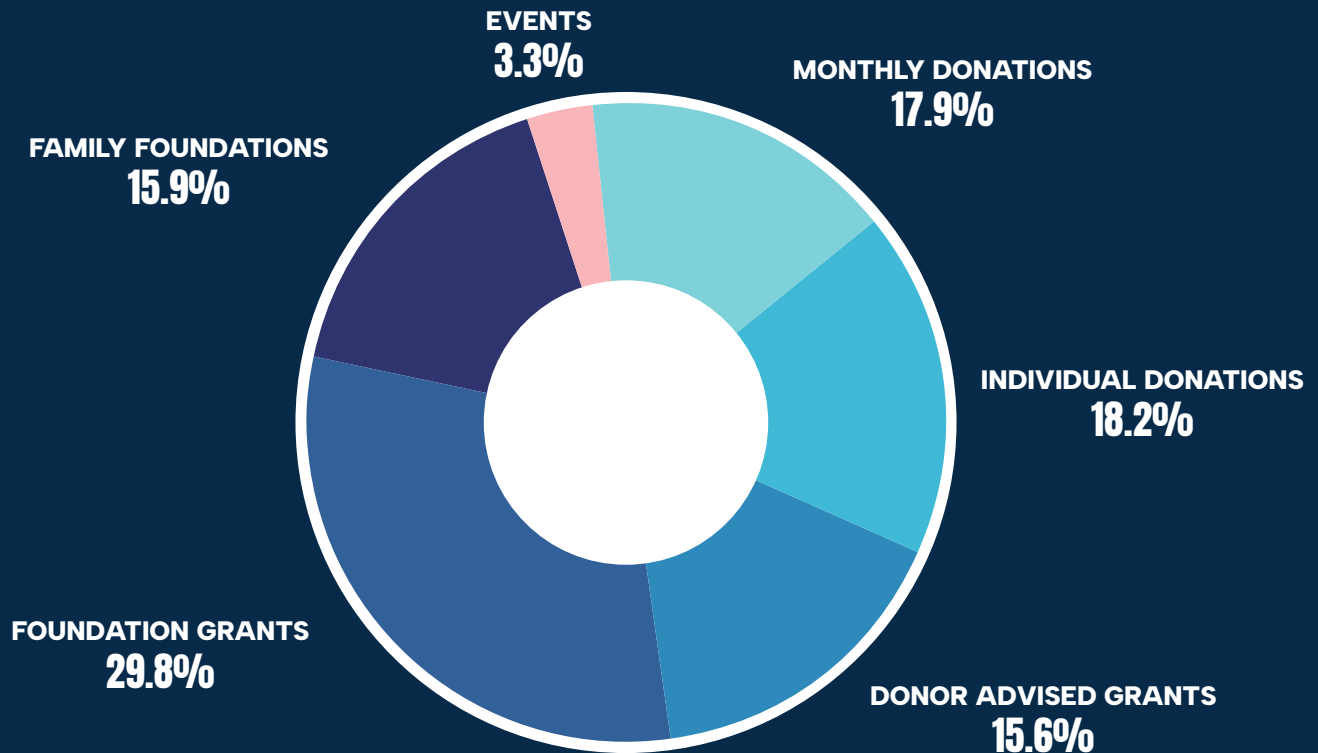
CRITICAL RESISTANCE

Support mutual aid for abolition!
Donate to The Zachary Project

A mutual aid fund of Critical Resistance to help our Oakland members, loved ones, and community organizers when in crisis.

criticalresistance.org/the-zachary-project

Financial snapshot



Out of **1,307** grassroots donors

The smallest gift was \$5	264 people gave gifts \$1-\$25	269 people gave gifts \$26-\$99	615 people gave gifts \$100-\$499
87 people gave \$500+	38 people gave \$1,000+	17 people gave \$2,000+	17 people gave \$5,000+

For a total of **7,370** grassroots gifts equaling **\$565,000**.

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 monthly gift today.** You can donate online at donatenow.networkforgood.org/criticalresistance, 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 programs that enable you to increase the value of your gift. Some workplace giving programs can also facilitate monthly donations. Some of our sustainers use Blackbaud, Benevity, or Bright Funds, but please check with your workplace for further suggestions!

- **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. [Set up a chat with us](#) to help you plan your shindig!

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

In 2023, Critical Resistance was supported by an amazing, broad base, ranging from grassroots individual donors to organizations, colleges, universities, and foundations.

ORGANIZATIONS AND BUSINESSES

- 18 Million Rising
- African American Roundtable, a project of the Hmong American Women's Association
- AK Press
- Anti Police-Terror Project
- Asian Pacific Environmental Network
- Asian Prisoner Support Committee
- California Coalition for Women Prisoners
- California State University, San Bernardino
- Catalyst Project
- Center for Political Education
- Chicago Community Bond Fund
- Claremont Colleges Prison Abolition Collective
- Communities United for Restorative Youth Justice
- Community Resource Hub for Safety & Accountability
- Consult Jenny
- East Bay Community Foundation - Race Gender and Human Rights Fund
- East Bay Community Law Center
- Ella Baker Center for Human Rights
- Fierce Vulnerability Network
- Human Impact Partners
- Immigrant Legal Resource Center
- Interrupting Criminalization
- Jewish Voice for Peace Bay Area
- Legal Services for Prisoners with Children
- Love & Protect
- Mask Oakland
- MediaJustice
- Other Avenues Grocery Cooperative
- Planting Justice
- Resilient Strategies
- Senior and Disability Action
- SFSU California Faculty Association
- Sister Warriors
- Solidaire Network
- Standing Up for Racial Justice San Francisco
- Survived & Punished
- The Marie Equi Institute
- Third Wave Fund

FOUNDATIONS AND FUNDS

- Paypal Giving Fund Donor-Advised Funds
- Schwab Charitable Donor-Advised Funds
- Fidelity Charitable Donor-Advised Funds
- Amalgamated Charitable Donor-Advised Funds
- Bank of America Charitable Donor-Advised Funds
- Alcibie Alliance
- Amazon Smile Funds
- Arch Community Fund
- Ben & Jerry's Foundation
- Benevity Funds
- Bright Funds
- CharityVest
- David Rockefeller Fund
- East Bay Community Foundation
- Heising-Simons Foundation
- Marguerite Casey Foundation
- New Breath Foundation
- RESIST, Inc.
- Rockefeller Family Fund
- Sheila, Dave & Sherry Gold Foundation
- Sills Family Foundation
- The California Black Freedom Fund
- The California Endowment
- The Gerrish H. Milliken Foundation
- The Justice Fund
- The Libra Foundation
- The Winky Foundation



Libertad mural at 4400 Telegraph, designed by Leslie "Dime" Lopez.

VISION

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 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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