



IMPACT REPORT 2023



CRC
COMMUNITY READY CORPS



CONTENTS

Mission & Overview	3
Program Impact	4
Strategy of Change	10
Strategy of Change: The Role of White Allies	11
9 Area Program Details	12
Looking Ahead: Next 10 Years	21
Our History	22

Mission & Overview

Community Ready Corps (CRC): CRC is a Black self-determination organization based in Oakland, California, that works to build capacity in 9 specific areas through our Black Solidarity Process and Plan of Action. We have been a critical force within Bay Area social movements and social movements nationally for over two decades. Our leadership and core staff are Black community leaders who have experienced first-hand the multitude of harms caused by white supremacy and are deeply committed to the safety, survival, and self-determination of Black people, not just here in Oakland, but all over the world.

Black Solidarity Fund (BSF): The BSF is the first Black-led fund of its kind nationally. Through this Fund, CRC resources and supports Black organizations and incubates and mentors emerging Black leaders and new organizations.

What is Black self-determination?

For us, Black self-determination means that the Black community has the right to decide what's best for them without outside interference or imposition, and the ability to bring about what they need.

Why establish the Black Solidarity Fund?

Traditional philanthropy underfunds Black-led organizing, pits Black organizations against each other for limited funding, isn't accessible to the most disenfranchised, and doesn't fund power building. With the Black Solidarity Fund, we are creating an effective alternative to build Black solidarity and work toward actualizing Black self-determination. Our work is grounded in the Black Solidarity Process, a community wide vision for Black self-determination that was created through an extensive engagement process with hundreds of diverse Black community members.



Connect with and follow us:

-  [Blacksolidarity.org](https://www.Blacksolidarity.org)
-  [Community Ready Corps](#)
-  grants@blacksolidarity.org
-  [community_ready_corp](#)



Contribution & Commitment

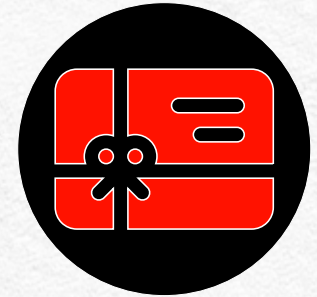
Community Giveaways: since the beginning of the COVID-19 pandemic, we have consistently held regular giveaways of PPE, grocery giftcards, clothing, fresh produce, and culturally appropriate informational brochures in high traffic areas of Black neighborhoods. Through these efforts, we are filling critical needs, supporting local Black businesses, and building thousands of diverse relationships across the community to organize for self-determination. The following numbers show just some of the impact of our giveaways from 2020 through 2023.



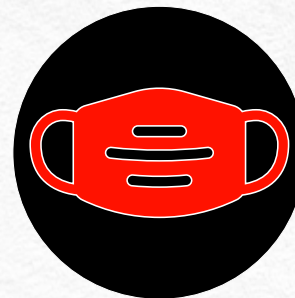
200,000+
people supported



45,000+
produce bags
distributed



12,000+
grocery gift
cards distributed



35,000+
PPE kits
distributed



17,000+
Clothing kits
distributed

Contribution & Commitment

Community Clean-ups: illegal dumping has been one of the top concerns of Oakland residents since the City imposed severe austerity-driven budget cuts to the Public Works Department in response to the financial crisis of 2008, and remains a top concern. Piles of trash can be seen on the streets and sidewalks near parks, schools, and libraries, particularly in disenfranchised neighborhoods. Our founders began doing clean-ups in Oakland's most neglected neighborhoods when we first came to Oakland in the early 1990s, and have continued community clean-ups ever since. In August 2023, we were able to purchase our own garbage truck to ramp up these contribution & commitment efforts.



20+
community
clean-ups
(Aug-Dec 2023)



Popularizing Service

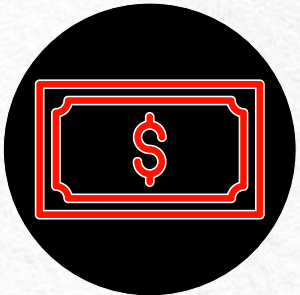
We know social media is an effective tool to reach the people. We take videos of our Contribution & Commitment Giveaways and Clean-ups not out of self-promotion. Rather, we publicize in an attempt to popularize service, contribution, compassion and love for our communities.

Black Solidarity Fund

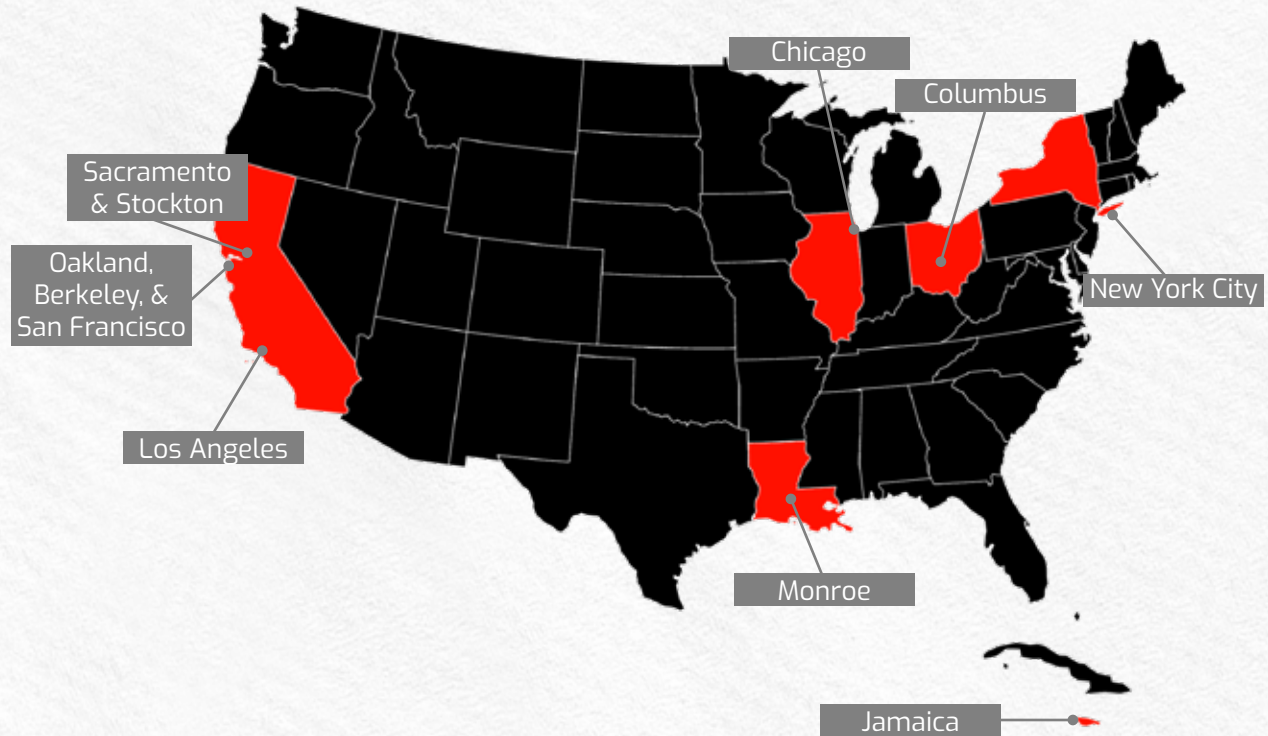
Since its launch in 2019, the BSF has supported the community through funding, training, mentorship, and security support. Here's a snapshot of the BSF's impact & reach from 2020-2022:



150+
**organizations
& individuals
funded**



\$1.9M+
**redistributed
from the Black
Solidarity Fund**



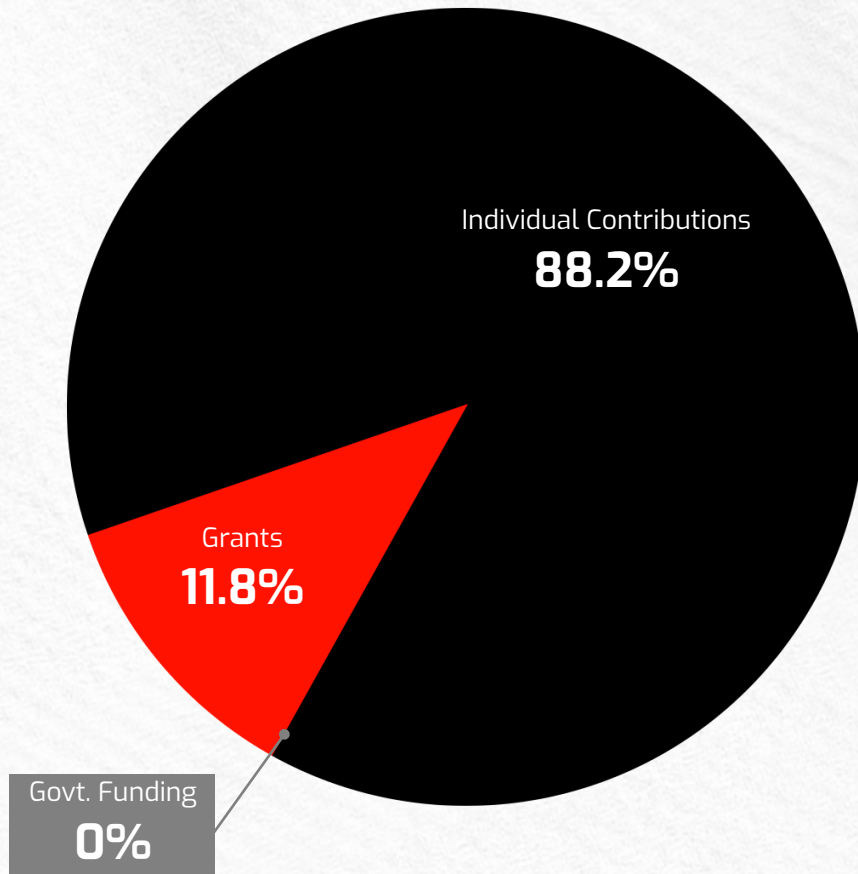
Spotlight: Moms 4 Housing

Moms 4 Housing (M4H) is a group of homeless and marginally housed Black mothers who came together in 2019 to occupy a speculator-owned house in West Oakland to reclaim housing as a human right. The BSF was the sole funder of M4H until after the militarized eviction that brought them international media attention. CRC played a critical role in supporting the occupation through funding, daily security, media training, legal coordination, and negotiation support with the investors who owned the property. CRC and the BSF provided critical support from the beginning to make this action possible in a way that no other foundation could have or would have before M4H received international media attention.

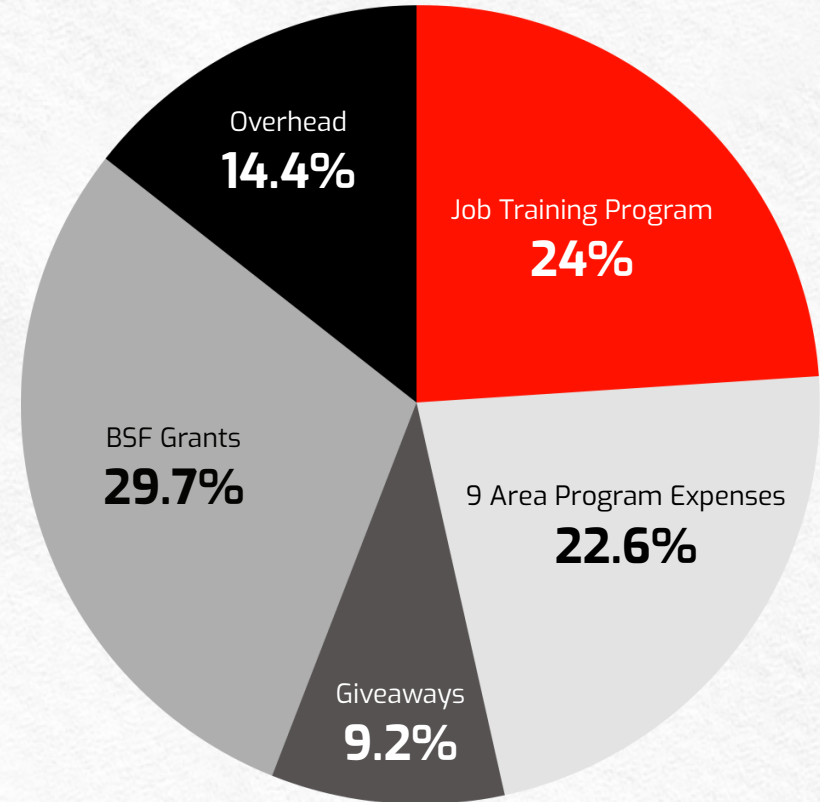
Finances

From 2020 through 2022, CRC raised over \$6.4 million. The following charts summarize the break-down of how we used these funds.

2020-2022 Revenue Summary



2020-2022 Expense Summary



Total contributed directly to the community from 2020 through 2022: over \$4 million

A small collection of CRC's giveaway and event postings, 2020-2023

2020

CRC
Community Ready Corps
and Representations For
Moms 4 Housing

Earthquake Do's and Don'ts

INSIDE - DROP, COVER AND HOLD ON

Do

- Drop to the ground quickly, getting under the cover of a sturdy desk or table. Hold on until the earthquake ends.
- If there's no cover, drop in a crouch position in the corner of an interior (load bearing) wall, or the most open space you can find.
- Use a pillow to cover your head and neck.
- Avoid being near heavy furniture.

Don't

- Run outside or from room to room.
- Stay in the kitchen or stand in a doorway → The doorway is **not** stronger than any other part of the building. Be aware of swinging doors.

REMEMBER: STAY CALM & USE COMMON SENSE

CRC
Community Ready Corps
and Representations For
Moms 4 Housing

BLACK SOLIDARITY FUND FOOD GIVEAWAY

On SATURDAY and SUNDAY the Black Solidarity Fund will be giving away fresh produce to community members.

WHEN:
12 - 3pm

WHERE:
2501 International Blvd. Oakland, 94601

First come, first serve
One per household

GETREADYSTAYREADY.ORG

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BLACK SOLIDARITY FUND GIFT CARD GIVEAWAY

On SUNDAY 12/20, the Black Solidarity Fund will be giving away grocery store gift cards to community members in \$50 increments.

We'll be at the following Oakland stores:

- 12pm at Gazzali's 7000 Bancroft Ave.
- 1:30pm at Gazzali's 5908 San Pablo Ave.

GETREADYSTAYREADY.ORG

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BLACK SOLIDARITY FUND: \$5,000 TO THE FRONTLINE

The Black SOLIDARITY Fund will be giving out \$5,000 in \$500 increments to Frontline grassroots community service organizations whose budgets are less than \$200,000 per year. This will amount to 10 organizations.

#GIVETOTHEGIVERS #TAKECAREOFTHECARETAKERS

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GETREADYSTAYREADY.ORG

HOW TO MAKE HAND SANITIZER

Making hand sanitizer is easy. Just combine 2 ingredients:

- 3/4 cup rubbing alcohol (99% isopropyl alcohol)*
- 1/4 cup aloe vera gel

*You can substitute vodka (180 proof or higher) if you do not have rubbing alcohol.

No matter the quantity, always add 3 parts alcohol to 1 part aloe. The sanitizer must be at least 60% alcohol to effectively kill germs.

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BLACK SOLIDARITY PEOPLE'S RELIEF FUNDS: \$100 FOR 100

\$10,000 was recently donated to the Black Solidarity Fund.

SO WE'RE GIVING IT TO THE PEOPLE.

Text us at 925-320-3287 for a \$100 gift card to either Mandela Foods Co-op, Community Foods Markets, FoodMaxx or ShopRite. Let us know which store you would prefer. Corona supplies are still available.

GETREADYSTAYREADY.ORG

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BLACK SOLIDARITY LISTENING/SOLIDATION SESSION

PATHWAYS TO PEACE WITHOUT POLICE

A COMMUNITY DISCUSSION WITH CRC
SATURDAY, OCTOBER 17 - 1:00 PM

GUEST SPEAKERS:

- Brother Shuja Johnson
Wellness & Recovery Specialist, "Black Men Speak"
- Senior Pastor Anthony Jenkins
Taylor Memorial United Methodist Church
- Saabir Lockett
Community Activist, AB109 Specialist
- Oscar Grant Sr.
Wellness & Recovery Specialist

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BLACK SOLIDARITY FUND GIFT CARD GIVEAWAY

On SATURDAY, the Black Solidarity Fund will be giving away grocery store gift cards to community members in \$50 increments.

We'll be at the following Oakland stores:

- 12pm at Mandela Foods 1430 7th St.
- 1:30pm at Community Foods 3105 San Pablo Ave.
- 2:30pm at ShopRite 5800 Bancroft Ave.

GETREADYSTAYREADY.ORG

2021

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REVOLUTIONARY LOVE & THE PANTHER LEGACY

FREDRIKA NEWTON, MAMA AKVIA N.JERI, & CHAIRMAN FRED HAMPTON, JR. INTERVIEWED BY CARROLL RIFE

WED. FEBRUARY 17 - 6 PM PST
REGISTER: bit.ly/revlove-16b17

HOSTED BY COMMUNITY READY CORPS & THE BLACK SOLIDARITY FUND WITH SUPPORT FROM CRC ALLIES & ACCOMPICES

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BLACK SOLIDARITY GIVEAWAY GIFT CARDS

\$50 Gift Cards - Saturday, October 9

- 12pm ShopRite 5800 Bancroft Avenue
- 1pm Gazzali's Supermarket 7000 Bancroft Avenue
- 2pm Gazzali's Express 5908 San Pablo Avenue
- 3pm Community Foods 3105 San Pablo Avenue
- 4pm Mandela Grocery Cooperative 1430 7th Street

in efforts to help as many families as possible, we ask one gift card per family.

WWW.BLACKSOLIDARITY.ORG

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BLACK SOLIDARITY MARKET

SPECIAL LINEUP FOR WOMEN'S HISTORY MONTH!

SUNDAY, MARCH 14
NEAR LAKE MERRITT PERGOLA
10AM - 5PM

Hosted by Comedian Shea Suga
DJ Red Corvette
Vocalist Elise Amoura
Poet Lionesha Hamilton
Vocalist Lady Sn3ak
Poet Asantevaa Boykin

WWW.BLACKSOLIDARITY.ORG IN COLLABORATION WITH OLD SCHOOL COPES
COME OUT EVERY WEEKEND FOR THE BLACK SOLIDARITY MARKET!

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BLACK SOLIDARITY GIVEAWAY PRODUCE/SOCKS/PPE

Thursday, April 29	Friday, April 30
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> 5:00pm Uptown Market 5635 Shattuck Ave. 5:30pm 63rd & Market 6:30pm Gazzali's (San Pablo) 59th & Market 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> 5:00pm 7th & Center 5:30pm 8th & Campbell 6:00pm 14th & Peralta 6:30pm 58th & Bancroft 7:00pm Foothill Blvd. & Fruitvale Ave.

We will be at each location until all materials have been given out.

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BLACK SOLIDARITY GIVEAWAY

Saturday, June 5	Sunday, June 6
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> 1-1:30pm Produce, Socks, PPE Giveaway 25th Ave. & E. 12th Street 1:30-2pm FoodMaxx & Fruitvale Ave 2:30-3pm 8th & Campbell 3-3:30pm 14th & Peralta 3:30-4pm Gazzali's Supermarket (Eastmont Mall) 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> 12-12:45pm Mandela Market 1-1:45pm Community Foods 2-2:45pm Gazzali's Express (San Pablo) 3-3:45pm ShopRite 4-4:45pm Gazzali's Supermarket (Eastmont Mall)

in efforts to help as many families as possible, we ask one gift card per family.

WWW.BLACKSOLIDARITY.ORG #WEALLWEGOT

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BLACK SOLIDARITY GIVEAWAY PRODUCE/SOCKS/PPE

Saturday, July 3	Sunday, July 4
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> 1-1:00pm 25th Ave. & San Leandro Blvd. 1:30pm Fruitvale Blvd. & Fruitvale Ave. 2:00pm Bancroft & Havenscourt 2:30pm Eastmont Mall Parking Lot (near Gazzali's Supermarket) 3:00pm 98th & International Blvd. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> 1:00pm 7th & Center 1:30pm 8th & Campbell 2:00pm 14th & Peralta 2:30pm West St. & West MacArthur Blvd. 3:00pm 67th & San Pablo Ave.

in efforts to help as many families as possible, we ask one gift card per family.

WWW.BLACKSOLIDARITY.ORG #WEALLWEGOT

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JUDAS AND THE BLACK MESSIAH EXCLUSIVE SCREENING

WITH SPECIAL GUEST CHAIRMAN FRED HAMPTON, JR. HOSTED BY COMMUNITY READY CORPS & THE BLACK SOLIDARITY FUND

FRIDAY, FEBRUARY 12 - 7 PM
100% OF PROCEEDS GO TO SAVE THE HAMPTON HOUSE
TICKETS: bit.ly/screening-16b12

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BLACK SOLIDARITY MARKET

PRESENTS DWAYNE WIGGINS & "A TASTE OF OAKLAND"

SATURDAY, MARCH 20 - 10AM - 6PM - NEAR LAKE MERRITT PERGOLA

FEATURING PERFORMANCES BY:
Dwayne Wiggins, Jax The Band, and more!
Hosted by Comedian Jerry Law
With The World Famous Rick and Russ Show

WWW.BLACKSOLIDARITY.ORG IN COLLABORATION WITH OLD SCHOOL COPES

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BLACK SOLIDARITY GIVEAWAY

Saturday, May 1	Sunday, May 2
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> 1:00pm E. 12th & 25th Ave. 1:30pm Foothill Blvd. & 23rd Ave. 2:00pm Foothill Blvd. & 57th Ave. 2:30pm 76th & MacArthur Blvd. 3:00pm 101st & MacArthur Blvd. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> 1:00pm High St. & Bancroft 1:30pm 62nd & International Blvd. 2:00pm 65th & International Blvd. 2:30pm Gazzali's Supermarket (Eastmont Mall Parking Lot)

We will be at each location until all materials have been given out.

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BUY BLACK CAMPAIGN

December 17, 18, & 19

Black Solidarity giveaway this weekend at three local Black businesses.

Instructions: The first 100 people to say "We All We Got #BlackSolidarity" will get a pre-paid meal or gift valued at \$25.*

- MARCUS BOOKS**
12-4pm - Sat 12/18 & Sun 12/19
First 100 people get \$25 book or gift expenditure.
- Grandeur**
3-7pm - Sat 12/18 & Sun 12/19
First 100 people get single meal valued at \$25.
- COCO BREEZE**
11am-8pm - Fri 12/17 & Sat 12/18
First 100 people get \$25 toward any meal.

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BLACK SOLIDARITY GIVEAWAY

Saturday, August 28 - \$50 Gift Cards	Sunday, August 29 - Produce/PPE/Socks
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> 12pm ShopRite 5800 Bancroft Avenue 1pm Gazzali's Supermarket 7000 Bancroft Avenue 2pm Gazzali's Express 5908 San Pablo Avenue 3pm Community Foods 3105 San Pablo Avenue 4pm Mandela Grocery Cooperative 1430 7th Street 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> 1:00pm 25th Ave. & San Leandro Blvd. 1:30pm Foothill Blvd. & Fruitvale Ave. 2:00pm Bancroft & Havenscourt 2:30pm Eastmont Mall Parking Lot (near Gazzali's Supermarket) 3:00pm 98th & International Blvd. 3:30pm 7th & Center 4:00pm 8th & Campbell 4:30pm 14th & Peralta 5:00pm West St. & West MacArthur Blvd. 5:30pm 67th & San Pablo

in efforts to help as many families as possible, we ask one per family.

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PRODUCE, SOCKS, PPE GIVEAWAY

Sunday, November 28

- 2:30pm Clinton Park
- 3:00pm Madison Park
- 3:30pm Lincoln Park

in efforts to help as many families as possible, we ask one per household.

CRC
Community Ready Corps

PRODUCE, SOCKS, PPE GIVEAWAY

Sunday, November 28

- 1:00pm Fruitvale Village
- 1:30pm Foothill Blvd. & Fruitvale Ave.
- 2:00pm High St. & Bancroft

in efforts to help as many families as possible, we ask one per household.

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Community Ready Corps

in efforts to help as many families as possible, we ask one per family.

WWW.BLACKSOLIDARITY.ORG #WEALLWEGOT

A small collection of CRC's giveaway and event postings, 2020-2023

2022

CRC COMMUNITY READY CORPS

DECOMPRESSION CAMPAIGN

Sometimes you got to laugh it out

January 4

CRC in conjunction with Comedian Jerry Law will purchase tickets for the event.

The first 100 people to show up and say "We All We Got #BlackSolidarity" will get in free.

Teakakez Townbiz Tuesday
January 4 - 6pm - Moxxy Oakland Downtown
Featuring: Mario Hodge, Jerry Law, & Jay Rich

*Valid for this date/time only

BUY BLACK CAMPAIGN

The DEEP Produce Bags

CRC is sponsoring the DEEP Grocery Coop (Deep East Oakland Empowering the People) to give out 5,000 bags of organic produce in East Oakland.

Sunday, April 3 - 2-5pm

Eastmont Mall (Gazzali's parking lot)

CRC **DEEP GROCERY COOP**

CRC BLACK SOLIDARITY FUND

STAND WITH MR. LEWIS!

RESCHEDULED! New date:
Thursday, April 21 - 3pm - Brookfield Elementary

CRC is leading the fight to save the Lewis family home. Move in solidarity with all Black Oaklanders facing displacement—from the babies at Brookfield Elementary to the elders who've been pushed into encampments—by signing the petition.

CRC will also give away gift cards at Thursday's event. Come out and show your support!

CRC PRESENTS

FREE ENTRY
DOORS @ 8:30
SHOW @ 8:00

FIRST SO GET A DINNER OFF THE MENU

ART AS A TOOL COMEDY-COLOR

JUST NESH **HBO**
KANISSA BUSS & JONCEA DIXON
FRIDAY 08.26.22 8:30PM
GEOFFREYS INNER CIRCLE - 410 14TH ST. OAKLAND, CA

HOSTED BY JERRY LAW

BLACK SOLIDARITY WEEK

DAY OF SERVICE GIFT CARD GIVEAWAY

200 \$50 gift cards at each location!

Saturday, February 19

- 1:00pm Mandela Grocery Cooperative 1430 7th Street
- 1:45pm Gazzali's Express 5908 San Pablo Avenue
- 2:30pm ShopRite Foods 5800 Bancroft Avenue
- 3:00pm Gazzali's Supermarket 7000 Bancroft Avenue

In efforts to help as many families as possible, we ask one per family

A JERRY LAW PRODUCTION/ENDORSED BY THE CRC

CRC

ART AS A TOOL COMEDY-COLOR

PRECIOUS HALL
LEON GIBSON & RICCO THE GREAT

FRIDAY 7:30Z - DOORS @ 8:30PM - SHOW @ 8:00PM
FREE ENTRY - FIRST 50 GET A DINNER OF THEIR CHOICE OFF THE MENU

3658 12th ST, OAKLAND, CA
HOSTED BY JERRY LAW

BLACK SOLIDARITY GIVEAWAY

Sunday, November 6 | Produce, Socks, PPE

- 1:00pm 25th Ave. & E. 12th St. (Under Tree parking lot)
- 1:30pm Foothill Blvd. & Fruitvale Ave.
- 2:00pm Eastmont Mall (Gazzali's Supermarket parking lot)
- 2:30pm 8th St. & Campbell St.
- 3:00pm 14th St. & Peralta St.
- 3:30pm Gazzali's Express (Under San Pablo Ave.)

SPONSORED BY CRC COMMUNITY READY CORPS & JERRY LAW PRODUCTIONS

PAUL MOONEY COMEDY SHOW TRIBUTE

THURSDAY, MAY 19 | 6PM-8PM

HOSTED BY JERRY LAW

FREE ENTRY
FREE DINNER AT EVENT SITE!

CRC BLACK SOLIDARITY FUND

GIFT CARDS, PRODUCE, SOCKS, PPE GIVEAWAY

Sunday, May 22

Gift Cards	Produce
1:00pm Gazzali's Express 5908 San Pablo Avenue	1:30pm Bancroft & Havenscourt
2:45pm Mandela Grocery 1430 7th Street	1:30pm High St. & Bancroft
3:30pm ShopRite Foods 5800 Bancroft Avenue	3:30pm Foothill Blvd. & Fruitvale
4:00pm Gazzali's Supermarket 7000 Bancroft Avenue	4:00pm 25th Ave. & 12th St.
	4:30pm 7th St. & Center
	7:00pm 8th St. & Campbell
	7:30pm 14th St. & Peralta

East, West, and North Oakland

Community Ready Corps presents

CRC Seven Days of Service

Wednesday, August 17 through Tuesday, August 23

In honor of the Honorable Marcus Mosiah Garvey

CRC is kicking off Seven Days of Contribution & Commitment:

- Buy Black Campaigns
- Produce, Socks, PPE Giveaways
- Gift Card Giveaways

Follow CRC for more information:
@community_ready_corp & @blacksolidarityweek
@oakcrc
BlackSolidarity.org

BLACK SOLIDARITY GIVEAWAY

Saturday, November 5 | \$50 GIFT CARDS

- 2:00pm Gazzali's Express 5908 San Pablo
- 2:45pm Mandela Grocery Cooperative 1430 7th Street
- 3:30pm ShopRite Foods 5800 Bancroft Avenue
- 4:00pm Gazzali's Supermarket 7000 Bancroft Avenue

Sunday Seasoning
ft. Chef Sarah Kirnon

Come enjoy live music & free food for the first 100 people!

CRC

Sunday, Aug. 28 - 2-5pm - 1035 7th St, Oakland

Be sure to check out Chef Kirnon's new restaurant Holder's House (formerly Moss Diner) at 478 25th St, Oakland!

2023

BLACK SOLIDARITY GIVEAWAY

Sunday, April 9 | Organic Produce, Socks, PPE

- 1-1:20pm 25th Ave. & E. 12th St. (Under Tree parking lot)
- 1:30-1:50pm Foothill & Fruitvale (Under Tree parking lot)
- 2-2:20pm 72nd & Bancroft (Under Tree parking lot)
- 2:45-3:05pm 8th St. & Campbell St.
- 3:15-3:45pm 14th St. & Peralta St.
- 3:50-4:15pm Gazzali's Express (Under San Pablo Ave.)

Jerry Law Black Solidarity Community Giveaway
Sponsored by CRC

FREE Community Event!

Saturday, July 29 1-4pm

Featuring DJ Selector El Khemist

- Bike giveaway
- Organic produce, socks, & PPE
- Food will be served

75th & International Blvd. East Oakland

CRC

CRC

Project Poppa Community Giveaway

Saturday, Sept. 30 + 2-4pm

FREE COMMUNITY EVENT! Free bike raffle, free organic produce bags/socks/PPE, & free food!

65 Village
650 Ave & International Blvd Oakland

Community Ready Corps presents the 2022 annual

CRC Seven Days of Service

Sunday, August 20

In honor of the Honorable Marcus Mosiah Garvey

Self-Defense and Safety Seminar

featuring: Tun-Ha Ak, Founder of Community Ready Corps

4-6pm
Dr. Huey P. Newton Research Center
1437 Broadway, Oakland

MOMS 4 HOUSING

COMMUNITY BLACK FRIDAY RAFFLE & GIVEAWAY

SPONSORED BY CRC

FRIDAY, NOV. 24 3PM-GIFTS GONE

Raffle for flat screen TVs, electronics, gift cards, and more!

Parker Elementary

CRC

McGranger Gardens & Fletcher's Lane Kingsport, Jamaica

Community Ready Corps (CRC) is sponsoring

Tuff Like Iron "Thanks Again" Giveaway

TUFF LIKE

CRC

CRC

2nd annual 7 Days of Service

In honor of Marcus Mosiah Garvey

7 Days of Contribution & Commitment

- Friday, Aug. 18 12-3pm Community Clean Up Location to be announced
- Saturday, Aug. 19 Buy Black Giveaways Location to be announced
- Sunday, Aug. 20 4-6pm Self-Defense & Self Care Location to be announced
- Monday, Aug. 21 12-3pm Community Clean Up Location to be announced
- Tuesday, Aug. 22 12-3pm Community Clean Up Location to be announced
- Wednesday, Aug. 23 12-3pm Community Clean Up Location to be announced
- Thursday, Aug. 24 12-3pm Community Clean Up Location to be announced

CRC

Black Solidarity Giveaway

Saturday, May 27 | \$50 Gift Cards

- 2:00pm Gazzali's Express 5908 San Pablo
- 2:45pm Mandela Grocery Cooperative 1430 7th Street
- 3:30pm Dr. Minister Huey P. Newton Research Center 1437 Broadway
- 4:15pm ShopRite Foods 5800 Bancroft Avenue

CRC

Black Friday Community Raffle & Giveaway

Sponsored by CRC

Friday, Nov 24 + 12pm-Gifts Gone Oak Park, Stockton, CA

Raffle for flat screen TVs, electronics, gift cards, and more!

MOMS 4 HOUSING

FRIDAY, NOV. 24 3PM-GIFTS GONE

Raffle for flat screen TVs, electronics, gift cards, and more!

Parker Elementary

CRC

Black Friday Community Raffle & Giveaway

Sponsored by CRC

Friday, Nov 24 + 12pm-Gifts Gone Oak Park, Stockton, CA

Raffle for flat screen TVs, electronics, gift cards, and more!

CRC

Project Poppa Community Giveaway

Saturday, Sept. 30 + 2-4pm

FREE COMMUNITY EVENT! Free bike raffle, free organic produce bags/socks/PPE, & free food!

65 Village
650 Ave & International Blvd Oakland



Our Strategy of Change: Contribution and Commitment

Contribution Continuum: our work is grounded in commitment and contribution through our strategy of change which we call the “contribution continuum”. The continuum starts with committed, consistent **contribution**, connecting with people by contributing to their basic needs. From there, it builds toward **cultivating** those relationships by contributing to people's capacities to meet their own needs, **converting** CRC's programs into people's programs that are run by the initial beneficiaries of the programs, and finally **collaborating** with those new community formations to build power around the Black Solidarity Process and Pathway to Action. All of our work is grounded in this strategy of change, including how we mentor and incubate new community organizations through the Black Solidarity Fund. [Learn more >](#)

Contribution

Cultivation

Conversion

Collaboration

Black Solidarity Fund (BSF): The BSF is a unique and effective alternative to philanthropy; it acts like a foundation in the sense that it redistributes funds to a broad network of organizations working nationally and internationally toward the same vision. But it differs from traditional philanthropy in how it operates:

- Led by a grassroots organization
- Builds collaboration and solidarity by funding many Black-led organizations working toward the same vision
- Accessible to the most disenfranchised people because we have deep relationships within disenfranchised communities
- Funds projects earlier: before a project has fiscal sponsorship, a budget, grant writing abilities, connections to funders, a “proven track record”, etc.
- Offers effective, culturally relevant mentorship and support

Our Strategy of Change: The Role of White Allies

CRC created and directly leads Community Ready Corps Allies & Accomplices (CRCAA), a white solidarity formation that organizes white people to fight white supremacy and support Black self-determination by practicing the 5 Methods to Divest of White Power and Weaponize White Privilege. The 5 Methods are a framework we developed as a set of protocols and parameters to structure our political relationship with white people in a way that does not compromise our commitment to Black self-determination. Since 2018, CRCAA has organized thousands of white people to practice the 5 Methods, in the Bay Area, nationally and internationally.

We created CRCAA because we believe that white people can and must be organized to play a strategic and necessary role in the struggle against white supremacy.

Our fundraising strategy is based in one of the 5 Methods, Divestment, which we define as returning stolen and hoarded wealth. Divestment and the Black Solidarity Fund go together as two parts of the same strategy to shift white monopoly control of wealth to Black community control. CRCAA's Divestment work has significantly expanded in the last few years, directly supporting CRC's programs and the Black Solidarity Fund.

Why Divestment?

Although white people are a small minority of the global population, white people have monopoly control of wealth on planet Earth. White people acquired this monopoly control through anti-Blackness - the processes of colonization, slavery, and imperialism. All white people have been implicated in these processes, though they have differing levels of access to the wealth and power accumulated thereby.

White monopoly control of wealth is the primary mechanism by which white supremacy perpetuates itself. If white people are serious about ending white supremacy, they have to change their relationship (individually and collectively) to this stolen, hoarded wealth.

CRC's 5 Methods to Divest of White Power & Weaponize White Privilege

- **Method #1 - EDUCATION**
Learn about how white supremacy has shaped the world around you, and build anti-racist awareness by sharing what you learn with other white people.
- **Method #2 - ORGANIZATION**
Build relationships inside the white community that are capable of collective action to end white supremacy and support Black self-determination.
- **Method #3 - CONTRIBUTION NOT CONTROL**
Contribute your skills, knowledge, and labor to work that Black people are leading, without demanding decision-making power.
- **Method #4 - INTERVENTION**
Take responsibility for preventing white people from harming Black communities.
- **Method #5 - DIVESTMENT**
Return stolen and hoarded wealth.

Are you a white person interested in practicing the 5 Methods with CRCAA?
Visit www.the5methods.org to learn more and contact us.



Program Details: Self-Defense and Safety

"We have the right, the obligation, and the duty to claim self defense as a fundamental human right. We aspire and commit to end violence against Black people, externally and internally. To do this we need to transition away from manufactured, chaotic conditions rooted in predatory programming and punitive systems to transformative systems of community accountability and defense that create safety and stability."

CRC Programs

CRC has been leading efforts in neighborhood and event security as an alternative to policing for the last 20 years. In doing so we have been instrumental in protecting our community and our movement, keeping movement leaders, especially Black women, safe and enabling essential work to happen. And we have modeled transformative systems of community accountability, care, and protection that create safety and stability, shifting from manufactured, chaotic conditions rooted in predatory systems intended to program or punish. Our engagement includes standing on the front lines, coalition building, conflict mediation between community members and organizations, logistics planning, and ongoing security efforts to support countless cultural and movement events, marches, and rallies. We also offer self-defense workshops and trainings, and disseminate self-defense videos on social media to build up our community's capacity to keep ourselves safe.

- **Highlight (Oakland, California):** CRC provides security using our unique harm reduction security model to local small businesses, including the Laurel Business Improvement District and Oakland's beloved Everett & Jones.
- **Highlight (New York City and Berkeley, California):** CRC has supported faith institutions and community organizations facing hate crimes and fascist threats of violence from Berkeley to New York City providing security and advising on best security practices.
- **Highlight: MLK Day March 2021 -** CRC does security for the annual Reclaim MLK Day March in Oakland. In 2021, when the Reclaim MLK car caravan went to Alameda to visit the home of District Attorney Nancy O'Malley, a white neighbor came outside and threatened the protestors, brandishing a semi-automatic rifle. Our security successfully de-escalated the armed man and got everyone out of the neighborhood safely. The Black Solidarity Fund makes it possible for us to train up community members to do this kind of security for the protest movement, which is critical in this era of white supremacists attacking and sometimes killing protestors on the Left.

BSF Incubation

- **Pathways 2 Peace (Oakland, California):** a comprehensive mentoring program designed to support and empower people coming home from prison to successfully transition into the community, and to build positive and fulfilling lives.
- **From the Cage to the Stage (Oakland, California):** uses comedy and other forms of entertainment art to bring communities together. From the Cage to the Stage gives at-risk youth and formerly incarcerated people a platform to express themselves, and provides mentoring and job training to break the cycles of criminalization and incarceration.
- **KANO Special Services/Guiding A New Generation (GANG) (Oakland, California):** these organizations are comprised of and run by formerly incarcerated people who are involved in violence interruption and mentoring the most at-risk youth.



Program Details: Economics and Prosperity

"We have the right, the obligation, and the duty to manufacture self-determined economic prosperity. We aspire and commit to a transition from a violent, unsustainable, predatory economy to a collaborative, regenerative, compassionate economy. To do this we need to create our own systems for meeting the needs of our people, and to end the exploitation of Black creativity, ingenuity, and labor."



CRC Programs

- **Buy Black Campaign:** CRC regularly supports Black-owned businesses and the Black community through a Buy Black campaign where we sponsor free meals, tickets, or gift cards at local Black businesses. This campaign stimulates economic growth in the Black community and has enabled many small, Black-owned businesses in Oakland to survive the economic impacts of the COVID-19 pandemic.
- **Black Solidarity Market:** In 2021, CRC established the Black Solidarity Market at Lake Merritt, a regular vendor market to uplift and support Black entrepreneurs, artists, and musicians in showcasing and selling their work to the public. The market created space for Black people to come together, imagine, and practice building power and self-determination: creating our own economic systems to meet the needs of our people and support artists who produce empowering, life affirming, authentic reflections of Black people and culture. And in doing so to counter the exploitation of Black creativity, ingenuity, and labor.
 - » Black Solidarity Market in the media

BSF Incubation

- **The DEEP Grocery Co-op (Oakland, California):** The DEEP is a worker-owned grocery cooperative dedicated to restoring the East Oakland Community with fresh organic produce, community education, and cooperative economics, prioritizing the wellbeing of Black and Brown people. The BSF is currently supporting the DEEP in growing their capacity to serve their community. Watch the video >



Program Details: Education and Competence

"We have the right, the obligation, and the duty to create systems of education that provide for the needs of our community. We aspire and commit to a transition from predatory education systems that only seek to profit from our communities and which diminish or exploit our capacity, to a system that generates competence, leadership, innovation, and esteem. To do this we need to build our community's capacity to establish independent systems of education, research, journalism and for the dissemination of information in our community."



CRC Programs

- **Youth Programs:** Youth organizing is core to our work. We believe that there are primary and secondary predators: primary predators are white supremacist structures and the predatory conditions they create. Secondary predators are disenfranchised people who attempt to mimic methods of the primary predator in order to survive. This often looks like youth in our communities dealing drugs, robbing, etc. Our work aims to mentor and organize youth away from being secondary predators and toward being primary protectors and providers. We engage youth in all of our programming, training and mentoring them to build critical life skills and take leadership on key issues in their communities.
- **Disseminating culturally appropriate information:** For example, at the beginning of the pandemic, CRC distributed critical information from Black medical professionals geared at the Black community about the COVID-19 virus and how to protect yourself from it.

BSF Incubation

- **The Mhunzi Youth Program (Oakland, California and Monroe, Louisiana):** teaches and mentors Black youth to develop skills in CRC's 9 areas of self-determination



Program Details: Family Systems and Stability

"We have the right, the obligation, and the duty to organize ourselves in whatever self-determined structures we need to raise our children and nurture our families. We aspire and commit to replacing systematic, destructive, dysfunctional, and predatory programming with family systems that foster love, compassion, and consideration. To do this we need to create a culture that fosters intentional, principled, peaceful self governance."

BSF Incubation

- **Moms 4 Housing (Oakland, California):** In 2019, several Black moms, independent of each other, came to Carroll Fife, a Black organizer who works closely with CRC, for help because they were struggling to keep themselves and their children safe while living without housing in Oakland. Carroll Fife brought the different Moms together and introduced the idea of Moms 4 Housing - taking collective action to reclaim housing from real estate speculators for Black families to live in. From there, this group of Black women decided to move their families into a vacant investor-owned property in West Oakland to make a political demand for immediate housing for Black children and families.

Community Ready Corps and the Black Solidarity Fund played a critical role in the successful occupation of "Moms' House," which made international news and sparked copycat actions around the world.

Now, Moms 4 Housing is an independent entity, with their own infrastructure, raising their own money to sustain their work - and they regularly collaborate with CRC to do giveaways, events, and new campaigns.

- **Kanju (Oakland, California):** a youth-led organization established to be a safe space for Black girls to thrive and address concerns related to race and gender.





Program Details: Traditions and Ways

"We have the right, the obligation, and the duty to celebrate the power in our traditions, our spiritualities, and our faith practices. We aspire and commit to transition away from abusive, predatory practices and claims of religious exclusivity centered in the notion that there is only one way to practice spirituality. To do this we need to accept the multiplicity of religious expression and engage in those spiritualities, rituals, and practices which increase our power and our peace."

CRC Programs

- **Black Solidarity Week:** CRC hosts a Black Solidarity Week annually to celebrate and uplift the Black community. Recent Black Solidarity Weeks have included cultural events, art performances, a day of service, Buy Black day, and a car caravan to demand investment in the Black community to achieve real public safety.

BSF Incubation

- **Hampton House (Maywood, Illinois):** the BSF raised a significant portion of the money needed to buy and restore the childhood home of Chairman Fred Hampton, Sr., the Chairman of the Chicago chapter of the Black Panther Party, so that it could become a museum carrying on the legacy of the Black Panthers.





Program Details: Technology and Efficacy

"We have the right, the obligation, and the duty to use technology to shape our future, creating what we need for self-determination. We aspire and commit to transition away from being a community that consumes technology to a community that innovates, develops, and effectively utilizes technology for the advancement of our people. To do this, we need to equip Black people with the skills and resources needed to research, build, and develop technology that serves the needs of our community."

10-Year Vision

We recognize that this is the least engaged of the 9 areas – one that the Black community is severely behind in. CRC has been connecting with Black engineers, programmers and technological innovators, and our goal for 2024 is to build on those relationships to develop capacity in this area.





Program Details: Art and Media

"We have the right, the obligation, and the duty to produce and distribute empowering, life affirming, and authentic images of ourselves. We aspire and commit to a transition from art that is designed to program us and move toward building Black power by resourcing Black creative brilliance. To do that we must support Black artists who produce empowering, life affirming, authentic images of Black people."



CRC Programs

- **Art as a Tool (Oakland, California):** The BSF sponsors artists, musicians, comedians, and filmmakers to create spaces for connection, restoration and rejuvenation for Black people that center Art as a Tool for healing and empowerment. The Art as a Tool program materially supports and uplifts Black artists while bringing Black people together for free cultural events. See one example here >
- **CRC Media:** CRC Media is a multi-pronged program that serves as the connective tissue across all the work of CRC and the BSF. By building a robust social media platform that reaches hundreds of thousands of people, this program:
 - Employs, mentors, and trains Black videographers, photographers, and editors
 - Popularizes service and propagates CRC's strategy of change: Contribution and Commitment. For example, CRC partners with local Bay Area rappers such as Project Poppa, Buddha Avenue, Denmark Peoples, Mistah F.A.B., and Locksmith to promote the image of healthy contributors in our communities.
 - Provides political education about Black self-determination
 - Builds support for campaigns, such as the recent campaign to Stand with Mr. Lewis, a Black disabled elder who was born & raised in Oakland and is facing his tenth eviction attempt
 - Creates compelling promotional content of organizations, businesses & individuals supported by the BSF, such as the DEEP Grocery Co-op, Grandeur, Mandela Foods Co-op, Marcus Books, and The Official Plant Queen, to name a few





Program Details: Politics and Governance

"We have the right, the obligation, and the duty to express power wherever power is being expressed, recognizing that status quo political systems are transitory and have not served the needs of Black people thus far. We aspire and commit to building our capacity to express our collective will in the existing governmental structures, while also building new, independent, truly democratic institutions. To do that we must extract maximum benefit from existing systems, while supporting Black people who work to establish independent systems, structures, and institutions."



CRC Programs

- **Listening & Solidation Sessions:** CRC regularly holds these sessions where they bring together experts and community members under the areas of self-determination to identify shared goals and actions. These sessions and the resulting Black Solidarity Process create the infrastructure for self-determined governance.
- CRC also creates and supports coalitions, including the Oakland Progressive Alliance and the 4 Peace Coalition.

BSF Incubation

- **Care 4 Community (Oakland, California):** Care 4 Community (C4C) has a mission to dramatically increase the participation of Oakland residents in local government, in order to create the communities we want to see. Through our weekly canvassing shifts, monthly assemblies, and other trainings and events, C4C organizes Oakland residents, demystifies local government, and works to advance a progressive agenda in Oakland: to make housing a human right, to divest from policing to invest in community, to win climate & environmental justice for all, and to tax corporate wealth to increase investment in city services.



Program Details: Health and Well-Being

"We have the right, the obligation, and the duty to heal from the violence and trauma of generations of experimentation and medical neglect. We aspire and commit to transitioning away from systems of medical neglect and experimentation and moving toward systems of maximum nurturing, healing, and health. To do this we must build Black people's capacity to do research, to develop and innovate practices to provide effective, dignified healthcare and healing/wellness strategies for our communities."

CRC Programs

- **Contribution and Commitment Giveaways (Oakland, California)**
 - Since the beginning of the COVID-19 pandemic, CRC has consistently held giveaways in high traffic areas of Black neighborhoods to meet the immediate material needs of the Black community. This includes grocery gift cards, fresh produce, PPE (masks and hand sanitizer), clothing, and culturally appropriate informational brochures.
 - Over the last three years, we have supported over 200,000 people by distributing 100,000 total gift cards and supply kits through our giveaways. In doing so, we have also put hundreds of thousands of dollars into the local Black businesses we partner with. These efforts have provided critical support to these businesses and to families, helping them survive the pandemic. And we have built relationships with thousands of people in the Black community, building a relationship of trust with the masses, not just key individuals.
- **Disaster Preparation (Oakland, California)**
 - In 2019, we launched a program to proactively prepare and protect Oakland's disenfranchised Black communities in the face of imminent natural disasters and white supremacy. This program aimed to address the gap in investment in white and Black communities by distributing resources and knowledge about earthquake preparedness to Oakland's Black community, and building community leadership, cohesion, and power in the process. We developed a media strategy, distributed earthquake kits, held trainings, and mentored youth to take on leadership in protecting their community.
 - We quickly pivoted these efforts at the beginning of the pandemic to shift to COVID-19 response.
 - And we are now beginning to expand our efforts to again include broader disaster preparation, with a focus on earthquakes. We will be working with CERT-certified experts to develop a manual and curriculum for community trainings and kits for community distribution. These efforts will focus on earthquakes, because of their significant risk in California, and will include basic disaster preparation, fire safety, and injury management for a variety of possible emergencies.

Looking Ahead: Next 10 Years

Over the next ten years, we want to build off of our strong foundation and significantly expand the reach of our programs. We want to raise and redistribute \$100 million through the Black Solidarity Fund, establish programs in all 9 areas of self-determination, and expand our work to at least 10 cities with significant Black populations.

CRC's strong foundation in Oakland and deep relationships across the country will enable us to deepen our work in the Bay Area and effectively expand our work nationally and internationally over the next ten years with sufficient funding.

In order to facilitate this continued expansion of our work, as well as our ability to support a vast network of revolutionary and visionary Black organizations and organizers across the globe working toward Black self-determination, CRC founders are establishing a new umbrella organization: the Solidarity Foundation. Community Ready Corps will be housed as the Foundation's initial and core program, and the Black Solidarity Fund will be the primary funding mechanism. The formation of the Solidarity Foundation enables us to fund and lead critical work in addition to effectively mentoring and incubating new and emerging Black leaders and organizations. By doing so we play a unique and critical role in supporting the health and growth of the national and international movements for Black self-determination.



In order to make our ten year vision happen, CRCAA will be significantly expanding their divestment efforts. Are you a white person interested in getting trained in Divestment and organizing other white people to divest to the BSF with you? Email info@the5methods.org to learn more!

Our History

CRC has been a critical force within Bay Area social movements and social movements nationally for over two decades. Our leadership and core staff are Black community leaders who have experienced first-hand the multitude of harms caused by white supremacy and are deeply committed to the safety, survival, and self-determination of Black people, not just here in Oakland, but all over the world.

CRC began building Black self-determination in West Oakland in the late 1980s. We ran a school, organized food and clothing drives, utilized martial arts programs to teach self-defense and self-discipline to Black youth, and developed our harm reduction community security model, providing security for Glide Church in San Francisco, the Laurel Business Improvement District, as well as numerous community organizations throughout Oakland. These deep roots fostered deep trust and relationships within the Black community, including street-level leaders.

As a result, in 2009 CRC was called on to provide leadership in the Justice for Oscar Grant movement, CRC's first campaign for police accountability which sustained mass protest activity over the course of 18 months, leading to the first ever conviction of a California police officer for killing a Black person.

CRC's movement building work has continued and evolved over the years, from co-chairing the Black August Organizing Committee lifting up the legacy of Black prisoner resistance, to planning logistics for the 2014 Black Friday BART shutdown that put Black Lives Matter on the map in the national media, to co-founding the Anti Police-Terror Project to serve families impacted by State violence, to organizing the State of Black Oakland, to being one of the founding organizations of the Oakland Justice Coalition, and to escalating the housing justice movement with direct actions that won eviction moratoriums and strengthened tenant protections.

We continue to expand our role and reach to address the most pressing issues facing the Black community and support the overall growth and health of the movement at large.

