On Thursday, September 30, 2021 Rev. Alvin Herring recounted his visit with Faith in Action leaders to the Texas border to bear witness to the blatantly racist treatment of Haitian refugees fleeing to the United States. He described the motivation for the trip as a desire to see an be seen as an opposing force to the practice of systemic racism in the immigration system. He said, "In our voices, we say 'No!'"

At Faith in Action Alabama, hundreds of leaders from all corners of the state and all faith backgrounds have come together over the years to oppose systemic racism and envision an Alabama where everyone has an opportuny to thrive. These are our voices.

"Faith in Action Alabama is the chemotherapy to heal the cancer of systemic racism. Racism is a public health emergency"

Carmone Owens
2nd Chance Lifesavers
Birmingham Hub
Five years ago, 7 people sat in a room and decided to create a faith-based community organization committed to dismantling systemic racism & ensuring Alabamaians thrive no matter their race or zip code. Today, we have 200 active volunteer leaders and 10 staff members, and our operating budget has grown 10 fold. Most importantly, Faith in Action Alabama has become an influential agent of transformational change in our state.

In the report you are about to read, we will tell you the story of everything that has gone on in 2021 - from the millions of dollars in funding we helped secure for proven anti-gun violence solutions to shepherding a bill into the State Legislature that would remove barriers to voting rights restoration, from championing access to alternatives to mass incarceration to forming consortia with large state denominations - We have been on the move, despite the challenges of a pandemic.

The momentum continues in 2022 when we will unveil The People’s Agenda on March 25th. Derived from 40 listening sessions throughout the state, representing over 300 people’s voices, The People’s Agenda will be used to align public policy and legislative priorities with the dreams and priorities of the people.

As always, this work is guided by our collective desire to bring praise, honor, and glory to the God of Liberation. We thank you for your support & prayers and ask you to become a member of Faith in Action Alabama at the individual or congregational level in 2022.

Daniel Schwartz, Executive Director
Faith in Action Alabama
02

IN OUR VOICE, WE SAY
"Vote!"
VOTER RIGHTS RESTORATION

The *Voter Rights Restoration Team* engages formerly incarcerated individuals to provide the support they need to restore their constitutionally guaranteed right to vote.

2,500
Phone calls made to formerly incarcerated individuals to help them understand their voting rights

155
Individuals registered or provided with Certificate of Eligibility to Register to Vote (CERV) applications

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There are over 258,000 Alabamians who have been incarcerated, but have not yet had their voting rights restored.

Voting Rights Restrictions
Source: The Sentencing Project

- No restriction
- While in prison
- Prison, parole & probation
- Prison, parole, probation & after sentencing

Alabama is among the 11 states that are the most restrictive of voting rights for formerly incarcerated persons.
Alabama has the 3rd highest rate of gun violence in the country, and our cities have some of the highest rates of gun-related homicide in the nation - surpassing Oakland, Richmond, Los Angeles, and Chicago. So here in Alabama, creating pathways of opportunity means healing from and preventing gun violence.

The Peacemakers campaign has been working for 5 years to form community coalitions to introduce and support the most effective community-based strategies for gun violence prevention, first in Birmingham, and now in Montgomery, Mobile, and Huntsville.

The Peacemakers Campaign utilizes a variety of strategies including direct action, advocacy at the city, county, and state levels, collaboration with hospitals and municipal governments, collaboration with other nonprofit organizations and churches, and direct involvement with victims of gun violence and their families.

The power of the Peacemakers Campaign comes from Faith in Action Alabama’s volunteer leaders and professional organizers in each of the major cities.

Leaders and organizers decide together what actions are needed in each city to achieve the overall strategic goals of the Campaign - we find that different techniques are needed depending on history and resources in each location, but cooperation and regular collaboration across the state means that Peacemakers leaders and organizers can learn from each other’s successes and challenges.

And in 2021, Peacemakers saw great success!

33% RISE IN GUN VIOLENCE IN 2021

33% rise in gun violence in 2021

$5.1 M FUNDING SECURED FOR ANTI-GUN VIOLENCE PROGRAMS

$5.1 M funding secured for anti-gun violence programs
For the past 4 years, members of the Peacemakers campaign have come together in December to honor the memories of community members who were victims of gun violence and to galvanize support for anti-gunviolence interventions.
I need some reports of activities from the Hubs

Feel free to include pictures & quotes
I need some reports of activities from the Hubs

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Montgomery
Huntsville
Mobile
Birmingham
Financial transparency has been a goal and a hallmark of the work of Faith in Action Alabama since the organization's inception. Mr. Richard Harris keeps hearts and dollars aligned as our Business Manager, and Father Manuel Williams serves as the Treasurer of the Board of Directors.

With the leadership of Mr. Daniel Schwartz, the Executive Director, and facilitated by Dr. Carrie Atcheson, the Director of Development, Faith in Action Alabama seeks to be a responsible employer and to continue to champion the shift of power into communities of color.
Pastor Valtoria Jackson of St. Peter A.M.E Church in Montgomery Alabama says this is her WHY: "The Lord has told you what is good, and this is what he requires of you: to do what is right, to love mercy, and to walk humbly with your God." (Micah 6:8)

What is your Faith in Action Alabama WHY? Share it using #FaithInActionAlabama

Scan the QR Code below using your phone or visit https://faith-in-action-alabama.square.site/

DONATE OR BECOME A MEMBER