

AIDS Watch

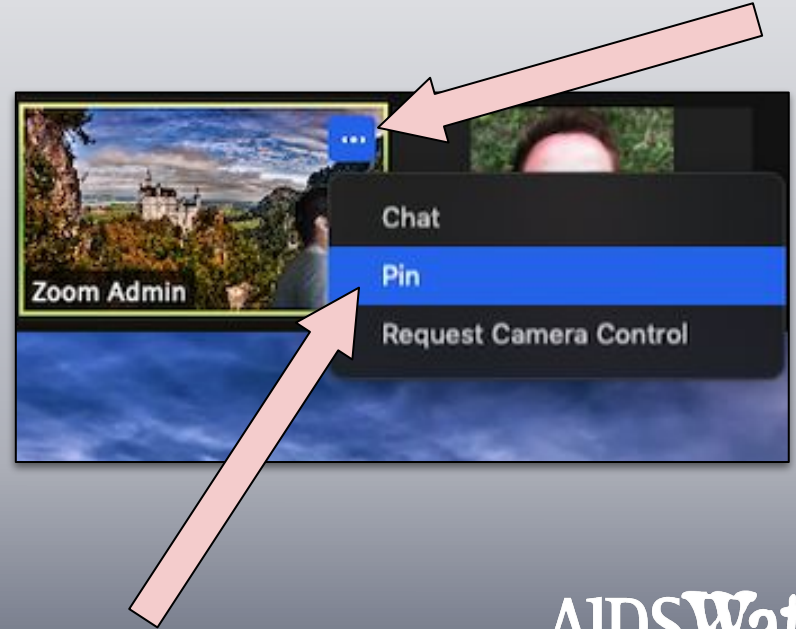
THE ROAD TO RESILIENCY

Advocacy & GOTV Under COVID-19



This webinar is being interpreted live in American Sign Language.

Please pin the videos of ASL interpreters indicated by **"ASL - "** in their names (alternating) to be able to see interpretation throughout the event.



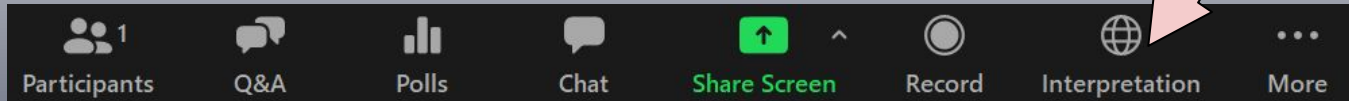
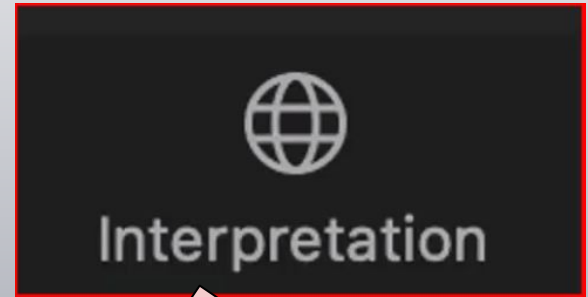
¡Este seminario web está disponible en español!

This webinar is available in Spanish!

Este seminario web está disponible en español gracias a los servicios de interpretación de *Your Next Solution, LLC*.

Para escuchar el seminario en el idioma español deberá:

- Hacer clic en el icono en forma del mundo ubicado en la parte inferior derecha de la pantalla, y
- Seleccionar "Español"



Welcome



Drew Gibson

he/him/his

Policy Manager for HIV & Drug User Health –
AIDS United

Washington, DC
occupied Piscataway Conoy & Anacostan land

AIDS Watch
THE ROAD TO RESILIENCY



Aisha N. Davis, Esq.

she/her/hers

Director of Policy –
AIDS Foundation of Chicago

Chicago, Illinois
occupied Peoria land



VOTING AS A TOOL

AISHA N. DAVIS, ESQ.

DIRECTOR OF POLICY, AIDS FOUNDATION CHICAGO.

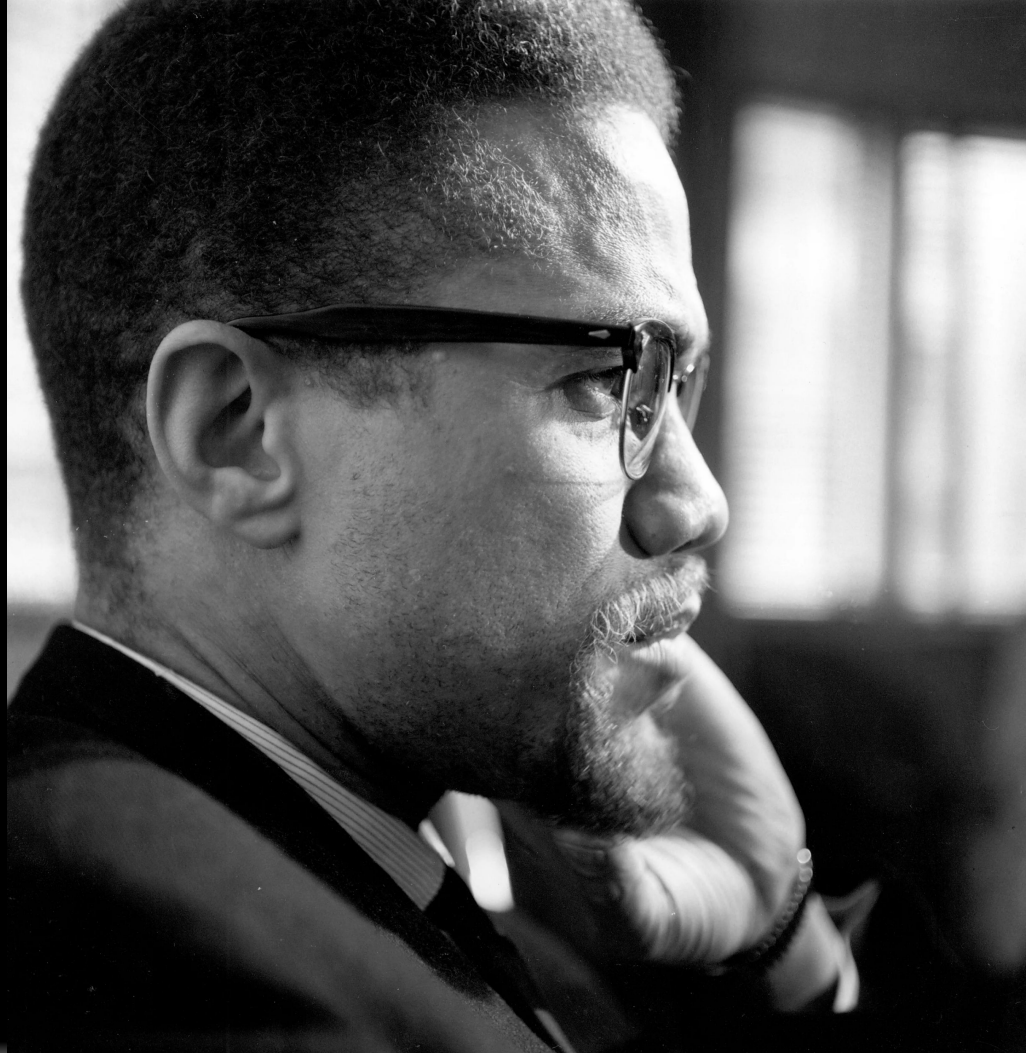
BUT ONE HUNDRED YEARS LATER,
THE NEGRO STILL IS NOT FREE;
ONE HUNDRED YEARS LATER, THE
LIFE OF THE NEGRO IS STILL SADLY
CRIPPLED BY THE MANACLES OF
SEGREGATION AND THE CHAINS
OF DISCRIMINATION; ONE
HUNDRED YEARS LATER, THE
NEGRO LIVES ON A LONELY ISLAND
OF POVERTY IN THE MIDST OF A
VAST OCEAN OF MATERIAL
PROSPERITY; ONE HUNDRED
YEARS LATER, THE NEGRO IS STILL
LANGUISHED IN THE CORNERS OF
AMERICAN SOCIETY AND FINDS
HIMSELF IN EXILE IN HIS OWN
LAND.

MARTIN LUTHER KING, JR.
I HAVE A DREAM
AUGUST 28, 1963



WELL, I AM ONE WHO DOESN'T BELIEVE IN DELUDING MYSELF. I'M NOT GOING TO SIT AT YOUR TABLE AND WATCH YOU EAT, WITH NOTHING ON MY PLATE, AND CALL MYSELF A DINER. SITTING AT THE TABLE DOESN'T MAKE YOU A DINER, UNLESS YOU EAT SOME OF WHAT'S ON THAT PLATE. BEING HERE IN AMERICA DOESN'T MAKE YOU AN AMERICAN. BEING BORN HERE IN AMERICA DOESN'T MAKE YOU AN AMERICAN. WHY, IF BIRTH MADE YOU AMERICAN, YOU WOULDN'T NEED ANY LEGISLATION; YOU WOULDN'T NEED ANY AMENDMENTS TO THE CONSTITUTION; YOU WOULDN'T BE FACED WITH CIVIL-RIGHTS FILIBUSTERING IN WASHINGTON, D.C., RIGHT NOW.

MALCOLM X
THE BALLOT OR THE BULLET
APRIL 3, 1964



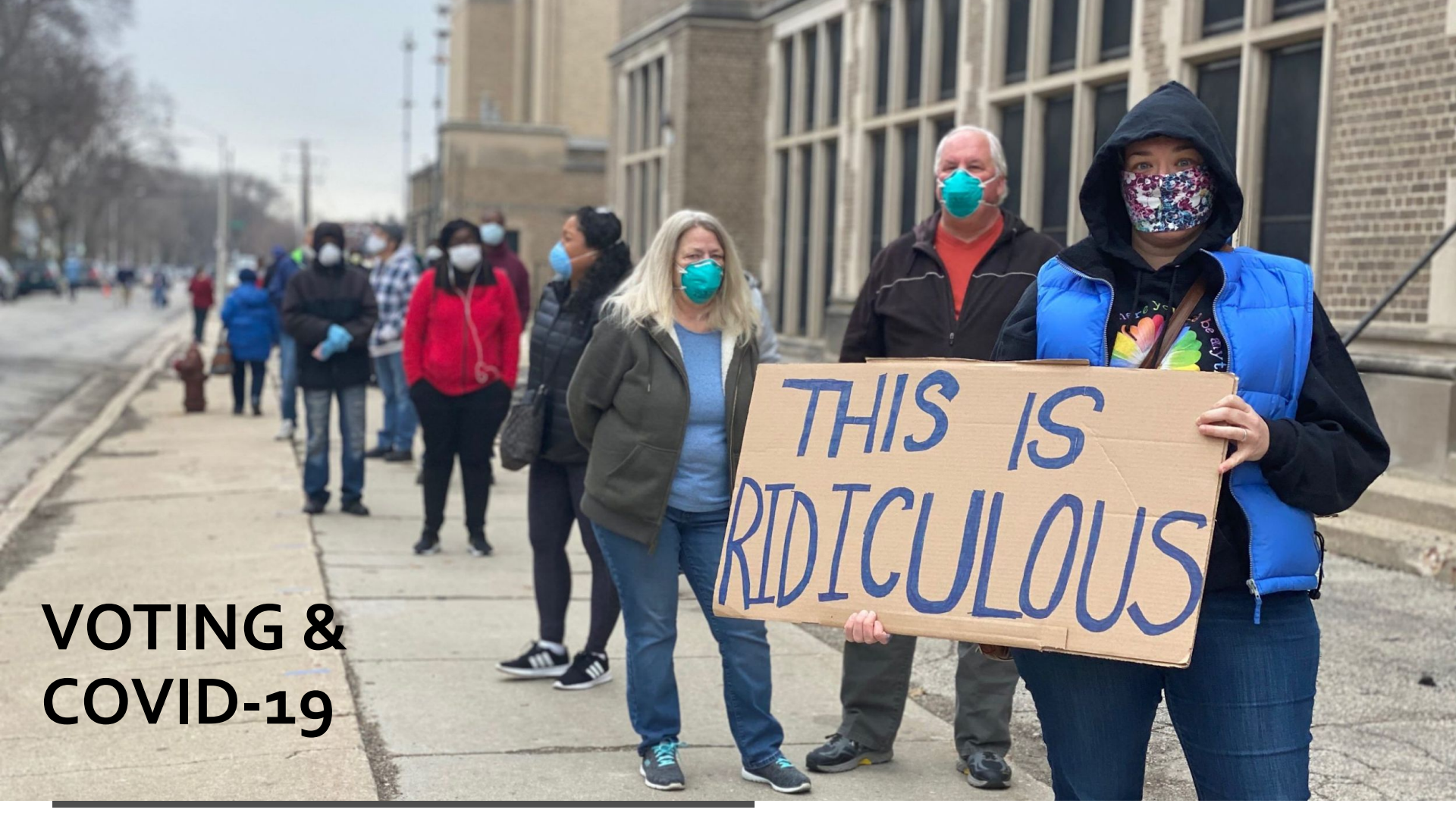
YOU BROKE THE CONTRACT WHEN YOU
KILLED US IN THE STREETS AND DIDN'T
GIVE A F***. YOU BROKE THE
CONTRACT WHEN FOR 400 YEARS, WE
PLAYED YOUR GAME AND BUILT YOUR
WEALTH. YOU BROKE THE CONTRACT
WHEN WE BUILT OUR WEALTH AGAIN
ON OUR OWN BY OUR BOOTSTRAPS IN
TULSA AND YOU DROPPED BOMBS ON
US, WHEN WE BUILT IT IN ROSEWOOD
AND YOU CAME IN AND YOU
SLAUGHTERED US. YOU BROKE THE
CONTRACT. SO F*** YOUR TARGET.
F*** YOUR HALL OF FAME. FAR AS I'M
CONCERNED, THEY COULD BURN THIS
BITCH TO THE GROUND, AND IT STILL
WOULDN'T BE ENOUGH. AND THEY
ARE LUCKY THAT WHAT BLACK PEOPLE
ARE LOOKING FOR IS EQUALITY AND
NOT REVENGE.

KIMBERLY LATRICE JONES
HOW CAN WE WIN?
MAY 31, 2020





HISTORY OF VOTING IN THE UNITED STATES



**VOTING &
COVID-19**

RACE & HEALTH IN THE UNITED STATES



Rate ratios compared to White, Non-Hispanic Persons	American Indian or Alaska Native, Non-Hispanic persons	Asian, Non-Hispanic persons	Black or African American, Non-Hispanic persons	Hispanic or Latino persons
Cases ¹	2.8x higher	1.1x higher	2.6x higher	2.8x higher
Hospitalization ²	5.3x higher	1.3x higher	4.7x higher	4.6x higher
Death ³	1.4x higher	No increase	2.1x higher	1.1x higher

chart via CDC



George
Floyd

Breonna
Taylor




REMEMBER


VOTING IS JUST ONE OF MANY TOOLS AVAILABLE TO
BE HEARD.



THANK YOU

Aisha N. Davis 

adavis@aidschicago.org 

www.aidschicago.org 



Naina Khanna

she/her/hers

Executive Director –
Positive Women's Network – USA

Oakland, California
occupied Ohlone land



POSITIVE WOMEN'S NETWORK
USA

Honoring our Legacy; Protecting our Future: *Mobilize the HIV Vote*

AIDSWatch at Home: Road to Resiliency
Sept 30, 2020



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About Positive Women's Network-USA

The only national organization in the US led by and for women and trans people living with HIV

- Founded in 2008 by 28 diverse women living with HIV, including women of trans experience
- Today: 3,000 members nationwide

Our mission: To *prepare and involve* women living with HIV, in all our diversity, including gender identity and sexual orientation, in all levels of policy and decision-making.



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**universal
healthcare**



economic justice



**sexual and reproductive
health, rights and
justice**



**ending
criminalization**



**trans rights, safety &
justice**



**ending violence
against women
living with hiv**



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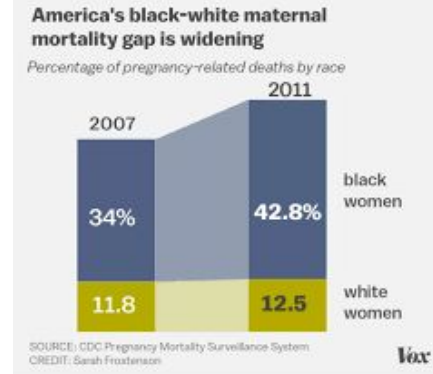
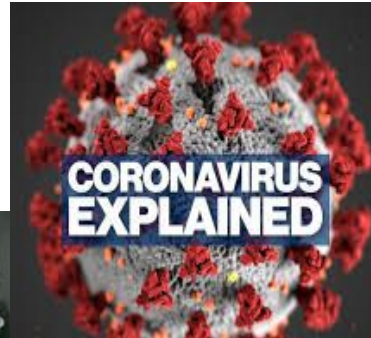
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Election 2020: Because we know what's at stake



Trans*
rights
are
human
rights



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FLEX! Elections have consequences



San Francisco DA Chesa Boudin ends cash bail for all criminal cases



Evan Sernoffsky

Jan. 22, 2020

Updated: Jan. 29, 2020 8:43 a.m.

F Forbes

Minneapolis City Council Unanimously Votes To Replace Police With Community-Led Model

The Minneapolis City Council on Friday, 18 days after the death of George Floyd, unanimously passed a resolution to replace the police ...

1 day ago



1.1 million

people living with HIV in the United States

9 9News.com KUSA

Denver school board unanimously votes to pull DPD officers out of schools

DENVER — The Denver Public Schools (DPS) Board of Education has ... go to school without the looming threat and fear of the police there to ...

2 days ago

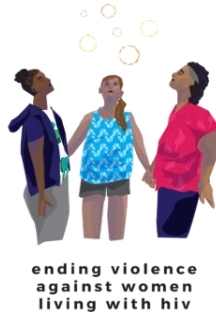
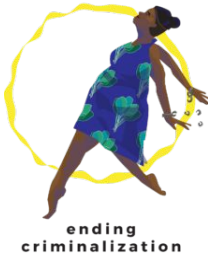


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The opportunities: Our Issues



Every single issue we work on is on your ballot.

Just a few examples:

- *District Attorneys and judges* make decisions about bail, HIV criminalization, and more
- *City Council members* make decisions about the city budget
- *Attorney Generals* make decisions about prison and jail conditions, rights of trans folks when incarcerated
- *State legislators and governors* make decisions about Medicaid, reproductive rights, HIV criminalization, and rights of people of trans experience
- *Congress and the President* take action on reproductive rights, healthcare and housing policy
- ***Senators determine who sits on the Supreme Court***



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Propositions, Ballot Measures, Issues, Questions

Question 1 on Philly ballot: End illegal stop-and-frisk

OPINION
Unconstitutional policing — including stop-and-frisk — should have no place in Philadelphia | Editorial

Posted: June 25, 2020 - 4:40 PM



Last year, the Philadelphia Police Department stopped nearly 77,000 pedestrians — 70% of whom were Black.

Prop 115 on Colorado ballot:
abortion ban



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people living with HIV in the United States



by John McCormack, Senior Writer | November 10, 2016 03:13 PM



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BUT...



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2020 ELECTIONS

Florida Among Group of States Seeing Decline in Voter Registration

BY MITCH PERRY | FLORIDA

PUBLISHED 5:39 PM ET JUN. 16, 2020

Covid-19 Changed How We Vote. It Could Also Change Who Votes.

In presidential election years, state driver licensing offices and registration drives generate a torrent of new voters. The pandemic has cut that to a trickle.

Georgia shows why November's election could be chaos

Coronavirus and voting-technology glitches led to hours-long waits for voters.

TIMOTHY B. LEE - 6/16/2020, 4:00 AM

BREAKING | 1,209 views | Jun 15, 2020, 12:03pm EDT

As Coronavirus Infections Surge Nationwide, Threats Rise Of New Shutdowns, Election Disruptions



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thelastweekend.org

It's all hands on deck time.



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Our Plan

1. **Elevate issues** important to people living with HIV and communities most impacted by HIV in the 2020 election cycle;
2. **Increase voter turnout** in communities impacted by HIV;
3. **Ensure our folks understand** what's on their ballots;
4. **Build concrete skills** for people living with HIV to influence elections;
5. Leverage our organizing power into **votes at the ballot**



What to know about voting: the basics

1. There are ways to vote safely in a pandemic.
2. Opposition forces do not want you to vote.
3. Know about what is on your ballot and vote ALL THE WAY down your ballot.
4. *Every.single.vote.matters.*



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RIGHT NOW

#1. Check and confirm your **registration status**. Deadlines to register and fix registration errors are coming up soon. www.vote.org

#2. Check if you can request a **mail in/absentee ballot**.
<https://www.vote.org/absentee-ballot/>

#3. Text all your friends and family and tell them to do the same

#4. **Get involved**. Whether you have one hour or lots of time, democracy needs you.



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Voting safely in a pandemic



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Ways to vote (in order of recommendation)

1. Request a mail in or absentee ballot and turn it in, in person, early.
2. In person early voting
3. In person election day voting



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Vote by mail

= a way for voters to cast their ballots without going to a polling place in person.

- ▣ It's sometimes considered a form of "absentee" voting
- ▣ It's a *catch-all term* for lots of ways people can vote without showing up at the polling place.
- ▣ It does not usually replace in-person voting; it provides an additional option.
- ▣ Every state has different laws on who can vote by mail and how. Some counties have their own laws!



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Why Vote By Mail?

- States with low-barrier vote by mail have higher voter turnout
- Safer in the COVID-19 pandemic!
- Long lines at polling places
- **Better for voters with disabilities**
- Voters can more easily research what's on their ballot
- Increases participation in down ballot races
- It can be hard to get to polling places on Election Day

ANALYSIS

Americans of All Stripes Want a Mail Ballot Option



As the president wages a disinformation campaign against mail voting, nearly 80 percent of Americans want a mail ballot option this November.



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Common Concerns and Rebuttals

But vote by mail is new! **NO IT'S NOT**

- Roughly 25% of voters nationally cast a mail ballot in the last two federal elections.
- Mail balloting is the primary means of voting in CA, CO, HI, OR, WA, and UT. 28 additional states allow no-excuse mail balloting.
- In 2018, more than 31 million Americans, 25.8% of election participants, cast their vote by mail.

But what about fraud? **THERE'S NO EVIDENCE THAT VBM LEADS TO MORE FRAUD**

- From 2000-2012, only 491 cases of absentee ballot fraud, out of billions of votes cast
(<https://www.brennancenter.org/our-work/analysis-opinion/false-narrative-vote-mail-fraud>)



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Types of vote by mail

- ❖ **“Excused” vote by mail:** you need to have a qualifying reason to get approval for voting by mail
 - *valid excuses vary from state to state. examples are: being elderly, disabled, hospitalized, on active military duty, out of state on election day. in some states being under COVID-19 quarantine now qualifies as an “excuse”*
- ❖ **“No excuse” vote by mail:** you can just request a vote by mail ballot. you don’t have to tell them why.
- ❖ **automatic vote by mail:** every registered voter automatically receives a ballot in the mail.



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How to request your absentee/vote by mail ballot

It varies state to state and deadlines are coming up NOW.
Check your state and request your ballot right now at
<https://www.vote.org/absentee-ballot/>



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IMPORTANT NOTE ABOUT VOTE BY MAIL

- MAKE SURE YOU FOLLOW THE INSTRUCTIONS EXACTLY.

POLITICS

Philadelphia election official warns 'naked ballot' ruling could jeopardize 100,000 Pennsylvania votes

Tucker Higgins

@IN/TUCKER-HIGGINS-5B162295/

@TUCKERHIGGINS

SHARE    



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IF VOTING IN PERSON, VOTE EARLY!

It's safer during COVID

Less likelihood of shenanigans with counting ballots

Fewer people voting; avoid long lines

Please DO NOT contribute to election day lines! Many folks don't have the privilege of staying in line.



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EVERY VOTE COUNTS

IN 2000, THE PRESIDENTIAL RACE WAS
DECIDED BY **537 VOTES.**

IN 2004, THE WASHINGTON STATE GOVERNOR'S
RACE WAS DECIDED BY **129 VOTES.**

IN 2008, THE ALASKA STATE GOVERNOR'S RACE
WAS DECIDED BY **ONE VOTE.**

VOTE!

iwillvote.com



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Get involved!



In 2018, PWN reached over 10,000 voters.
We:

- Canvassed and phonebanked
- Registered voters
- Knocked on doors
- Partnered with HBCU to register young voters
- Served as poll watchers, documented and reported irregularities

This year we have already reached over 50,000 voters in PA, 50,000 voters in CO, and more than 40,000 voters in TX.

Any hours you can contribute are needed,
RIGHT NOW.

Sign up to get involved at
<https://votepositiveusa.org/volunteer>



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#PWNVotes Election Toolkit

As we approach a historic election cycle next year, we encourage PWN-USA members and allies to remember what's at stake for people living with HIV and communities most impacted by the epidemic. It's critical that we vote and ensure our folks are well-informed about their voting rights as well as what will be on the ballot – all the way down to state and local races. Below, we have compiled a toolkit with links, resources, and tips on how to effectively leverage your vote and get your community involved this election cycle! At the bottom of this page, you can watch our #PWNVotes 2018 webinar series!



Part 1. Preparing the vote: registering voters & removing barriers to voting ➔

Part 2. Researching local issues, candidates, and ballot measures ➔

Part 3. Issue elevation tactics ➔

Part 4. Getting Out the Vote (GOTV) for Election Day ➔



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The Vote Positive 2020 Pledge

Because we understand what is at stake...

.. Because we are fighting for our communities...

... Because we're here for 2020 and beyond...

... Because health care and dignity are human rights...

we're putting it all on the line for 2020



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TAKE ACTION! 5 steps to organize the vote

1. Get involved. Sign up at <http://votepositiveusa.org/volunteer>.
2. Register to vote by mail or absentee:
<https://www.vote.org/absentee-ballot/>
3. Get everyone you know registered to vote by mail, including educating them about why this is important: family, friends, clients, neighbors.
4. Look at your calendar tonight and plan for hours you can give for the next 5 weeks: Contrary to popular belief, the most important day is ***NOT election day. It is well before that.*** Think about whether you can take some time off right now to help out!



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Thank you! LET'S DO THIS!

**Naina Khanna
Executive Director
Positive Women's
Network-USA**

naina@pwn-usa.org

@nainadevi

**Follow us on twitter: @uspwn
[@votepositiveusa](#)**



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Jaron Benjamin

he/him/his

VP of Community Mobilization
& National Advocacy –
Housing Works

New York City, New York
occupied Munsee Lenape land

Presented by:

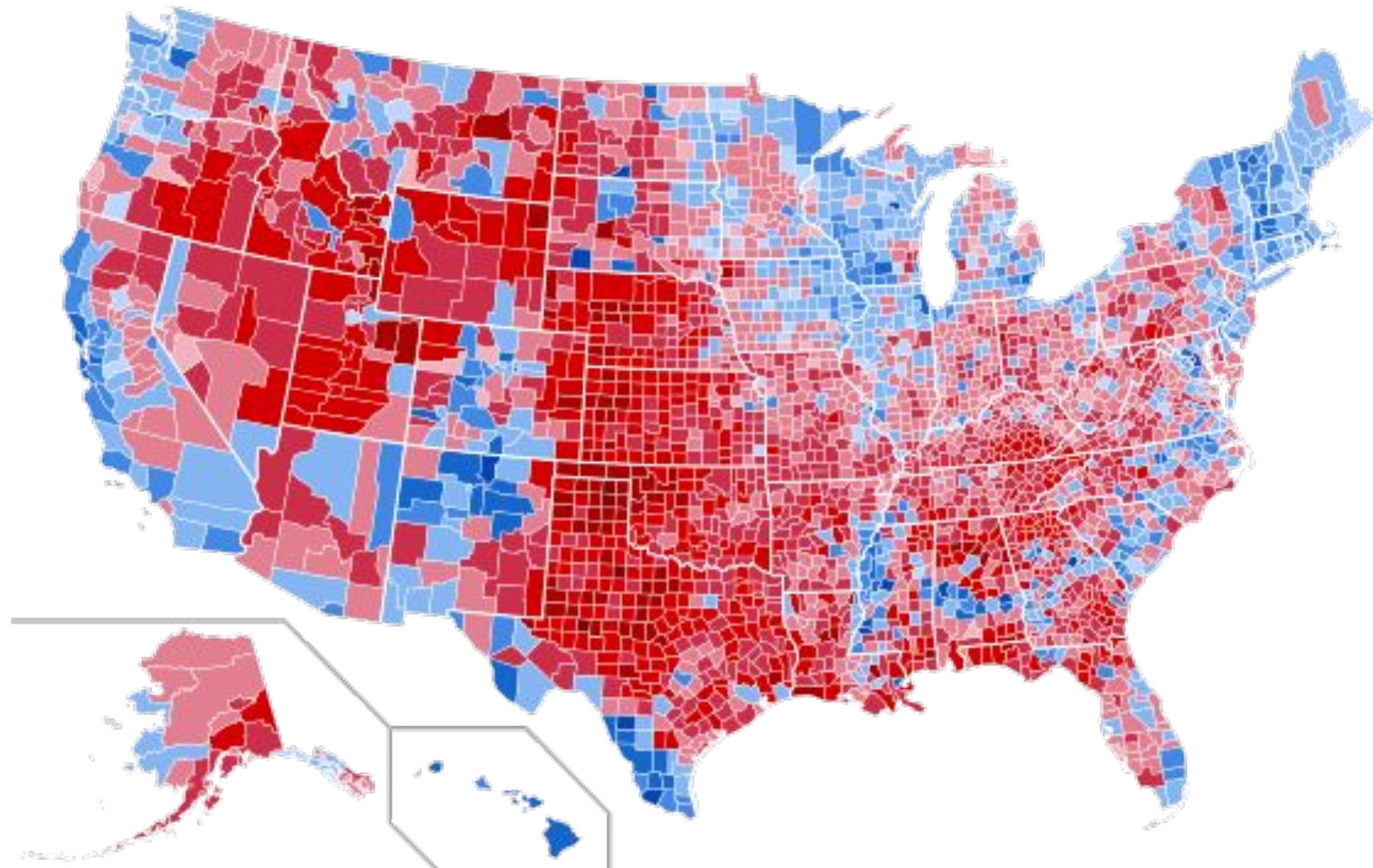
Jaron Benjamin

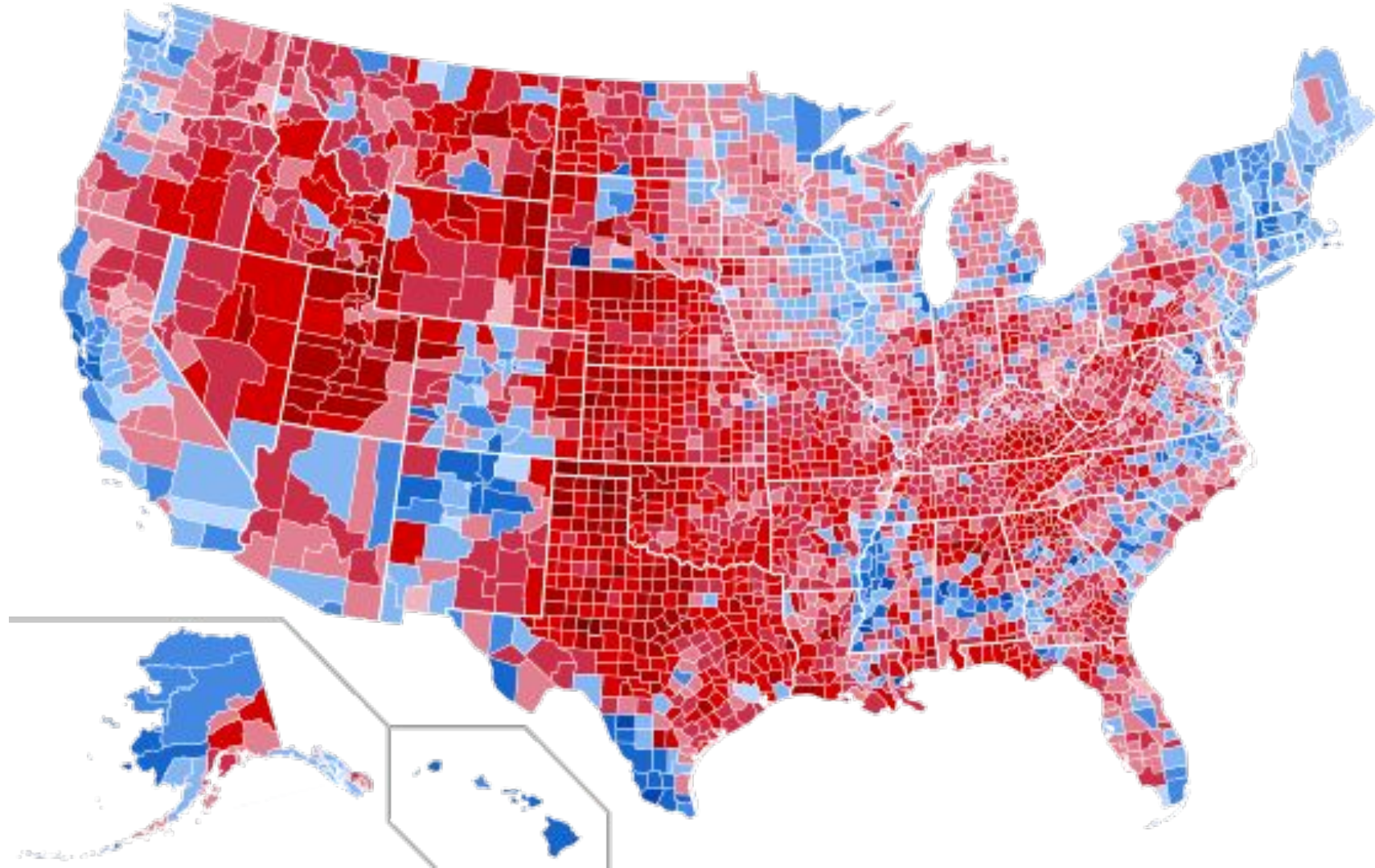
VP, Community
Mobilization

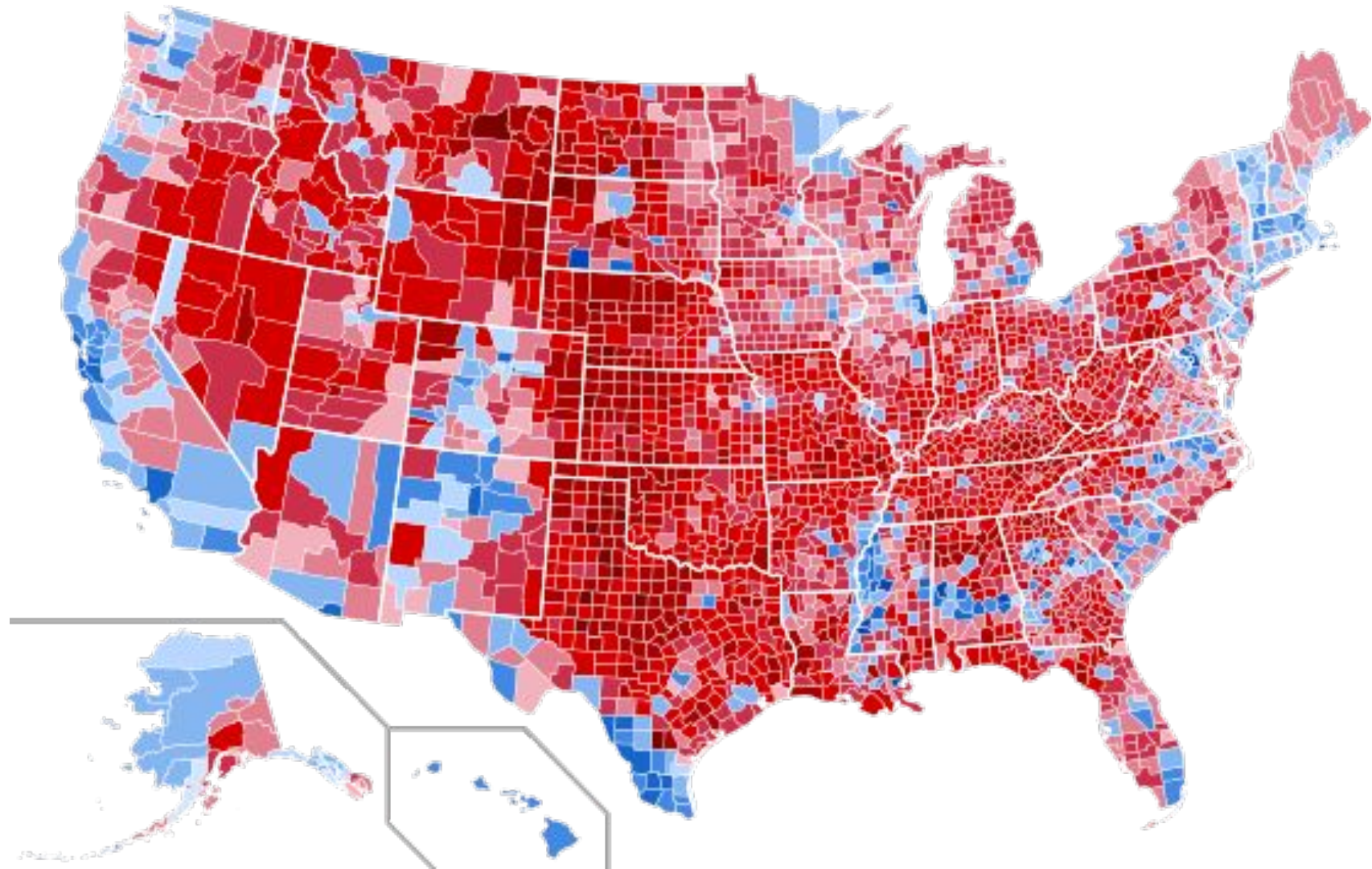
September 30, 2020

MORE THAN ELECTION DAY:

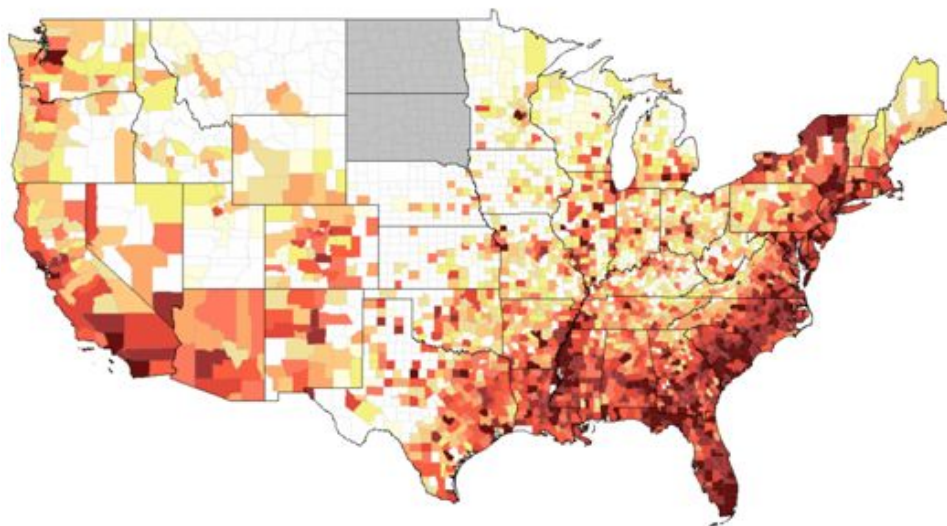
COMMUNITY BUILDING THROUGH YEAR-ROUND CIVIC ENGAGEMENT







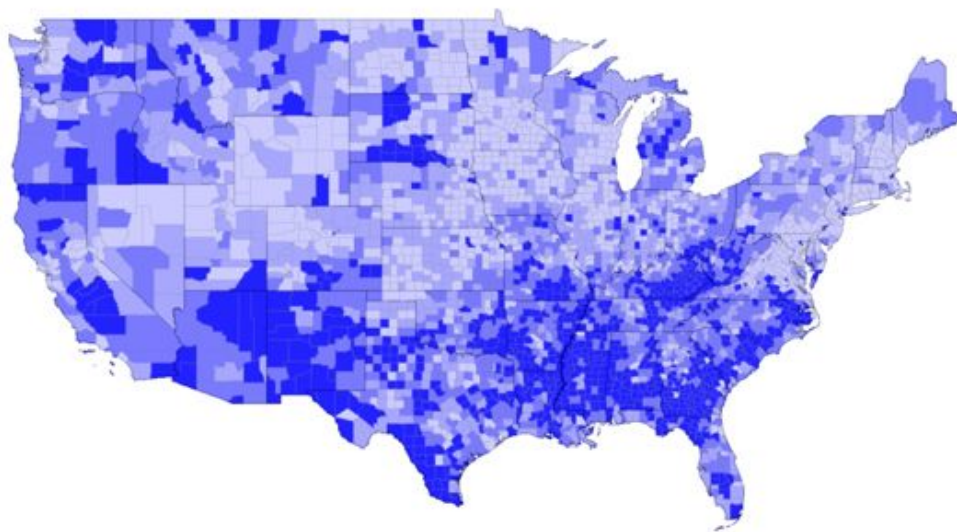
Persons Living with an HIV diagnosis



2010 Rate of adults/adolescents living with an HIV diagnosis per 100,000 population



Poverty Rates



% of Population Living in Poverty, 2010



Our Engagement Philosophy

Housing Works conducts Voting Surveys Every Two Years

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2018 Results (from 577 respondents):

- **High Rate of Registration and Voting**

About 80% were registered, and about 80% of those registered voted

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Clients were 2.6 times more likely to vote if they had engaged in advocacy that year

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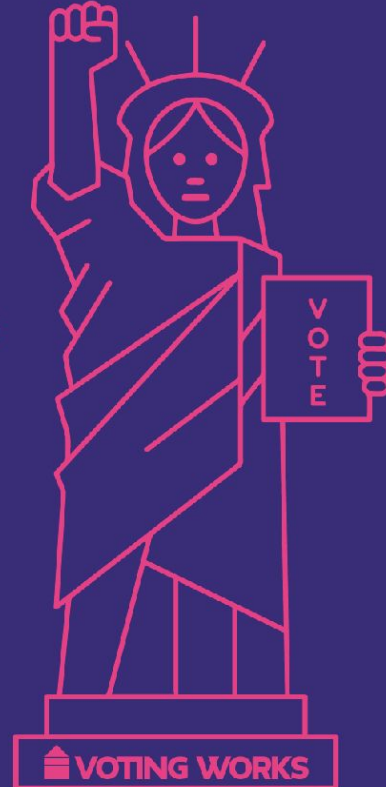
- Engagement and Beliefs on Ending AIDS

YOUR VOTE COUNTS

**THIS IS AN IMPORTANT ELECTION YEAR
AND YOUR VOTE COUNTS!**

- Register online or by mail by OCT 9
- Request an absentee ballot by OCT 19
- Submit an absentee ballot by NOV 3
- Vote in person by NOV 3

**FOR A FULL VOTER
TOOLKIT GO TO:**
bit.ly/HWGOTV2020



Our GOTV Model

Housing Works is Engaging Staff, Residents, and other Community Members

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Housing Works is Engaging Staff, Residents, and other Community Members

- **Agency-wide Outreach**

All members of the organization have access to our voter-toolkit – video explainers & webinars, links to posters and voter registration and voting deadlines

Our GOTV Model

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- **Resident Specific**

Our organizers are in close contact with housing site directors to ensure that our residents are registered to vote at the place they live, request absentee ballots, and vote

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Staff are encouraged to engage clients in GOTV efforts

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Staff are encouraged to engage clients in GOTV efforts

- **Advocacy Department is Always Available for Trouble Shooting**

Presented by:

Jaron Benjamin

VP, Community
Mobilization

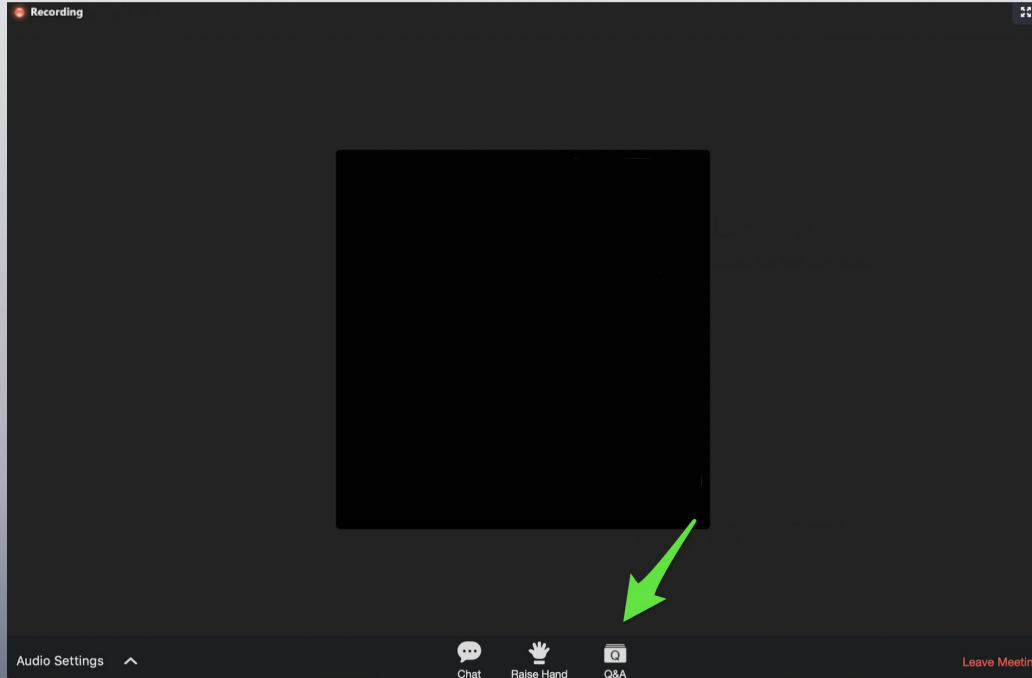
September 30, 2020

MORE THAN ELECTION DAY:

COMMUNITY BUILDING THROUGH YEAR-ROUND CIVIC ENGAGEMENT

Questions?

Please use the Q&A box within Zoom to ask any questions



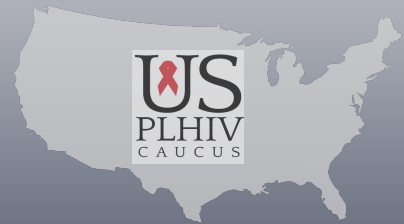
AIDS Watch

THE ROAD TO RESILIENCY

*Please join other advocates for **unprogrammed social time** in the Zoom meeting linked on the AIDSWatch website from 4:30-5:00 PM EST.*

AIDS Watch

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