



# ORGANIZATION OVERVIEW

## ABOUT BLACK LIVES MATTER GRASSROOTS

Black Lives Matter Grassroots supports, sustains, empowers, and uplifts the community organizing, educational programs, mass mobilizations, and initiatives undertaken by local Black Lives Matter chapters to advance Black liberation. "Grassroots" was added to the original Black Lives Matter formation in 2019 to distinguish the community-based work and political advocacy carried out by chapter organizers and activists from the financial interests of consultants operating other Black Lives Matter entities.

## PROGRAM AREAS



### Abolition

Ending mass incarceration, supporting incarcerated people, and freeing political prisoners



### Communications

Leveraging traditional and digital media to amplify social and political issues



### Development

Building organizational capacity, developing leadership, and training local chapters



### Direct Action

Organizing mass mobilizations and demonstrations for social and political change



### Healing Justice

Transforming individuals and communities through healing the mind, body, and spirit



### Direct Support & Mutual Aid

Providing support to families and communities directly impacted by state violence



### Partnerships

Growing organizational relationships to increase our organizing capacity



### Policy & Advocacy

Local, state, and national organizing to improve Black-centered policymaking



### Education

Developing and delivering curriculum and other digital content for collective study



### Youth Vanguard

Advancing justice for Black youth through education and leadership development of the next generation

## LOCAL CHAPTERS

- |                    |                               |                       |
|--------------------|-------------------------------|-----------------------|
| Atlanta (GA)       | Gary (IN)                     | Pasadena (CA)         |
| Atlanta East (GA)  | Hartford (CT)                 | Phoenix (AZ)          |
| Bay Area (CA)      | Houston (TX)                  | Port Huron (MI)       |
| Benton Harbor (MI) | Jackson (MS)                  | Richmond (VA)         |
| Birmingham (AL)    | Kalamazoo/Battle Creek (MI)   | San Diego (CA)        |
| Boise (ID)         | Kern Valley State Prison (CA) | Santa Clarita (CA)    |
| Boston Metro (MA)  | Lancaster State Prison (CA)   | Saratoga Springs (NY) |
| Buffalo (NY)       | Long Beach (CA)               | Tampa (FL)            |
| Canton (OH)        | Los Angeles (CA)              | Torrance (CA)         |
| Charleston (SC)    | Memphis (TN)                  | Twin Cities (MN)      |
| Denver (CO)        | Miami (FL)                    | Will County (IL)      |
| Detroit (MI)       | Milwaukee (WI)                |                       |
| Flint (MI)         | New Orleans (LA)              |                       |

## STATE FORMATIONS

- |                |                    |
|----------------|--------------------|
| BLM Alabama    | BLM Massachusetts  |
| BLM Arizona    | BLM Michigan       |
| BLM California | BLM Minnesota      |
| BLM Florida    | BLM North Carolina |
| BLM Georgia    | BLM Tennessee      |
| BLM Idaho      | BLM Virginia       |
| BLM Illinois   | BLM Wisconsin      |
| BLM Indiana    |                    |
| BLM Louisiana  |                    |

## INTERNATIONAL FORMATIONS

- BLM Sweden

## BOARD OF DIRECTORS

- |  |                                     |                                    |
|--|-------------------------------------|------------------------------------|
| Melina Abdullah<br>BLM Grassroots Director | ANDREA FOGGY-PAXTON<br>Board Member | Cornel West<br>Board Member        |
| Deanna Joseph<br>Board Member              | Dorcas R. Gilmore<br>Board Member   | Henry "Hank" Jones<br>Board Member |

FOR MORE INFORMATION

@BLMGRASSROOTS [BLMGRASSROOTS.ORG](https://www.blmgrassroots.org)



# CAMPAIGNS & INITIATIVES

## #BlackHistoryMatters

In partnership with Scholars for Black Lives and leading public intellectuals, BLM Grassroots hosts a digital education program that illuminates untold stories about Black political struggle during Black History Month.

## Black Women Are divine

In the name of #BreonnaTaylor and all Black women whose lives were stolen by state-sanctioned violence, Black Women Are Divine is a national call of reclamation and celebration of Black women and their divinity.

## Black Xmas

In honor of #JohnCrawford, killed in a Beavercreek, Ohio Walmart in 2014, Black Xmas is a cooperative economics campaign between Black Friday and New Year's to encourage people to #BuildBlack, #BuyBlack, #BankBlack.

## #EndPoliceAssociations

This national campaign exposes police associations' role in undermining due process, pilfering the public purse, blocking legislation, and shielding police from accountability through legal doctrines like qualified immunity.

## Ending Qualified Immunity ACT

BLM Grassroots initiated a petition, facilitated political education, and endorsed Congresswoman Ayanna Pressley's *Ending Qualified Immunity Act* to end to the unjust legal doctrine that shields police from accountability when they brutalize and kill people.

## Global Village

Grounded in Pan-Africanism, the Global Village affirms Black Lives Matter as a global movement building with Black communities around the world, including chapter development taking root in Brazil, Ghana, Jamaica, Nigeria, and South Africa.

## Youth Vanguard Scholars

BLM Youth Vanguard Scholars provides scholarships and opportunities to young people who have been active in the Youth Vanguard, with additional support for family members of those killed by police and white supremacy.

## Justice Families

The Justice Families initiative convenes families directly impacted by state violence and offers them resources to support collectively healing while effectively organizing against the responsible individuals, institutions, and systems.

## Rapid Response TEAM

The BLM Grassroots Rapid Response Team coordinates and administers real-time support for communities and families directly impacted by police and white supremacist violence in cities without official chapters.

## This is not a drill (TINAD)

First launched in response to COVID-19 and the racial reckoning of 2020, This Is Not a Drill! is a weekly broadcast on KBLA 1580AM Radio that reports vital information about the movement and other topics related to Black liberation.

## VOTE & ORGANIZE

Vote & Organize is an electoral justice initiative dedicated to mobilizing support to advance issues disproportionately impacting Black communities on the ballot and locally organizing Black voter blocs to hold elected officials accountable.

## Wakeisha's Law

The Family Notification of Death in Custody or Life-Threatening Emergency Act, also known as Wakeisha's Law, requires jurisdictions to implement time-sensitive procedures to notify the next-of-kin or designated person upon the death or life-threatening emergency of an individual in police custody.

FOR MORE INFORMATION

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