JULY 2024, VOL.4



# BOARDS & COMMISSIONS

# MONTHLY NEWSLETTER



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CONTENT BY : IVIS ROMERO DESIGN BY: MARAIM RIVERA

Check out our website!



# WHAT IS THE BOARDS AND COMMISSIONS FELLOWSHIP PROGRAM?

THE BOARDS AND COMMISSIONS FELLOWSHIP AIMS TO INCREASE THE PRESENCE OF HISTORICALLY UNDERREPRESENTED AND MARGINALIZED GROUPS IN LOCAL GOVERNMENT, INCLUDING WOMEN, PEOPLE OF COLOR, MEMBERS OF THE LBGTQIA+ COMMUNITY, AND MORE. THE PROGRAM CONSISTS OF MONTHLY COURSES DESIGNED TO HELP FELLOWS UNDERSTAND THE PURPOSE OF LOCAL BOARDS AND COMMISSIONS, HOW THESE BODIES FUNCTION, THE PROCESS OF BECOMING A MEMBER, AND STRATEGIES FOR MAXIMIZING THEIR IMPACT ON THEIR COMMUNITY. FELLOWS COLLABORATE WITH EACH OTHER AND WITH A PERSONALIZED LOCAL MENTOR TO UNDERSTAND THE PROCESS OF AND PREPARE FOR COMMUNITY-LEVEL CHANGEMAKING.

#### WE WILL BEGIN TAKING APPLICATIONS FOR OUR 2025 CLASS SOON.

IF YOU ARE INTERESTED IN MORE INFORMATION REGARDING OUR BOARDS & COMMISSIONS FELLOWSHIP PROGRAM, PLEASE CHECK OUT OUR WEBSITE:

BOARDS & COMMISSIONS WEBSITE





**FELLOWSHIP SESSION 3 REFLECTIONS** 

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THE BOARDS AND COMMISSIONS FELLOWSHIP PROGRAM IS HALFWAY THROUGH, AND SESSION 3 WAS ANOTHER SUCCESS!

WE KICKED OFF HEARING EVERYONE'S ANSWERS TO THE OPENING QUESTION "WHAT MADE YOU LAUGH RECENTLY?" IT WAS WONDERFUL TO HEAR EVERYONE'S STORIES AND IT PUT THE WHOLE GROUP IN GREAT SPIRITS FOR THE REST OF THE SESSION!

WE CONTINUED BY PAIRING INTO SMALL GROUPS TO REVIEW THIS MONTH'S HOMEWORK, WHICH LED TO A GREAT WHOLE-GROUP DISCUSSION FULL OF IDEAS AND SUGGESTIONS.

WE HAD THE PRIVILEGE OF HAVING POWER UP'S LEAD REGIONAL ORGANIZER, ROBERT LEAKE, SPEAK TO THE FELLOWS ABOUT THE IMPORTANCE OF PARLIAMENTARY PROCEDURE. NOT ONLY DID WE HAVE HIS EXPERT TRAINING ON ROBERT'S RULES, BUT HE ALSO GUIDED OUR PRACTICE THROUGH A FEW DIFFERENT SCENARIOS WITH THE HELP OF SOME VOLUNTEERS! THIS WAS A GREAT EXERCISE AND VERY USEFUL INFORMATION TO HAVE FOR OUR FELLOWS THAT WILL BE EXPECTING TO JOIN A BOARD OR COMMISSION IN THE NEAR FUTURE.



#### **STAFF HIGHLIGHT**

# **ROBERT LEAK III**

CITY OF WINSTON SALEM LEAD REGIONAL ORGANIZER - NCLCV

ROBERT JOINED THE NCLCVF/POWERUP TEAM IN JUNE 2020. HE OWES HIS OVER 15 YEARS OF COMMUNITY ORGANIZING AND ACTIVISM TO HIS GRANDFATHER, A CHURCH PASTOR AND COMMUNITY ADVOCATE. AS A VERY YOUNG MAN, ROBERT ACCOMPANIED HIM TO VARIOUS MEETINGS IN THEIR COMMUNITY AT THE AGE OF FIVE YEARS OLD . ROBERT UNDERSTANDS THAT EVERYONE HAS A GIFT TO SHARE WITH OTHERS TO HELP BUILD CHANGE IN THEIR COMMUNITY. AND THAT EVERYONE HAS A RIGHT TO BE INCLUDED AT THE TABLE DESPITE THEIR CIRCUMSTANCES. A LIFELONG RESIDENT OF WINSTON-SALEM. ROBERT ATTENDED WINSTON-SALEM STATE UNIVERSITY. MAJORING IN BUSINESS ADMINISTRATION AND MINORING IN POLITICAL SCIENCE. ROBERT ENJOYS WORKING IN THE COMMUNITY AND PASTORING HIS CHURCH, DELIVERING UPLIFTING MESSAGES TO HIS MEMBERS AND THE COMMUNITY. ROBERT IS THE PROUD FATHER TO TWO AMAZING DAUGHTERS LEGACEE AND HEAVENLEE. IN 2020, HE LAUNCHED SUNSHINE CONSULTANT. HIS CONSULTING COMPANY FOCUSES ON EDUCATING NON-PROFIT ORGANIZATIONS ON BOARD GOVERNANCE AND DEVELOPMENT.

**ENERGY FUNDS FOR ALL TOOLKIT** 

ARE YOUR ENERGY BILLS TOO HIGH? DO YOU HAVE OUTDATED APPLIANCES YOU WISH YOU COULD REPLACE? YOU MAY BE ELIGIBLE FOR REBATES, TAX BENEFITS, AND OTHER FEDERAL FUNDING.

TO FIND OUT, TAKE A LOOK AT THE ENERGY FUNDS FOR ALL TOOLKIT AT ENERGYFUNDSFORALL.ORG.

THE TOOLKIT WILL HELP YOU IDENTIFY WHAT FUNDS YOU MIGHT BE ELIGIBLE FOR TO MAKE YOUR HOME MORE ENERGY EFFICIENT, IMPROVE INDOOR AIR QUALITY, AND HELP THE ENVIRONMENT."

# WHAT IS THE TOOLKIT?

"THE TOOLKIT PROVIDES INFORMATION TO FOLKS IN NEED AND TO EMPOWER THEM TO APPLY FOR FUNDING THEIR TAX DOLLARS HAVE ALREADY PAID FOR. SO MANY PEOPLE IN OUR COMMUNITIES STRUGGLE WITH HIGH ENERGY BILLS AND ARE VULNERABLE TO NATURAL DISASTERS. THIS TOOLKIT PROVIDES THE INFORMATION PEOPLE NEED TO LEARN MORE ABOUT THESE FUNDS AND OPPORTUNITIES TO GET HELP IF THEY DON'T KNOW WHERE TO START."



FOR MORE INFORMATION PLEASE VISIT: ENERGY FUNDS FOR ALL WEBSITE

#### **CLIMATE & CLEAN ENERGY POLL RESULTS**

"A RECENT POLL BY NCLCVF AND HART RESEARCH SHOWED THAT A LARGE MAJORITY OF NORTH CAROLINA VOTERS (75%) SAY IT IS IMPORTANT FOR THE STATE TO INCREASE ITS USE OF CLEAN AND RENEWABLE ENERGY SOURCES AND REDUCE ITS USE OF FOSSIL FUELS (62%). ADDITIONALLY, TWO IN THREE VOTERS (67%) WANT NORTH CAROLINA TO SPEED UP THE TRANSITION TO CLEAN AND RENEWABLE ENERGY. CLEAN AND RENEWABLE ENERGY SOURCES ARE HIGHLY POPULAR WITH NORTH CAROLINIANS.

"WE ARE EXCITED TO SEE SUCH STRONG SUPPORT FROM NORTH CAROLINIANS TO INCREASE THE USE OF CLEAN AND RENEWABLE ENERGY AND THE NEED TO TRANSITION AWAY FROM DIRTY FOSSIL FUELS," SAID CARRIE CLARK, EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR FOR NCLCVF. "IT'S ALSO AFFIRMING THAT NORTH CAROLINA VOTERS CLEARLY RECOGNIZE THE INCREASE OF EXTREME WEATHER EVENTS AND UNDERSTAND THE LINK WITH CLIMATE CHANGE.""

CHECK OUT THE POLL RESULTS HERE: POLL RESULTS





#### **UPCOMING JULY HOLIDAYS**

#### **INDEPENDENCE DAY!**

"JULY 4TH IS A DAY THAT IS MEANT TO CELEBRATE FREEDOM. WHILE THE UNITED STATES AND ITS SETTLERS CLAIMED ITS INDEPENDENCE FROM GREAT BRITAIN, THIS CAME AT A COST OF OTHERS' FREEDOM, INCLUDING THE LAND STOLEN FROM INDIGENOUS PEOPLES, AND AFRICAN AMERICAN FOLK WHO WERE STOLEN FROM THEIR OWN HOMELANDS AND FORCED

INTO SLAVERY.

WHILE INDEPENDENCE DAY IS MEANT TO CELEBRATE THE UNITED STATES, IT PLACES A DISPROPORTIONATE AMOUNT OF EMPHASIS ON A NARRATIVE OF GLORY AND PRIDE IN AMERICAN HISTORY, WHILE FAILING TO ACKNOWLEDGE THE NEGATIVE ASPECTS OF AMERICAN HISTORY – INCLUDING THE HISTORICAL STRUGGLES OF NATIVE AMERICAN AND AFRICAN AMERICAN FOLK."

SOURCE: HTTPS://WWW.THEINDIGENOUSFOUNDATION.ORG/

## **ENVIRONMENTAL AWARENESS DAYS**

#### JULY 3RD - INTERNATIONAL PLASTIC BAG FREE DAY

APPROXIMATELY 500 BILLION PLASTIC BAGS ARE USED WORLDWIDE EACH YEAR BUT ALTHOUGH MOST OF THOSE ARE ONLY USED FOR AN AVERAGE OF 20 MINUTES, EACH BAG CAN TAKE BETWEEN 500 AND 1,000 YEARS TO DECOMPOSE. INTERNATIONAL PLASTIC BAG FREE DAY IS CELEBRATED FACH YEAR ON JULY 3RD.

> THANK YOU THANK YOU THANK YOU THANK YOU

#### JULY 11TH - WORLD POPULATION DAY

ON WORLD POPULATION DAY, ADVOCATES FROM AROUND THE WORLD CALL ON LEADERS, POLICYMAKERS, GRASSROOTS ORGANIZERS, INSTITUTIONS AND OTHERS TO HELP MAKE REPRODUCTIVE HEALTH AND RIGHTS A REALITY FOR ALL.

#### JULY 10TH - DON'T STEP ON A BEE DAY

DON'T STEP ON A BEE DAY IS AN ANNUAL EVENT OBSERVED EVERY JULY 10TH, AIMED AT RAISING AWARENESS ABOUT THE IMPORTANCE OF BEES IN OUR ECOSYSTEM AND PROMOTING THEIR PROTECTION. THIS DAY ENCOURAGES PEOPLE TO BE MINDFUL OF BEES AND THEIR HABITATS, ADVOCATING FOR SAFE AND BEE-FRIENDLY ENVIRONMENTS.

JULY 29TH - INTERNATIONAL TIGER DAY

INTERNATIONAL TIGER DAY HAS BEEN CREATED SO THAT PEOPLE AROUND THE WORLD CAN RAISE AWARENESS FOR TIGER CONSERVATION. THE AIM OF THE DAY IS TO HELP PROMOTE A WORLDWIDE SYSTEM WHEREBY WE ARE DEDICATED TO PROTECTING TIGERS AND THEIR NATURAL HABITATS.

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## **RECENT BOARD APPOINTMENTS**

#### BRIELLE WRIGHT (CLASS OF 2022) -BOARD CHAIR OF THE NC BLACK FARMERS MARKET - JOHNSTON COUNTY JOSE SAUCEDO (CLASS OF 2023) -CITY OF WINSTON-SALEM COMMUNITY SUSTAINABILITY PROGRAM COMMITTEE

CAPRICIA GEORGE (CLASS OF 2024) -CITY OF BENSON PARKS AND RECREATION ADVISORY BOARD

EMERALD BOWMAN (CLASS OF 2024) -CITY OF WINSTON-SALEM COMMUNITY APPEARANCE COMMISSION

WE ARE SO PROUD OF EVERYONE AND THEIR EFFORTS!!



### **FELLOWS ON THE MOVE!**



HARRY DAVIS HAD THE OPPORTUNITY TO INTRODUCE ATTORNEY GENERAL, JOSH STEIN AT A LARGE POLITICAL RALLY IN RALEIGH, NC. (HARRY DAVIS WORKS AS A REGIONAL ORGANIZER AND WAS A MEMBER OF THE B+C CLASS OF 2023!). HIS ROLE WAS TO IGNITE AND EXCITE THOSE IN ATTENDANCE TO TAKE AN ACTIVE ROLE AS VOLUNTEERS PARTICIPATING IN CIVIC ENGAGAEMENT THIS ELECTION CYCLE.

## **KEEP YOUR COMMITMENTS**

SERVING ON AN ASSOCIATION BOARD, OR ADVISORY COMMITTEE IS OFTEN UNPAID VOLUNTEER WORK. ACKNOWLEDGING THIS FACTOR, THE WORK IS STILL VITAL, AND YOUR ORGANIZATION DEPENDS ON YOU. A COMMITMENT IS NOT A TASK YOU CAN FORGET ABOUT, RATHER IT IS A PROMISE YOU MAKE TO DO SOMETHING FOR THE BETTERMENT AND ASSURANCE OF YOUR COWORKERS OR FELLOW BOARD MEMBERS.