Still March-ing

This Women’s History Month, we’re reflecting on how and why we’ve centered Black women in our work. From community and family care, to electoral organizing and voting, to labor (traditional and emotional) in the workplace, Black women are the backbone of community, democracy, and economy in the United States. They also get the worst of just about everything in the nation. Centering Black women and getting them free necessarily means dismantling every one of the systems that hurt us all. That’s why, from reports and articles to Congressional briefings and workshops, we intentionally center Black women. Happy Women’s History Month to all Black women, Happy Women’s History Month to us all.

ANTI-corporate strategy

At LibGen, we believe the fight against monopoly power cannot be disconnected from the fight for racial justice – which is why our anti-monopoly work is focused on convening a diverse set of lived and learned experts to build race-forward policy that centers organizers of color and propels us toward a Liberation Economy.

This month, LibGen and the Athena Coalition co-hosted two virtual strategy sessions with over 15 on-the-ground organizers and campaigners from across movement spaces doing base-building organizing around issues related to challenging the power of large corporations and monopolies. Together, organizers vetted a jointly-developed policy agenda and shared experiences and perspectives to ensure that our policy development is well-connected to communities.

In the discussions, organizers identified reforms to the way we tax and establish corporations – and the outright abolition of private equity – as top-priority policy solutions. These and other insights will inform the two additional organizer strategy sessions we’re hosting in April.

Phase II partnership

In last month’s newsletter, we lifted up glowing feedback from a leader at Young Latino Network (YLN). Our Grassroots Relationships team assisted YLN’s new executive leadership and board members in the co-creation of their new mission, vision, and set of values. Their goal was to evolve from a professional network and service-based organization to more explicitly focus on building Latinx power in Ohio. "It is now using that mission, vision, and set of values to develop the organizing and advocacy skills of existing Latinx community leaders and prepare more Latinx Ohioans to take on leadership roles within their own communities.

Not one, but two...

New episodes of Racism is Profitable dropped this month. The first, “Don’t Look the Other Way,” in ultra-conservative Florida governor Ron DeSantis’s war against Disney – and how real co-governance can help people of color defend against them both. Yesterday’s episode, “Dive into the Silicon Valley Bank collapse, what it actually means for Black and brown people, and how to mitigate and prevent further harms to our communities, Jeremie and Solana also returned as guests on The Century Foundation’s podcast, Off-Kilter with Rebecca Vallas, to discuss time travel as a strategy for social change and self care – and what it looks like to think across generations in the midst of a global paradigm shift.

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Interested in a workshop or presentation to educate, activate, or motivate your community? Want to partner with us to co-write a publication, co-host an event, or collaborate in some other way? Please fill out this inquiry form!