

It's time for RESTORATION...

Remember The Lord knows the plans He has for you and if you were born in this country you are a citizen of these United States deserving full rights and privileges post incarceration. (Jeremiah 29:11)

Empower self and others to pause, pray and partner with places of worship in life changing activities for full voting rights restoration for all upon completion of sentences. (Micah 3:6)

See God's victorious right hand upon you to move beyond apathy, discouragement and destructive distractions that will keep you from fighting for your constitutional right to vote. (Isaiah 41:10)

Tell somebody about barriers to life, liberty and the pursuit of happiness, such as working to ban the box on job applications that you will overcome. (Genesis 50:20)

Obtain and share information on voting laws and restriction with youth and elders from reliable sources such as The Sentencing Project. (Ephesians 6)

Recognize the importance of becoming a Romans 8:28 witness ("All things work together for good...") by being trained to strategically ensure democracy for all and not just for some.

Advocate passionately for criminal and youth justice reform for self and others here and those yet to come. (Hebrews 11:1)

Think often of the power you have as a vessel for God and connect your values for justice and fairness along with those of your family and/or community to candidate and issue campaigns that will be on the ballot on Election Day. (Romans 12:1)

Inform self and others that you are a good steward of God's another chance, another chance and another chance grace by helping to register everyone of voting age in your family, neighborhood, social circle to be good stewards of the blessing of the right to vote. (Psalm 27:14)

Organize with blessed assurance and 2 or more supporters to conduct non-partisan "Are You Ready To Vote?" forums and "10 Things You Should Know Before You Go to the Polls" get out the vote (GOTV) meetings where ever you are. (Matthew 9:37)

Never allow your voice to be silent on Election Day - if you can't vote this time, you can volunteer to make calls, distribute literature, pass out water, assist seniors and those with special needs along with those who can vote to get to the polls in time because every election matters and every vote must be counted. (Galatians 6:10)

"Returning Citizens all over the United States are fighting for their right to vote on a daily basis. In Pennsylvania, we have that right; we should not take it for granted. Registering to vote and then participating in the process is part of becoming a productive member of society outside of the [prison] walls. It has been studied and stated that Returning Citizens who participate in three elections or more are less likely to recidivate. We must allow our voices to be heard. 'Don't Get Left Out', Vote!"
Malissa Gamble - Founder/Returning Citizens Voter Movement, age 55

Formerly Incarcerated Vessels



"...voting makes sure your voice as a citizen is heard, (you) are part of the decision making democratic process, and others have died to insure the right ... That is why voting is important to me a formally incarcerated male."

— Brother Malik Aziz, age 61

Resources for Returning Citizens

“But we have this treasure in earthen vessels, that the excellence of the power maybe of God and not of us. We are hard-pressed on every side, yet not crushed; we are perplexed, but not in despair; persecuted, but not forsaken; struck down but not destroyed ... we have the same spirit of faith, according to what is written, ‘I believed and therefore I spoke,’”

– 2 Corinthians 4:7-9; 13a (NKJV)

Brennan Center - Criminal Disenfranchisement Laws Across the United States
<http://www.brennancenter.org/criminal-disenfranchisement-laws-across-united-states>

Election Protection Hotline, (866) OUR-VOTE

National Employment Law Project - T: (212) 285-3025

Ban the Box Toolkit Opening Job Opportunities for People with Records
<http://www.nelp.org/content/uploads/NELP-Fair-Chance-Ban-the-Box-Toolkit.pdf>

National Employment Law Project - Ban the Box Fair Chance Fact Sheet
T: (212) 285-3025

<http://www.nelp.org/content/uploads/Ban-the-Box-Fair-Chance-Fact-Sheet.pdf>

Organizations of The Formerly Incarcerated & Convicted People’s Movement
<https://ficmovement.wordpress.com/campaigns/employment/>

Sentencing Project - T: (202) 628-0871

<http://www.sentencingproject.org/issues/felony-disenfranchisement/>

Sentencing Project State by State Resources - T: (202) 628-0871

<http://www.sentencingproject.org/state-contacts/>

Southern Coalition for Justice - T: (919) 323-3380

<http://www.southerncoalition.org/program-areas/criminal-justice/>

VESSELS are people of faith - clergy, pastors, ministry and community leaders, men, women and young adults - firmly committed to increasing civic participation in communities that traditionally have been disenfranchised or discriminated against. **VESSELS** provides a non-partisan way to engage in the political process that resonates with the identity of faith communities. **VESSELS** stand firmly against apathy and disengagement and the ploys of the conservatives who engage in voter suppression tactics. **VESSELS** create opportunities to conduct non-partisan voter registration, voter information and voter (issue) education to maximize the participation of informed voting age African Americans in the electoral process in every special, local, state, national election.



You Are A VESSEL Full of Power! * Are You Ready To Vote? To Help Others Vote?
African American Religious Affairs, People For the American Way Foundation

Minister Leslie Watson Malachi, National Director (lmalachi@pfaw.org)

1101 15th Street, NW, Suite 600 Washington, DC 20005

202-467-4999 * www.VESSELSVOTE.org

A non-partisan partnership with the National Coalition on Black Civic Participation, Black Youth Vote, Black Women’s Roundtable and the following faith institutions

