

2022

LEGISLATIVE PRIORITIES & ACTION PLAN

BLACK POLITICAL CAUCUS OF
CHARLOTTE-MECKLENBURG

VOTING RIGHTS



We urge our local, state, and federal elected officials to actively advocate for fair maps in all elections. On the local level, we support advocacy for expanded, and unrestricted voting access to all persons registered to vote. On the federal level, we support the passage of the John Lewis Voting Rights Advancement Act, mandating states to get preclearance from the Department of Justice for any changes to voting laws.

EDUCATION

We advocate for child care services and a public education system, that are high-quality and adequately funded, which support student success from birth to 12th grade. We advocate for culturally relevant and appropriate curriculum for all publicly educated students. We seek immediate, tangible, data-driven curriculum and educator support, as well as the required funding allocations for these initiatives, with the goal of increasing the percentage of Black children in CMS meeting college and career readiness proficiency by the year 2024.



SAFETY



We urge our local elected officials to provide funding for programs that provide violence intervention services, community and neighborhood watch support, crisis/mental health intervention programming, and youth empowerment initiatives. We advocate for a review of funding mechanisms to ensure financial resources are allocated to promote and sustain safe neighborhoods in the Charlotte-Mecklenburg community.

CRIMINAL JUSTICE/LEGAL SYSTEM REFORM

We urge our local, state, and federal elected officials to end no-knock warrants and issue a mandate that requires de-escalation techniques to be employed first during law enforcement encounters. We support equal access to justice in both the criminal and civil court processes. At the state level, we urge our elected officials to pass legislation that minimizes the number of low-risk individuals who are detained pretrial due to cash bail policies.



HEALTHCARE & ENVIRONMENT



We advocate for the enactment of programs and policies that address inadequate access to healthcare services and food deserts in Black communities. In consideration of the significant impact of COVID-19 on the Black community, we urge local county and city officials to increase funding for physical and mental healthcare access, human services, and environmental protections. We advocate for policies that promote clean energy, air quality and water while ensuring an equitable transition for underserved communities who traditionally have been most impacted by the negative impacts of climate change including adverse health conditions.

ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT, FISCAL MANAGEMENT, & TRANSPORTATION

We support continued community engagement and education regarding Charlotte's 2040 Plan and Unified Development Ordinance (UDO). We advocate for additional funding for affordable housing initiatives that do not oversaturate existing and historically Black communities. We urge and advocate for transparency in the budget processes at all levels of government. We advocate for transportation policies and initiatives that do not substantially disrupt historically Black communities and that focus on neighborhood connectivity, and efficient access to employment opportunities and services.

