

Building a Charleston where justice and equity prevail

May 23, 2022

THE CELEBRATION WAS A SUCCESS!



Last Monday May 16th our annual Celebration was held at the Hanahan Amphitheater. There were a couple hundred justice seekers in attendance for the festivities. Our emcees for the evening were Mrs. Jamilah Frazier and Ms. Jilian Palmer, and not only did they keep us moving on schedule, but they were hilarious and brought incredible energy. Thank you ladies!! Congratulations to all of our 10 year Team Leaders and Clergy who have been in this fight since the beginning, your dedication and perseverance does not go unnoticed! Also, all of our congregations who have invested at 1% for their congregational dues were recognized: St. Mark's Episcopal Church, Grace City, Masjid Al-Jami Ar-Rasheed, St. John's Catholic Church, St. Patrick's Catholic Church, Unitarian Church, and Circular Congregational Church. Additionally, we had a number of people who won rising stars and spirit awards! Congratulations to each of you!! For those of you who were unable to join us, please enjoy a few pictures from the evening.



We also had the opportunity to wish Treva farewell as this would be her last Celebration as CAJM's Lead Organizer. She has served fearlessly for 10 years and she will be greatly missed!!

If you were unable to tune into the Zoom meeting on April 28th and missed the announcement, you can read a statement from Treva and the Co-Presidents <u>HERE</u>.

Were you wondering who provided the delicious food and entertainment from Celebration? Wonder no

more!

Vined Plant-Based Restaurant: <u>Home | Mysite</u> (vinedtve.com)

My Three Sons of Charleston: My Three Sons of Charleston - Home (my3sonsofcharleston.com)

Crafty Gems Boutique: <u>The Party Bot!!</u> (craftygemsboutique.com)

Daddy's Girl Bakery: Daddy's Girls Bakery I The World's Finest Sweets. Made By Daddy's Girls Bakery With Love (daddysgirlsbakery.com)

League of Women's Voters: <u>Home I League of Women</u> <u>Voters (lwv.org)</u>

Policing Issue is Still Relevant

Please read this very important blog post from Brutal South's Paul Bowers. Below is an excerpt.

This is how we keep us safe

A brake light clinic, a surveillance dragnet, and some free information
Paul Bowers
May 18

In my wild evangelical college days I would sometimes hand out tracts and strike up awkward small talk with strangers in the student union. Members of my ministry team had a set of conversation starters, but it was up to each of us to Steer the Conversation Toward the Lord.

There's an art to the turn, and I never exactly mastered it. <u>I wrote about my misadventures</u> in campus proselytizing a couple of years ago:

I made the turn too sharply: "So, what do you think about Jesus?" I'd blurt out, and I'd see the look of betrayal in some freshman poli sci student's eyes. It's the look you give when you realize you've been duped by a corny sales pitch.

I think it's fine to share your beliefs with strangers, even unprovoked. But I still feel remorse about tricking people into conversations they didn't want to have.

I was thinking about my old itinerant-preacher ways last weekend as some friends and I spread the good news of socialism here in North Charleston. Our little <u>Democratic</u> <u>Socialists of America chapter</u> spent most of the day Saturday in a parking lot beside <u>Fresh</u> <u>Future Farm</u> changing people's car brake lights and turn signals for free. It was our first time hosting a brake light clinic, a mutual aid event inspired by the work of another DSA chapter in New Orleans.

We absolutely had an agenda, and we announced it up front with flyers and big red banners and <u>interviews on the evening news</u>: We were there to change brake lights and resist the police state. Unlike my previous efforts at evangelism, the conversations pretty much steered themselves.

Broken tail lights were an easy conversation starter. One sweet woman with an elderly chihuahua in her passenger seat told me her daughter called the night before after seeing our Abolition Working Group co-chair talking about the brake light clinic on ABC News 4.

"Mom, you've gotta get that fixed," she'd said.

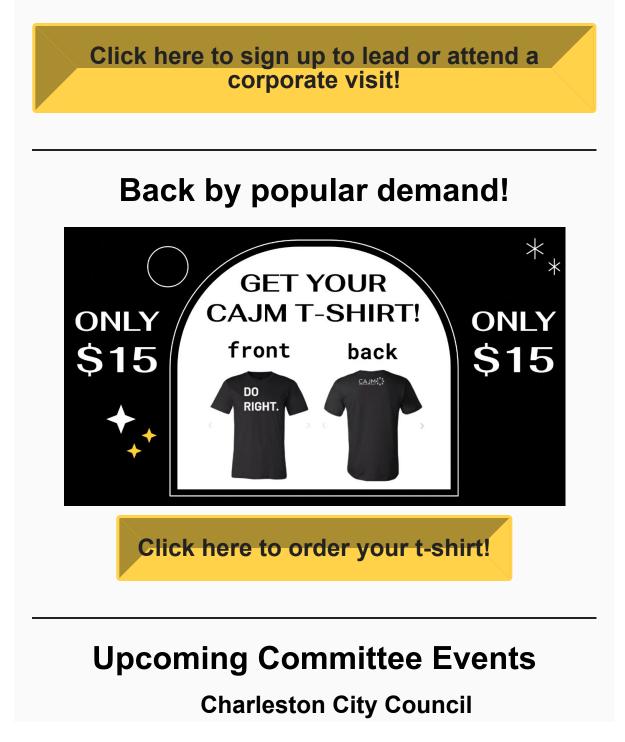
Broken tail lights are one of the most common reasons why police pull drivers over for "pretextual" traffic stops, looking for an excuse to search their vehicles. By changing those lights for free and teaching each other how to do it, we aim to protect one another from traffic stops that can become expensive or even lethal.

Last month, 7 years after a North Charleston police officer shot Walter Scott in the back following a traffic stop for a broken tail light, Mayor Keith Summey told the <u>local press</u> he wanted police to ramp up pretextual stops again. That didn't sit well with the people we met Saturday. North Charleston police have a well-earned reputation for <u>overpolicing</u> and <u>racial profiling</u> in Black and Latino communities.

Read the rest of the blog post here: <u>This is how we keep us safe - by Paul Bowers - Brutal</u> <u>South (substack.com)</u>

Sign up to come on a CAJM corporate visit!

It's almost summertime and that means that CAJM's corporate investment drive is underway! We need leaders and network members like YOU to come and tell local businesses about our work. Know any business owners? Let us know so that we can share our work with them!





(Environmental Justice)

Come out to stand against the filling of Gadsden Creek! Tuesday, May 24th 5:00pm (Meet at 4:30pm at the park next door) Charleston City Hall (80 Broad Street) <u>Click here to RSVP</u>



Charleston County Council (Housing)

Come out to support an Affordable Housing Trust Fund! Tuesday, May 24th 5:45pm Lonnie Hamilton Building (4045 Bridge View Drive) Email treva@thedartcenter.org to RSVP



VERY IMPORTANT Charleston County Council Meeting (Housing)

At this meeting, Charleston County Staff will be presenting their housing plan to council. Come out to support an Affordable Housing Trust Fund! Tuesday, June 7th

5:45pm

Lonnie Hamilton Building (4045 Bridge View Drive)

Email treva@thedartcenter.org to RSVP

CAN WE DO A PAPER SWAP?

CAJM was gifted paper but it's in sizes we do not use. If you use these sizes, we'd love to swap some regular old 8 1/2 X 11 paper with you. Or if you'd like to purchase it from us, we'll give you a really good deal! Here is what we have!

> Legal (8.5 x 14 inches) 6.5 cases

32,500 sheets

Tabloid (11 x 17 inches) 1 full case (2,500) + 1 partial (2,000) = 4,500 sheets

If you're interested in swapping or purchasing, please contact Amy at charlestonareajusticeministry@gmail.com

Charleston County is asking for your input!

Please complete the Riley Center's survey for Charleston County to help them determine how funding should be spent–especially around housing.



Community Events & Happenings

A push for Spanish translation

#HOLACHARLESTON

IT'S TIME FOR US TO STAND UP FOR EVERYONE.

WE DEMAND THAT CHARLESTON MUNICIPAL/COUNTY GOVERNMENTS TRANSLATE ALL PUBLIC DOCUMENTS, PUBLIC SERVICE ANNOUNCEMENTS, WEBSITES, COURT NOTICES AND ALL OTHER INFORMATION DISSEMINATED TO THE PUBLIC, VIA THE LOCAL GOVERNMENT, INTO THE SPANISH LANGUAGE!



Click here to learn more about #HolaCharleston including how you can support their campaign!

Have you made your 2022 investment in CAJM?

CAJM's 2022 investment drive goal is **\$215,000**! In honor of our tenth year, we are striving for 100% participation for investments! In other words, we're going ALL IN for year ten!

It's not too early to make a payment towards your 2022 CAJM investment! You can do so by clicking the link below. Reach out to your team leader or organizer with any questions about investing.

Click here to invest!

Follow us on social media!



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