

Juneteenth Reflection: It's time to move beyond symbolism



FREEDOM DAY

Let's remember the past as we fight for a better future

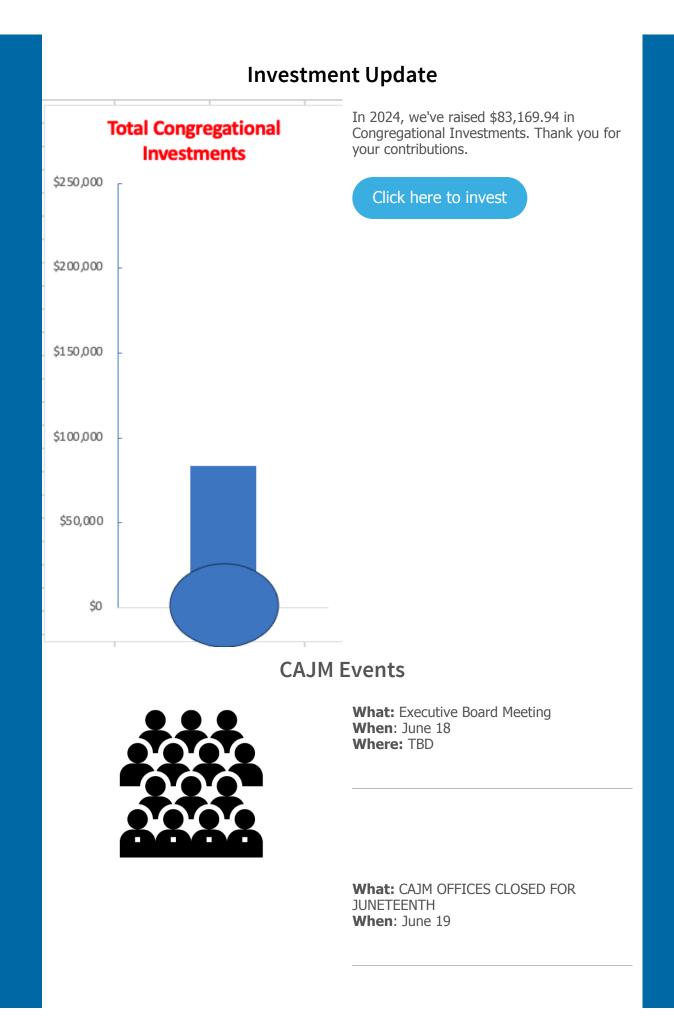
On Wednesday, June 19, we'll celebrate the ending of slavery in the United States. Juneteenth commemorates the 1865 enforcement of the Emancipation Proclamation in Texas (two years after the document had been in effect) that proclaimed freedom to enslaved persons in Confederate states. For decades, African Americans fought for the day to be recognized until President Joe Biden made it a national holiday beginning in 2021.

Today, Juneteenth continues to grow in popularity and will be celebrated with barbeques, cookouts, festivals, parades, and a host of other community events. Similar to Martin Luther King Jr. Day, having Juneteenth as a federal holiday raises awareness about the plight and power of African Americans. While Juneteenth should be celebrated with a day off from work, it's also important to remember there are so many problems that

continue to negatively impact Blacks and minority groups in this nation.

It's for this reason we continue to fight for justice. Even while we celebrate the emancipation of enslaved persons, we should continue to find for emancipation today from expensive housing, environmental threats in vulnerable communities, police brutality, inequitable education, and more (all of these issues disproportionately impact minority populations). Let Juneteenth be a cause to celebrate but also a reminder of the work we still have to do.







What: Charleston County School Board MeetingWhen: June 24, 5 p.m.Where: 75 Calhoun St., Charleston



What: Education Full Committee Meeting **When**: July 11, 5:30 p.m. **RSVP:** <u>Register Here</u>

Community News

Friends of Gadsden Creek is hiring a part-time organizer. Are you interested? <u>Click here</u> for more information and to access the job application.

Congratulations CAJM Senior Organizer Amber Campbell-Moore on being inducted into the New Mexico Sports Hall of Fame.



NEW MEXICO SPORTS HALL OF FAME CLASS OF 2023

Amber will soon be honored for her stellar career in athletics by being named as part of the 2023 class of the New Mexico Hall of Fame. Amber will be recognized for her high school, collegiate, and professional career in athletics. Among Amber's accolades include a five-time NCAA All American, three-time United States Olympian (2008, 2012, 2016), and known as one of the best women's hammer throwers in the world. Amber is also the only woman in this year's Hall of Fame class. The event will be held June 23. Extend your congratulations to Amber at amber@charlestonareajusticeministry.org. See Amber's full bio here. More information about the event <u>can be found here.</u> Congratulations, Amber!

Want to receive updates from our committees? Let us know here.



Charleston Area Justice Ministry PO Box 71416 Charleston, SC 29415 United States (Unsubscribing is not supported in previews) {[Disclaimer]}