



Housing Justice - Moving to Strategic Monitoring

Our victory establishing Charleston County's affordable housing trust fund continues to gain momentum; the fund has grown from its initial \$8 million seed to \$11 million. Now comes the critical work: ensuring these dollars actually create affordable housing. SCCLF will present their dispersal strategy at an upcoming County Council meeting, and we're watching closely.

We're engaging new Charleston County Council Chairperson Rev. Kylon Middleton and newly appointed Special Housing Committee Chair Councilman Robert Wehrman while building our comprehensive monitoring strategy. Simultaneously, we're exploring what statewide collaboration with our sister organizations could look like on housing issues. We'll have **detailed updates ready for the CPA** because accountability doesn't end with victory.

As we explore broader housing justice strategies, **one urgent statewide opportunity demands immediate action:** supporting legislation that could transform housing access for families across South Carolina.

URGENT: Support Eviction Record Sealing Legislation

Housing is scarce; Homelessness is being criminalized.

An eviction filing creates a **HUGE** obstacle for families seeking affordable housing. In South Carolina, eviction filings stay on the public index **indefinitely**, even when cases are settled or dropped.

The numbers tell the story:

- National eviction filing rate: 8%
- South Carolina's rate: 20%!

H.4270 - A Bipartisan Solution

Rep. Carla Schuessler (R-Horry) introduced H.4270 with 10 bipartisan co-sponsors. This bill would:

- Remove eviction filings from public records when they don't result in actual eviction orders
- Seal settled cases after six years
- Provide second chances for families facing housing challenges

How You Can Help:

- **Speak at the Hearing - Wednesday, October 8, 5:00 PM**
 - o Location: Charleston County Council Chambers, 4045 Bridge View Dr., North Charleston
 - o Complete the [Eviction Hearing Speaker Form](#)
 - o Email childrenscommittee@sc.edu to request speaking time
- **Write a Support Letter**
 - o Letters will be delivered when the bill gets a hearing
 - o Send as Word doc or PDF to: morgandrakeconsulting@gmail.com
 - o [Sample letter format provided below](#)

Sample Letter

** Personalize and send to morgandrakeconsulting@gmail.com as a Word doc or PDF!

[Your Name]
[Street Address]
[City, State, ZIP Code]
[Date]

The Honorable Carla Schuessler
South Carolina House of Representatives
506 Blatt Building
Columbia, SC 29201

RE: Support for H.4270 -- Eviction Record Sealing Legislation

Dear Representative Schuessler,

As a resident of South Carolina, I want to thank you for introducing H.4270 and express my support for this important bill. While I have not personally faced eviction, I believe no one should be permanently punished for a moment of hardship—especially if a case was resolved, dismissed, or never resulted in removal.

H.4270 is a thoughtful, balanced policy that protects renters while allowing landlords to make informed decisions. It reflects the values of fairness, accountability, and compassion that I want to see more of in our state.

Please continue to champion this bill, and I urge your colleagues to support it as well.

Sincerely,

[Your Name]
[City, SC]

Environmental Justice Update

The CAJM Environmental Justice Committee is working to save and restore Gadsden Creek by creating the Just Ecological Corridor, which will protect the creek and the nearby community of Gadsden Green (Back da Green) from severe weather damage.

You can help by:

- **Signing the petition** ([Sign here](#))
- Attending the **City Council Candidates Forum** on **Wednesday, September 17**, at Morris Brown AME Church ([Forum info](#))
- Or joining us at the **Hope Summit** on **Sunday, September 28**, at the Charleston Museum ([Festival info](#))

Together, we can protect what matters most!

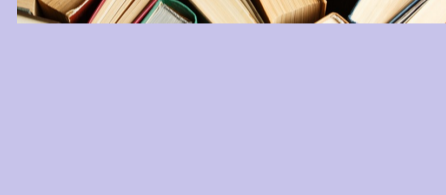
Upcoming Events



What: North Charleston Policing Full Committee
Who: CAJM members who want to be involved in our next steps!
When: Thursday, Sept. 18 at 6pm
Where: Zoom; [Please register here.](#)



What: School Governance Full Committee
Who: CAJM members who want to be involved in our next steps!
When: Thursday, Sept. 18 at 7pm
Where: Zoom; [Please register here.](#)



What: Attend Next CCSD School Board Meeting!
Who: CAJM members who want to show up to support transparent governance
When: Monday, September 22 at 5:15pm
Where: 75 Calhoun Street



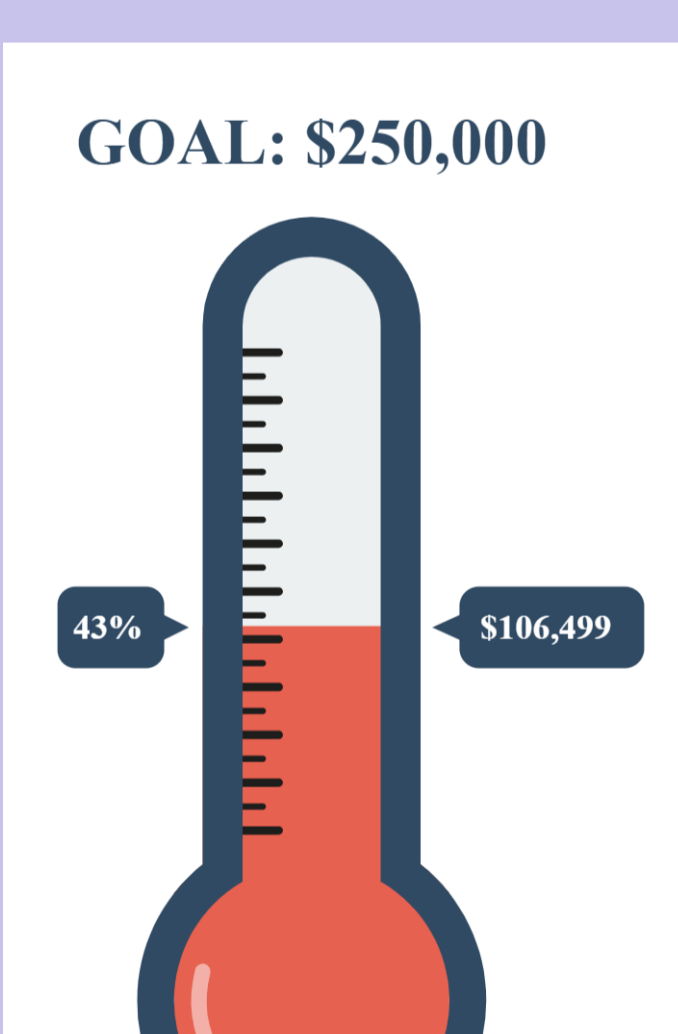
What: Listening Process Kick-Off (Team Assembly I)
Who: Team Leaders & Clergy / Anyone who is facilitating a House Meeting!
When: Monday, September 29th, at 6:30pm
Where: Mount Pleasant Presbyterian Church
[Please register here.](#)



What: House Meetings!

Who: Anyone with a story to share about community problems; and/or anyone who would like to commit to being a Network Member for the 2025-2026 CAJM cycle!

Between September 30 and October 26 -- each congregation's Leaders will schedule time/date/locations!



We've already raised **\$106,499** this year in individual investments. We look forward to your continued support this year as we reach our goal of \$250,000!

[Click here to invest](#)

[Click Here - Invest in CAJM Today!](#)

In the Community:

[Girls in Aviation Day - Saturday, September 20](#)

Free event for all! **App available year-round!**

Girls IN AVIATION DAY
A Women in Aviation International Event
11th Annual Girls in Aviation Day

Venue: Signature Flight
6875 S Aviation Ave.
North Charleston, SC 29406
Thank you for hosting and providing all the food & entertainment.

DATE: Saturday September 20, 2025
No registration required/free event to the 1st 100 max limit.
Anyone interested in aviation Ages 8-18 years old.

Time: 10am - 2 pm

Download the free Aviation for Girls App
Available year-round with hours of educational and inspiring content.

Contact Leslie Lane 843-891-8398
Photography donated by Melissa Rae Studios
Thank you for giving back and taking awesome photos to share.

WOMEN IN AVIATION / PALMETTO PRIDE CHAPTER CHARLESTON SC
--contact: lanesummerville@aol.com

More details to be announced at WAL.org/glad

Join the Fun!

Gadsden Creek Cleanup - Sunday, September 21

Beach Sweep RIVER SWEEP
SOUTH CAROLINA

Sunday, September 21, 2025 / 2-4 pm

PLEASE JOIN US TO CARE FOR GADSDEN CREEK

A HISTORIC SALT MARSH ON THE CHARLESTON PENINSULA
An Essential Fish Habitat and Critical Wetland

We will gather at the corner of Fishburne and Hagood Streets. Look for the SC Aquarium tables. Remember to wear close-toed shoes, a hat, & sunscreen, & bring a water bottle and gloves.

REGISTER HERE!

2025 SWEEP CAPTAIN - Merrie Koester
In partnership with South Carolina Aquarium, The M.A.R.S.H. Project, and CAJM

Want to receive updates from our issue committees? Let us know [here](#).



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