

Participatory Democracy in Action

A **NEW DEAL** FOR YOUTH

Participatory Democracy in Action

- 2020 | Creation of ND4Y Issue Areas with 30 Changemakers.
- In November 2020 CLASP launched the New Deal for Youth (ND4Y) - [ND4Y Youth Data Portraits](#) set the context, urgency and action steps (#WhyWeCantWait).
- Decisions were guided by [Hartnett's Consensus-Oriented Decision-Making Model](#) and the [Modified Borda Count Method](#).

“

It was very collaborative in the sense that youth had agency to arrive at their own issue areas and go deeper than just the surface level, but addressing root causes such as racism, social determinants of health and socioeconomic status. – Year 1 Changemaker

[The discussions] gave me a lot of opportunities to tell my story and think about experiences as a black woman in society. It was centered in our lived experience and things we are passionate about. For me, the process showcased true democracy and civic engagement. – Year 1 Changemaker

”

Economic Justice & Opportunity

True economic justice and opportunity are not luxuries, but fundamental rights that every individual deserves. We must challenge the systems that perpetuate inequality, and fight for a future where everyone has equal access to resources, education, and the chance to thrive.



Click [here](#) to view the video.

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We demand funding in youth development, education, workforce, and job training programs for middle and high school age youth and young adults, where young people can learn “soft” skills and have paid internships, apprenticeships, and job opportunities especially in the green economy and STEM sector.

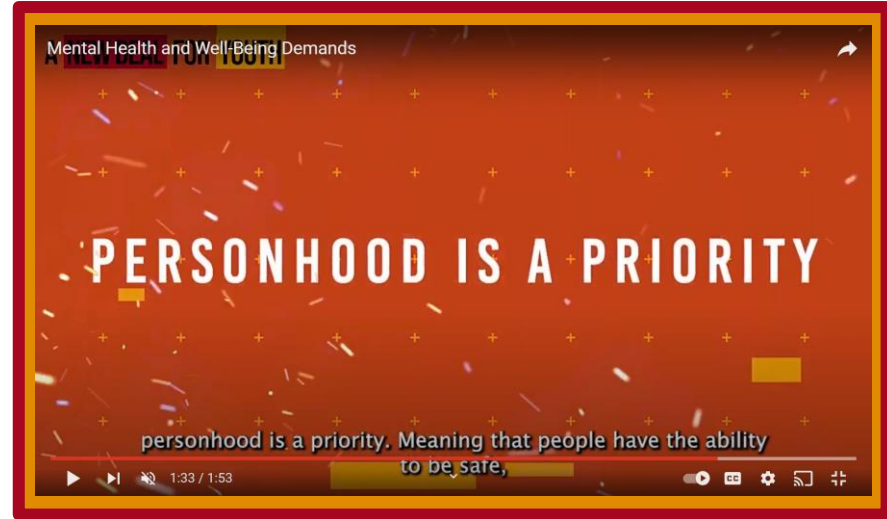
Read ALL of ND4Y demands by [clicking here](#)

Healing & Wellbeing

It is through caring for ourselves and each other that we build the strength and resilience needed to challenge oppressive systems and create a more just and compassionate world.

We demand more access to mental health resources in more spaces including school, community, virtual, and any other spaces that are meaningful to young people.

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Click [here](#) to view the video.

We envision a world where young people have opportunity to heal, develop, and are positioned to thrive. This looks like destigmatizing mental health to increase access for everyone, including practices that are outside of western medicine.

Read ALL of ND4Y demands by [clicking here](#)

Democracy & Civic Engagement

“
Democracy is not a spectator sport, but a collective responsibility because true democracy can only flourish when every individual has equal access and influence.
”



Click [here](#) to view the video.

We demand an overhaul in democratic infrastructure that is designed around the needs of each local community and prioritizes accessibility and ease in voting. For example: increase polling places proportionate to the local population, national same-day registration at voting sites, provide vote-by-mail as an option, ensure voting cards and mail-in ballots can be accessed in multiple languages, extend early voting periods, and restore voting rights for all citizens.

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Read ALL of ND4Y demands by [clicking here](#)

Environmental Justice

“

We must confront the intersections of capitalism, racism, and environmental degradation, and fight for a future where every community can breathe clean air, drink safe water, and thrive.

”

We demand A regenerative not an extractive economy.
To achieve this, we must:

- End exploitative practices that take labor, resources, wellbeing, and land from BIPOC communities
- Create new practices that allow communities to thrive in harmony with nature, focusing on climate-resilient practices, centering care and healing, and long-term sustainability.

Read ALL of ND4Y demands by [clicking here](#)



Click [here](#) to view the video.

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Immigration Justice

We demand the liberation of all immigrants and that all immigrant communities be supported and recognized without justifying their existence to their labor and their humanity to their trauma.

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Read ALL of ND4Y demands by [clicking here](#)

“

Immigration justice is a fundamental aspect of our fight for a just and inclusive society. We must dismantle oppressive systems, challenge xenophobia, and create pathways for all individuals to migrate, seek refuge, and contribute to our communities without fear, ensuring that everyone's dignity and human rights are respected.

”



Click [here](#) to view the video.

JOIN THE MOVEMENT

Changemakers and Partners developed thirty-six demands across the core issue areas: economic justice and opportunity, healing and wellbeing, justice and safe communities, democracy and civic engagement, environmental justice, and immigration justice.

Join the **139 Organizations** who have already signed on and join the ND4Y movement!



Sign on to our demands on the [website](#).

Legislative Scorecard Criteria:

ND4Y reviews policy on an ongoing basis to ensure that legislation benefits youth and their families across the country. Below are questions asked by Changemakers when scoring legislation. More information about how the Scorecard Criteria was used can be found in our [Legislative Agenda](#).

Tier 1

- Does it shift power, decision-making, and/or resources to youth and young adults?
- Is it youth-led?
- Does it dismantle institutions and systems that have become complacent?
- Is it youth-centered?
- Does it address immediate needs?
- Does it build momentum towards systems change?

Tier 2

- Does it transform the system rather than reform it?
- Does it support young people's liberation?
- Does it set youth up for success?
- Does it center healing?
- Is it community-driven?
- Does it address many different areas that impact young people's lives?

Tier 3

- Does it address long-term thriving?
- Does it ensure that none of our priority populations are left out?
- Does it shift narratives around youth and young adults?
- Does it recognize that young people hold more than one identity at the same time?
- Does it recognize that we all deserve great things for our communities?
- Does it benefit at least one priority population?

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ND4Y Partner Highlights

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New Deal for Youth Partners

The following section highlights 5 of our Partners. Meet ALL of the ND4Y Change Partners on the [website](#).



MASTER THE ART OF HEALING



Lisette Orellana Engel

Vice President, Policy and Systems

What Motivates You

I truly believe in the unapologetic and bold way changemakers approach the work - so being able to work with them is a huge motivation. I also applaud CLASP's approach to truly let them lead.

What do you enjoy most about ND4Y

I have enjoyed seeing the growth in the changemakers. Some have come back going on their 3rd year and you can see their evolution into more of a leadership/role model position and I feel so proud to see that.

Best advice I have received...

This work is fluid and the best decisions are made when relationships are built which can take some time.



**NATIONAL
CRITTENTON**

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Meet ALL of the ND4Y Partners on the [website](#)

Carlil Pittman

Program Director

What Motivates You

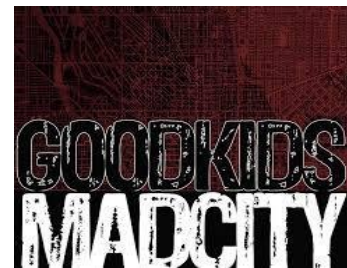
My passion for youth empowerment is fueled by the deep love and commitment I have for my family and the youth in my circle as well as witnessing the pervasive injustice aimed at the communities of color

What do you enjoy most about ND4Y

The block party we hosted in DC. It was great to see everyone in person and brought people together during a time when human connection was sorely needed.

If you could give yourself one piece of advice exactly a year ago, what would that be?

Don't be afraid to step out on what you believe in.



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Meet ALL of the ND4Y Partners on the [website](#)

Meredith Hills

Senior Policy Manager, Opportunity Youth

What Motivates

Working in federal policy advocacy, I am often operating in a DC silo. This work allows me to feel grounded and centered around the values that drive the advocacy work. Meeting the Changemakers and connecting advocacy work to their lived experiences motivates me.

What do you enjoy most about ND4Y

I've loved the fact the ND4Y is informed by and driven by Changemakers. That overall has been my favorite part of working with ND4Y. My second favorite moment was bringing a group of Changemakers to Hill meetings and supporting them in using the platform.



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Shanice Turner

Youth Leadership

What Motivates You

What keeps me motivated in this work is seeing youth and adult allies collaboratively working together in a effort to advocate for better policies, and systems that work collectively for everyone. It's the people that are behind this work that uplifts and pushes everyone with a servant leadership mindset. We represent a piece of the world that needs to be at the table in creating change.

Favorite Moments with ND4Y

One of my favorite moments was being able to have a recorded one on one with my mentee Loren. We spoke about cultivating our relationship and being advocates in this work. My other favorite moment was supporting the ND4Y Atlanta-DC event.



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Van Tran

Change Partner

What Motivates You

Giving a voice and platform for young people from marginalized communities to feel heard and empowered and providing them with the means to enact and inspire collective change.

I feel most proud of my contributions in coordinating the podcast series last year and helping to bring it to fruition.

If you could give yourself one piece of advice exactly a year ago, what would that be?

Don't be afraid to show more vulnerability. People have the capacity to care and show empathy more deeply than I could ever imagine. To trust that.



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EVERY
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Policy Influence

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Atlanta: Mobilizing Youth to Heal & Create Change

Summer 2022

Changemakers saw each other in-person for the first time since the pandemic. The ND4Y Grassroots Organizing Strategy Group and several Atlanta community based organizations hosted a festival **that brought together 98** participants from across the city. Through the mediums of music, poetry, dance, and visual arts the festival highlighted the current mental health crisis, youth unemployment rates, and the climate crisis.

Topics included:

- Strategies to mobilize young people to take action
- Creating a new vision for the nation
- Shifting the narratives through the art of storytelling
- Agitate! Providing tools to hold elected officials accountable
- Resources to heal and create change for self and community
- Creation of a community mural

Check out the event highlights [video on YouTube](#)

#ND4YATL #WhyWeCantWait #ND4Y #NewDeal4Youth #YoungLeaders #Changemakers

RAPHAEL WARNOCK
GEORGIA



UNITED STATES SENATE
WASHINGTON, D.C. 20510

OFFICE OF SENATOR REVEREND RAPHAEL WARNOCK

July 2, 2022

Center for Law and Social Policy – A New Deal for Youth

It is my distinct pleasure to welcome you to Atlanta for the New Deal for Youth Changemakers Town Hall.

I continue to be impressed by the passion and creativity that young people like yourselves bring to solving challenges that face your cities, our country, and the entire world. As you spend this week learning more about healing and accountability, I am certain that you will return home empowered to serve and succeed as leaders who uplift your local communities.

Your time here will build relationships and a commitment to civic engagement that will last a lifetime. Please accept my most sincere wishes for a fulfilling and enlightening event. Keep the faith, and keep looking up.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in blue ink that reads "R. Warnock".

Reverend Raphael Warnock
United States Senator



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Washington DC: Week of Action

Fall 2022

Changemakers hosted their inaugural Week of Action in Washington, D.C. Changemakers and partners travelled from all across the country to engage with policymakers and to push for the ND4Y initiative as well as establishment of a Youth Caucus in Congress. Each day included different ways that policymakers could take action in building A New Deal for Youth.

Over the course of 3 days, Changemakers...

- **Presented policy priorities to lawmakers with 29 legislative meetings**
- **Met with members from the Biden administration**
- **Organized a block party that brought hundreds of community members together**
- **Created a community mural and hosted an open mic to build support and bring awareness to the ND4Y demands for change.**

“
We are able to share our lived experience. We became quickly aware of how most of these issues hit close to home and because we've lived it we have a deeper understanding of the solutions that meet our needs.
”

- Rosebud (Current Partner and former Changemaker)



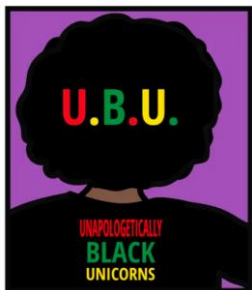
[Check out the video of ND4Y Week of Action](#)

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Changemaker Speaking Engagements and Consultations

Since 2021, Changemakers have been shared and presented their expertise and experiences at nearly **50 different venues and events across the country**. Whether speaking directly to policy makers or inspiring other youth, Changemakers are in high demand. Opportunities have included **keynote speaking, workshop facilitation, being featured on podcasts, and other mentorship opportunities**.



April 2022 –
"Unapologetically Black Unicorns" [podcast episode](#) featuring Cloud and Joseph



May 2022 –
Jazmine Wildcat attends [White House Conversation on Youth Mental Health](#) hosted by MTV, Surgeon General, Selena Gomez, and the White House



September 2022 –
Malaak Elhage and Cody Rooney speak at the Committee on the Review of Federal Policies that Contribute to racial and Ethnic Health Inequities ([Virtual Review hosted by NASEM](#))

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Social Media & Podcast

Social Media Metrics (January 2023 to-Date)



- 390+ followers
- 14,000 + Tweet Impressions



- 655 Followers
- 114 New Followers
- 8,339 Reach



- 1,205 Reach
- 200+ Followers



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