



A NEW DEAL FOR YOUTH



**2024 IMPACT
REPORT**

A Letter from a New Deal for Youth Changemaker

Mazzi Ingram | A New Deal For Youth Changemaker



The day I was officially accepted as a New Deal for Youth Changemaker, I had just begun a 30+ hour journey, anticipating a semester-long immersion in environmental justice and conservation in Cambodia. At the time, I saw these two opportunities as parallel but separate—one focused on youth policy advocacy in the U.S., the other on

grassroots climate justice abroad. However, my experiences in Cambodia quickly revealed how deeply connected they were.

Cambodia is a vibrant country with a rich history of struggle and resistance. Its environmental justice landscape is shaped by colonialism, war, and rapid economic

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development, leading to deforestation, land grabbing, and resource exploitation. Indigenous and rural communities have been displaced by large-scale land concessions and hydropower projects that disrupt ecosystems and traditional livelihoods. Despite these challenges, grassroots activists—especially Indigenous leaders and youth—are at the forefront of climate justice efforts, fighting for land rights, sustainability, and government accountability, often at great personal risk. By studying abroad there, I gained a deeper understanding of the global implications of environmental justice and explored what traditional ecological knowledge means in a place where indigeneity is much more visible than in the U.S. I also found examples of youth leading climate efforts.

During my time in Cambodia, I met young activists leading sustainability initiatives, learned from communities fighting to protect their land, and deepened my understanding of how environmental justice is inseparable from social justice. However, as I explored these global connections, I also experienced racial discrimination from the white program staff and fellow participants. Their biases shaped the way they engaged with local communities and with me, centering their perspectives while dismissing mine. At times, my insights on race and environmental justice were ignored or undermined, and I felt isolated in conversations where whiteness was the unspoken norm. This contradiction—being in a space dedicated to justice while facing exclusion—highlighted the persistent gaps in the international climate movement.

It was in these moments that my role as a New Deal for Youth Changemaker became even more meaningful. The same systemic barriers I confronted abroad were mirrored in the U.S., where Black and other marginalized voices are often sidelined in policy conversations about climate and justice.

My experiences in Cambodia reinforced my commitment to ensuring that young people—especially those from historically excluded communities—have a seat at the table in shaping the policies that impact our futures. Through my work with New Deal for Youth, I advocate for equitable climate solutions, racial justice, and youth-led policy change, striving to build movements that are truly inclusive. My time in Cambodia was a reminder that the fight for justice is both global and deeply personal, and it strengthened my resolve to continue pushing for transformative policies that center the voices of those most affected—both at home and abroad.

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A New Org is Born: TYP Collaborative Launch

National Collaborative FOR **transformative** Youth Policy

Last July saw the spin off and launch of the National Collaborative for Transformative Youth Policy (TYP Collaborative), the new home of A New Deal for Youth. This new independent organization builds upon two decades of youth policy work at CLASP, translating young people’s radical imagination and aspirations into transformative policy and systems change by building power with young people and their communities.

Dr. Nia West-Bey, former director of youth policy at CLASP, now leads TYP Collaborative as its executive director. Upon its launch, the organization also instituted two youth board positions to its Board of Directors, which were filled by Changemakers Jazmine Barksdale and Law-Rel Butler.

“We are excited to carry forward our 20-year legacy at CLASP by bringing together policy, advocacy, and activism under one roof in service of transformational change,” said West-Bey. “We look forward to conducting policy analysis and advocacy in close collaborative partnership with young people and integrating organizing principles and strategies into policy work.”

TYP Collaborative was founded with the belief that by centering the experiences of youth, we will achieve more just systems and better outcomes for all young people.

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As a Result of Being a Part of New Deal for Youth...

87%

felt challenged to step outside their comfort zone and try something new.

96%

said they connected with people they wouldn't have met otherwise.

100%

of Changemakers said they have learned something interesting or useful.

91%

agreed ND4Y provides a **safe space** to be their true self.

96%

indicated they got the opportunity to discuss real-world issues.

85%

reported gaining 21st-century skills like communication, collaboration, and problem-solving.

Year 4 Highlights

Changemakers Share Expertise at Panels & Conferences Around the Globe



ND4Y Changemakers shared their lived experiences, innovative solutions, and bold policy ideas at panels and conferences across the world. Every event, from workshops to prestigious global forums, served as an opportunity to center youth perspectives, collaborate with influential partners, and advocate for our policy platform.

We're talking to important people who change policies.

– **Marissa Howdershelt**
ND4Y CHANGEMAKER



FEATURED PANELS & CONFERENCES

Administration for Children and Families Learning Exchange:

Fabian Mondejar, Cody Rooney,
Jazmine Barksdale

Ford Foundation: Worlds Apart:

Andre Simms, Marco Lima, Cody Rooney, Jazmine Barksdale, Andrea Anaya, Rebecca Do, Elina Salikhova, Cyntia Roig

Mental Health America: Breaking the Algorithm:

Smitha Gundavajhala, Daija Rhodes

Aspen Opportunity Youth Forum Spring Convening in Boston:

Marco Lima, Elina Salikhova

Aspen Opportunity Youth Forum Policy Summit in Aspen:

Mazzi Ingram

Aspen Opportunity Youth Forum Policy Summit in Austin:

Angel Jackson, Marz Brown

Partners for Youth with Disabilities Youth Leadership Forum:

Cody Rooney

The White House Youth Summit:

Malaak Elhage, Marco Lima, Andre Simms, Jazmine Wildcat, Smitha Gundavajhala

Violence Prevention S.O.S Symposium:

Daniel Rosebud and Shanice Turner

HILTON FOUNDATION OPPORTUNITY YOUTH INITIATIVE

This year, Changemakers Alexis, Juan, and Wesley attended the first-ever Hilton Foundation Opportunity Youth Initiative in Mexico City. The event brought together over 200 attendees from Mexico, Kenya, Los Angeles, and New Orleans to share best practices and collaborate on strategies to uplift opportunity youth.

During the event, Changemaker Wesley took center stage on The Power of Creativity panel, where he highlighted his impactful work with Taller Salud in Puerto Rico. The convening also featured workshops, performances, and site visits to inspiring organizations like The Trust for the Americas, and GOYN Ciudad de México, fostering global partnerships rooted in shared purpose and innovation.



Third Annual Week of Action



We brought Changemakers and Change Partners from across the country to Washington, D.C. for a week of organizing, educating, and advocating for policies that center young people's voices. The week kicked off with a Karaoke Happy Hour honoring Rep. Jamaal Bowman for his dedication to uplifting youth voices in Congress. This joyful celebration set the stage for meaningful conversations and community-building moments that would define the week.

ADMIN STRATEGY GROUP HOSTS LEARNING EXCHANGE WITH FEDERAL POLICYMAKERS

The Admin Strategy Group held an Authentic Youth Engagement Learning Exchange to get real about what young people need from generations before us to do our part for the

generations after us. Changemakers and 20 policymakers and federal collaborators from the Departments of Health and Human Services, Education, Labor, and Housing and Urban Development gave presentations, exchanged questions, and participated in roundtable discussions led by Changemakers, in an effort to understand what authentic youth engagement looks like in federal policy.



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CHANGEMAKERS TEAM UP WITH NAACP TO GET OUT THE VOTE

In collaboration with Wisdom Cole—former Changemaker, current Change Partner, and Senior National Director of Advocacy for the NAACP—and the D.C. Dream Center, Changemakers participated in a neighborhood cleanup while passing out our D.C. voter guides. The D.C. Dream Center is a youth-focused community center that provides a spectrum of programs and services, inspires youth, dares adults to dream, and equips them to live life to the fullest.



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GRASSROOTS FESTIVAL CELEBRATES COMMUNITY CONNECTIONS

Our Grassroots group focuses on creating a broader network of youth, youth-led organizations, and influencers to uplift our collective work and strengthen the organizing power of young people.

At this year's Week of Action, our Grassroots Festival was a collaborative

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effort. Changemaker Andre Simms and his nonprofit, DayOneNotDayTwo, joined the 2024 Youth Justice Action Month (YJAM) Tour in honor of the 50th anniversary of the Juvenile Justice and Delinquency Prevention Act (JJDPA). The tour harnessed music, art, and community activations to raise awareness of youth justice issues. We also partnered with Free Minds Book Club and GoodKids MadCity Englewood.



I love Grassroots [Festival]. This is probably my favorite space to be in combining all these different aspects of what it means to be a young person, what it means to be a creative and also aligning it with our New Deal For Youth values, it really creates a fun and engaging space for us to connect on a creative level.

– **Marissa Howdershelt**
ND4Y CHANGEMAKER

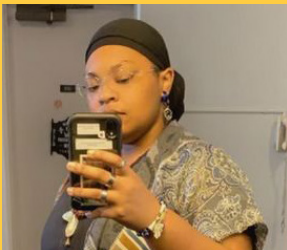
Inspiration for You[th] Podcast



Season 3 of the Inspiration for You[th] podcast, led by Changemakers, gave young people the mic to share their stories and explore topics like the Child Tax Credit, mental health equity, and youth voter engagement.

This season, each episode spotlighted ND4Y Changemakers making a real impact in their communities:

GUEST SPEAKERS



Cloud Benn



Joseph Yusuf



Marz Brown



Jasmine Rogers

Joseph Yusuf broke down the real-life impact of the Child Tax Credit on working families. As a father, he shared his raw and honest experience on the direct effects of this credit on his family's life.

Marz Brown & Fabian Mondejar got real about the barriers to mental health care in marginalized communities and dreamed big about what true mental health equity could look like.

Jazmine Rogers unpacked the power of the youth vote, why our voices matter, how to mobilize young voters, and what voter engagement looks like in her home state of Kansas.

Special thanks to host Cloud Benn and editor Joseph Yusuf for making these conversations possible!

Missed an episode? Catch up on Apple Podcasts or Spotify!

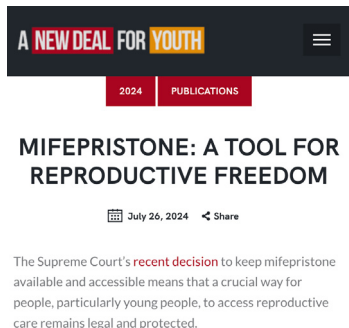
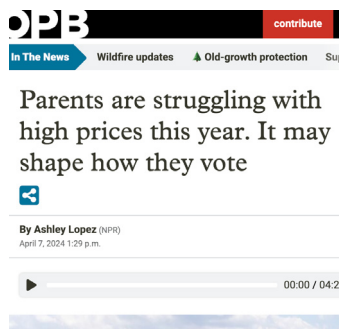
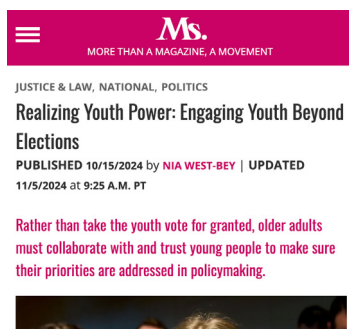
Social Media & Press Spotlights



NEWS

A New Deal for Youth endorses the Young Adult Tax Credit Act

Our Public Awareness Team worked throughout the year to uplift Changemakers' work on social media. Changemakers and their community work were also featured in the news and online publications! Check it out here:



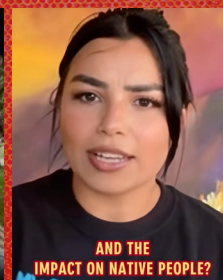
Social Media Recap

VIEWS: 116,765
INTERACTIONS: 6,176
NEW FOLLOWERS: 279

TOP-PERFORMING POSTS:



Mobilizing Youth Voters

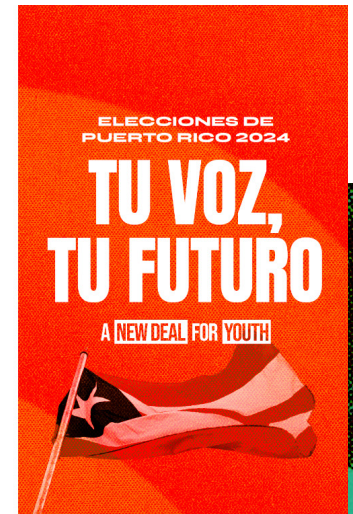
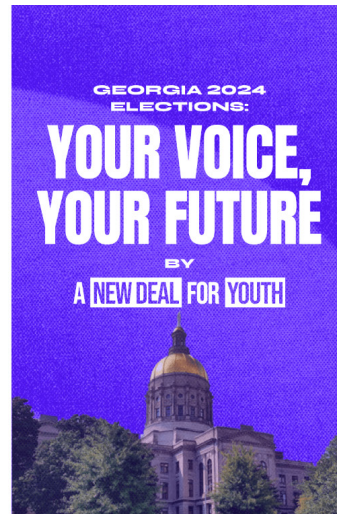
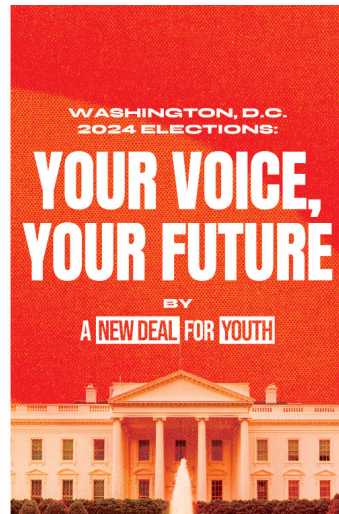


Isabel Coronado Exposing the Impact of Project 2025 on Tribal Nations



Celebrating at the Youth Justice Action Month Festival

ND4Y Launches 2024 Youth Voter Guides



In advance of the November Election Day, we launched 4 youth-created voter guides to help make the general election more accessible to young people. Creating these guides helped Changemakers develop policy analysis skills and understand how legislation impacts young people.

Our California Propositions Guide used a scorecard system, evaluating measures based on youth impact and alignment with our core values of reparations, liberation, decriminalization, and abolition. We also created localized guides for D.C., Georgia, and Puerto Rico, breaking down voter information for first-time voters.

These guides empowered youth to vote with confidence, pushing forward candidates and policies that promote:

- Economic Justice & Opportunity
- Healing & Well-Being
- Justice & Safe Communities
- Democracy & Civic Engagement
- Environmental Justice
- Immigration Justice

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Impact by the Numbers

70

Participants
at the
Grassroots
Festival

45

Attendees at the
Admin Learning
Exchange

40

Changemakers
and Partners at
Week of Action

21

Tracks
Recorded

08

Legislative
Writing Trainings

08

Youth-Led Bills
Drafted

Young people are very much left out of the picture in helping decide what laws are passed, what law should be made about them. So that's why the New Deal for Youth initiative is important, because it centers young people at the conversation and listens to them on what should be changed."

- **Kathy Tran**

PEER BUILDING STRATEGIST, TYP COLLABORATIVE

Celebrating Our Changemakers

Welcoming New Changemakers in 2024



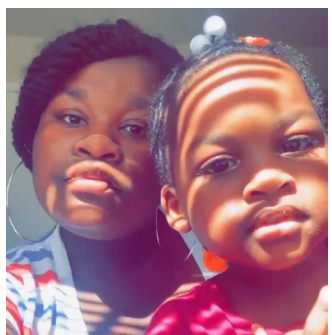
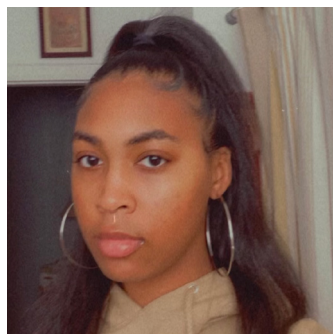
In 2024, we welcomed six new Changemakers to our cohort!

From engaging in youth-led policy to sharing our platform and building community with each other, Changemakers drive the action and advocacy at the core of A New Deal for Youth.

- (By Column):
- Cyntia Roig
- Jazmine Rogers
- Daija Rhodes
- Juan De Los Santos
- Darrion Johnson
- Mary (Mazzi) Ingram

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Celebrating Our “OG” Changemakers for Year 5!



As we look ahead to Year 5, we're incredibly grateful to the Changemakers who have been with us from the very beginning! We want to give a special shoutout to our “OG” Changemakers and uplift the incredible transformation we've seen them experience over the years.

(By Column):

Aaron Mac
 Alexis Obinna
 Catalina Baeza
 DaJanae Day
 Darlecia Dublin
 Isabel Coronado
 Jazmine Barksdale
 Joseph Yusuf
 Kayla Knight
 Law-rel Butler
 Marissa Howdershelt
 Marz Brown
 Meyiya Coleman
 Oumou Kaba
 Yusef Presley

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Looking Ahead...

After a year of growth in 2024, we solidified goals on how to increase our impact in Year 5. In the year ahead, we plan to:

- 1** Put youth in power through youth-led policy development and sharing resources
- 2** Leverage strategic local and regional work to advance our agenda
- 3** Strengthen and expand partnerships with youth- and young adult-led groups
- 4** Increase visibility for ND4Y, our issues, and platform
- 5** Continue to consult with policymakers who have already started to come to Changemakers for insight
- 6** Use our policy, advocacy, and organizing skills to defend civil rights and our communities. Consider not only what we can do, but what we should do.

“New Deal For Youth is creating continuity. They’re gathering diverse voices from across the nation. They’re helping drill down to the specific issue areas that are most important to youth across the nation.”

– **Daniel Rosebud**
ND4Y CHANGE PARTNER

Funders

Conrad N. Hilton Foundation
The Annie E. Casey Foundation
Andrus Family Fund

Partners

Alianza for Opportunity (Hernán Carvente-Martinez)
Cities United (Rachel Askew, Jerrilyn Roberson)
Community Catalyst (Dusan Stojicic)
Earthjustice (Jeremy Orr)
Futures Institute (Thea Sebastian, Raeghn Draper)
Georgia Reconnecting Youth (Daniel Rosebud)
Get Free Together (Genai Lewis, Anthony Torres)
Girls for Gender Equity (Damala Denny + Ella Grace Downs)
GoodKidsMadCity - Englewood (Carlil Pittman)
Jobs for the Future (Meredith Hills)
Justice and Joy National Collaborative (Aysha Khan)
NAACP (Wisdom Cole)
National Network for Youth (Darla Bardine, Trinady Maddock)
National Youth Employment Coalition (Dalbin Osorio)
Next100 (Stefan Lallinger)
Opportunity Youth United (Kimberly Pham)
Partners for Youth with Disabilities (Carol Murray)
Ryan Dalton
Shanice Turner
Taller Salud (Welmo Romero + Kaira Saez)
The Aspen Institute Forum for Community Solutions (Jamiel Alexander)
The Center for Law and Social Policy (Ashley Burnside, Priya Pandey)
Van Tran
We Are Revolutionary Revolutionary (Lukee Forbes)
Youth Climate Artists (Caitlin Cassidy)
Youth Power Project (Saanvi Arora, Alex Edgar)



Learning Ex
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Dev

change: Engaging
s in Federal Policy

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NEW DEAL FOR YOUTH



A NEW DEAL FOR YOUTH

609 H St NE,
Washington, DC 20002

771-212-9633

newdealforyouth@typcollaborative.org

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 NewDealForYouth.org

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