



Defund the Police for Funders

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solidaire



*#FreeThemAll undocumented activists & allies at CA Governor's mansion | Brooke Anderson Photography
Cover Image Justice for Breonna Taylor rally | Brooke Anderson Photography*

Defund the Police for Funders

a primer by Solidaire Network

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In the summer of 2020, over 20 million people took to the streets to demand accountability for the police killings of George Floyd, Breonna Taylor, and thousands of other Black people in America. What stood out about this outpouring of support was that one clear demand emerged through in-person actions and online organizing: *a call to Defund the Police*.

After decades of tirelessly organizing against police brutality and daily harassment of communities of color, movement leaders cut through with a message that resonated far and wide when they connected over-bloated police budgets as the most significant contributing factor to the daily state-sanctioned attacks on Black lives.

Immediately, right-wing groups, moderates, and some liberals, including the current President, denounced the demand and advocated for reforming the police instead. The slogan, however, went viral.

In response to the demand to defund the police, many people gained a better understanding of how public money is spent and why so many of our public services and infrastructure are underfunded, especially for Black communities. It also encouraged people to learn more about how the police have been a consistently violent institution and source of terror for communities of color. The demand received a hefty amount of misunderstanding and backlash amongst



Decarcerate Alameda County Coalition fight against Sheriff Ahern's budget | Brooke Anderson Photography

liberals who were concerned about who would protect America and prevent the country from entering into chaos.

This confusion opened up a floodgate that allowed pro-police voices and platforms to weaponize the uncertainty and mount a massive campaign to kill any efforts attempting to redirect money from policing to other public services. Even some communities of color, due to the stifling of this movement, were convinced that they needed more cops because they were unaware of other public safety options.

Now, nearly two years later, police budgets are bigger than ever, schools are closing, our roads are still covered in potholes, homeless encampments continue to grow, funding for our public parks is on the decline, and communities of color are still facing racialized state-sanctioned violence.

As part of the effort to support the movement for Black Lives, Solidaire seeks to challenge this moment and grow our support for those organizing towards a future where Black people can live in peace. We want to work towards a future for Black people and all impacted communities where they can move freely through the world without being harassed, intimidated, or harmed by police.

As a network, we have noticed considerable resistance and misunderstanding amongst funders regarding supporting the work toward defunding the police. This primer is a response to that. It's an effort to educate folks on where this demand is coming from, and help bridge the gap between the people leading struggles for justice on the ground and the funders who have a difficult time understanding their strategies.

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*Silicon Valley DeBug action against McGuire ICE transfers
Brooke Anderson Photography*

We start from the baseline understanding that a high concentration of policing in Black and brown neighborhoods does not make these communities any safer. This is both a fact and a clear determination from organizers and movement leaders across the country, who have been calling for less contact with the police.

Beyond the call to defund the police, many organizers have also been fighting for abolition. Abolition is similar to defunding the police in the sense that it advocates for the funding of public safety initiatives outside of policing, but differs in that abolition calls for the eradication of police and the prison industrial complex all together. Abolition focuses on imagining a world where police do not exist and where collective community care is emphasized.

Whether organizers believe in abolition or defunding the police, there is a central belief in both demands: We believe that if impacted communities had fewer police officers, and more trained mental health workers, more

low-income and affordable housing, good jobs, and education opportunities, etc. there would be fewer police killings, fewer homicides, and Black and Brown people would be safer overall.

This is the framework and future we are trying to both imagine and create as a lived reality.

We understand that the call to defund the police is controversial. We know that not everyone may be on board with this demand right now, but we want to prioritize those who have been impacted by policing in this discussion. Abolitionists fighting for the end of slavery and civil rights activists trying to end Jim Crow were also met with contention when they stated their demands, but time showed that they were on the right side of history. That is where we stand as well.

This primer is meant to act as a guide to help you both understand the demand, the urgent needs, and how to convince others to get on board toward reimagining public safety within our lifetime.



APTIP supporting the CRISIS Act for CA | Brooke Anderson Photography

Where did this demand come from?

Before we get into arming you with a framework to explain both the intention and the specifics for how we completely reimagine public safety in this country, it's important to briefly situate ourselves in the historical context of how policing emerged in this country and what led to us having the most police officers per capita of any country in the world.

While you might not always have an opportunity to have a long discussion with folks about this, we think it's important for you to be clear on our shared history and how that informs today's demands.

The call to defund police is not a historically unfounded phenomenon. The first instances of policing in the United States were slave patrolmen whose jobs were to recapture enslaved Black people who had tried to escape captivity as well as militias who were responsible for forcing Native Americans off their land and, in many cases, massacring whole communities. This policing allowed for economic and colonial expansion to occur throughout the country at the expense of Black and Indigenous lives.

Post slavery, the police were commissioned to continue the genocide of Native people, enforce Black codes as well as Jim Crow laws that subjected Black people to similar conditions to slavery, and protect the ruling class as they exploited and punished immigrant workers. These conditions led to many

resistance efforts from Black and Indigenous people, one of which is the Black Panther Party Ten-Point Program from 1966 which stated:

"We want an immediate end to POLICE BRUTALITY and MURDER of Black people...We want land, bread, housing, education, clothing, justice, and peace."

For the past 50 years, Black activists have led many efforts to reform the police, and these movements have won commissions, "community policing", interventions from the federal government, bias and de-escalation training, civilian review boards, body cameras, the rare imprisonment of a police officer, and more. Unfortunately, these reform efforts have not yet been enough to change the material conditions of Black people who are still continuously subjected to state violence.

The ongoing attempts in the last half-century to reform and change the police, and the inability to make a meaningful difference in stopping the violence of policing, is one of the key things that has led to the call to defund the police. After the murder of George Floyd, Breonna Taylor, Tony McDade, Sean Monterrosa, Erik Salgado, and other Black and Brown people at the hands of the police in 2020, it was clear to many that reform is not enough. The [psychological impact of policing](#) on communities of color has led affected communities to look for ways to obtain public safety away from the police.





Addie Kitchen of Justice for Steven Taylor
Brooke Anderson Photography

How do we get there?

How do we correct the misunderstandings and get to a place where we're spending less on policing and more on public services that don't require the service provider to carry a gun?

We need to convince those around us to think beyond the slogan and join us in pushing to reallocate funds from policing into services proven to actually improve community safety. We need to get folks to understand policing does not equate to safety; in fact, by correctly funding public services and resources instead of the police, we would be ensuring safer communities for all.

We want to give people the language and arguments to bring more people in the philanthropic community on board so that they understand what's behind the demand to defund, and why it is critical to find ways to support the direction of this demand, instead of critiquing from above.

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Key pointers for how to talk about investing in our communities and reimagining public safety

Let's look at the data for how the police spend their time:

A closer look at local police departments reveal that police time is grossly misused on issues that have nothing to do with addressing violent crime. In [Oakland, only 4% of police time](#) is spent on responding to violent crime. The vast majority of the work they do is for things like car accidents, traffic management, responding to people going through a mental health crisis, etc. We don't need to pay gun-carrying officers to carry out these basic public services. What we need is to correctly fund the programs that already exist to address these issues.



“ In Oakland, only 4% of police time is spent on responding to violent crime.



“ We spend \$107,575,000,000 more on police than on public housing.

Make it as concrete as possible:

Ask the person you are speaking with what they'd most like to see change in their city... is it better parks? Better roads and pavements? More low-income housing? The United States has more money than practically every other nation, yet we have the highest number of unhoused people and some of the worst public services. In the US, we spend \$107,575,000,000 more on police than on public housing. In short, money is not the problem. The problem is the decisions made about how we spend our tax dollars.

A sound bite that explains the gap:

Police are violence responders, not violence interrupters. They appear after the shot is fired. Instead of spending so much money on this approach, we should instead invest heavily in the core causes of violence. This means investing in caseworkers, mental health services, education, jobs, clean neighborhoods and parks, etc.



“ We should instead invest heavily in the core causes of violence.

Public safety, reimagined

The police have become the main responders to everything related to public safety even if other professionals are better equipped with the skills and cultural competency necessary to be effective. As we reimagine public safety, we can begin by looking at the range of services the police currently provide and consider if there are better alternatives.

Below are examples of programs that offer people alternatives to policing. Each example was precipitated by Black Lives Matter protests in 2020 but was made possible by years of grassroots organizing. Long-term investment in our movements is critical to harness the possibility of historic moments.

- » **Keeping children safe in schools:** The [Black Organizing Project](#) successfully passed the [George Floyd Resolution](#) in June of 2021, which members had been organizing for years. It removes police from Oakland Unified School District and moves that money toward student services.
- » **Removing 911 dispatch & parking enforcement from police control:** Seattle moved [911 dispatchers](#) and [parking enforcement](#) to a new department of community safety. The 2021 city budget reduced police spending by 17%. These wins are due to organizing by [Decriminalize Seattle](#), [Seattle Peoples Party](#), and a broad coalition of local organizers.

- » **Civilian response to non-violent 911 calls:** Durham, North Carolina created a [new community safety department](#) whereby citizens will begin to respond to non-violent 911 calls. The change was made possible by the work of [Durham Beyond Policing](#) and with support from [Durham for All](#).
- » **Non-police response to mental health crisis:** Sacramento and Oakland have initiated [M.H. First](#), mobile peer support for psychiatric emergencies, substance use support, and domestic violence safety planning. M.H. First is a program of [Anti Police-Terror Project](#) and stems from their work with survivors of police violence. Users call a number separate from 911, which some communities do not trust. ([see video](#))
- » **Medical Emergencies:** [Collaborative for Community Wellness](#) in Chicago launched a [Treatment Not Trauma](#) campaign that has developed a team of paramedics outside of the police that will respond to medical crises.

These programs are just a snapshot of how we're beginning to redefine public safety in the United States. Any solution will require adequate funding, buy-in from all stakeholders, and time for proper implementation and refinement.





*Black Organizing Project rally at Oakland Unified School District
Brooke Anderson Photography*

Tips & resources for creating conversations about difficult topics

This section is to help you navigate difficult conversations about policing and public safety. Policing is heavily ingrained into our society as an absolute necessity, so it is expected that people will have questions. That is why it is important to have rebuttals to these popular responses people have when the concept of defunding the police is mentioned. It is also important to listen to people's concerns, including the ones they are not saying out loud. Affirm and empathize wherever possible.

“If we remove police from the streets, there’d be anarchy.”

The demand is not to shut down all police departments tomorrow. Rather, the demand is to begin a process that strategically reallocates resources that have been allocated irresponsibly.

The fact is we ask cops to solve too many of our problems. We know that the vast majority of reasons people have police contact or are subsequently incarcerated are due to low level, non-violent issues. We have been using the police inappropriately and disproportionately for decades while across the U.S. social service agencies and organizations that could address these issues remain chronically underfunded.

As former Dallas Police Chief David Brown said, *“We’re asking cops to do too much in this country...Every societal failure, we put it off on the cops to solve. Not enough mental health funding, let the cops handle it...Here in Dallas we got a loose dog problem; let’s have the cops chase loose dogs. Schools fail, let’s give it to the cops...That’s too much to ask. Policing was never meant to solve all those problems.”*

Enter your city into the ACRE “[Cost of Police Tool](#)” to find out what percentage of your city’s overall operating budget goes to the police. No matter what city you pick, the biggest line item is policing.

And you wonder why we can’t have nice things like beautiful public parks and state-of-the-art transportation systems?

Here’s what needs to happen: we must replace the police with systems that support real wellness and safety. To do so, we must focus on reallocating resources from policing toward human needs like housing, childcare, public transport, and healthcare. These are the budget line items that are actually proven to decrease crime and improve overall safety.

“We should reduce policing, but what you are proposing is too radical, and really what we need to do is reform the police”

There have been many efforts to reform the police historically, but none of them have yielded results for Black communities or other communities of color demanding an end to the state-sanctioned violence they face from the police. Police reform measures like body cameras, more training, and longer probation have not stopped police violence or mass incarceration. Additionally, none of these reforms have been shown to significantly address crime or violence. Instead, they bring more money to police departments, further perpetuating harm. Our efforts need to go beyond reform to reimagining our public safety structure altogether.

Defunding the police and allocating that funding to various social services will truly promote public safety. Communities need an immediate stop to the constant threat of incarceration, trauma, violence, and death from the police. Communities need access to resources that meet their basic needs such as housing and food security.

It is not radical to listen to the needs of those who are most impacted by the police and understand why they want to imagine a future that moves away from policing and toward other methods of keeping their communities safe.

“Do you actually believe, in the United States, that we could have a situation where there is no police around? What would that even look like?”

The police, as an institution, has existed for less than 200 years—less time than chattel slavery existed in the Americas. The abolition of slavery, the 40-hour workweek, and voting rights were all thought of as impossible to change yet time and time again throughout history, everyday people have regularly accomplished “impossible” things. Accomplishing historic shifts in things once considered beyond approach or the status quo takes mass engagement. It is dependent on each of us doing our part to change what we currently have in place.



*#FreeThemAll rally by CURYJ in Oakland, CA
Brooke Anderson Photography*



Black Organizing Project in Oakland, CA
Brooke Anderson Photography

“Without the police, how will we be protected from hate crimes?”

It is understandable that communities of color and the LGBTQ+ community are scared of not being protected from hate crimes, but the fact of the matter is the police do not show up until after a crime has already happened. They are not equipped to offer psychological support to those impacted, nor do hate crimes get prosecuted often, even when the police are involved. By defunding the police and funding anti-racism education and mental health services, we could mitigate the number of hate crimes in the United States.

“You are talking about alternatives to policing, but these programs are not yet established and there are times when we have simply no other option but to call the cops.”

It is important to also acknowledge that the framework of defunding the police and reallocating the money to social services is still being imagined. Maybe right now you can only imagine calling the police when your car window is broken, but in the future, there will be a response that is more efficient and safer for everybody involved. New research is constantly providing novel frameworks for the public to use when reimagining communal safety.



#FreeThemAll rally by CURYJ in Oakland, CA
Brooke Anderson Photography

“What about the rapists? The murderers?”

It is a valid concern that sexual violence and murder are a continuous threat to public safety. However, a 2015 survey from the National Domestic Violence Hotline found that 80% of survivors are afraid to call the police, 30% of survivors felt less safe after calling the police, and 24% of survivors who called the police were arrested or threatened with arrest.

Currently, most people who commit sexual violence are our friends, our family, our neighbors, classmates, and co-workers—or the police themselves. For those reasons and so many others, survivors of sexual assault rarely choose to call the police.

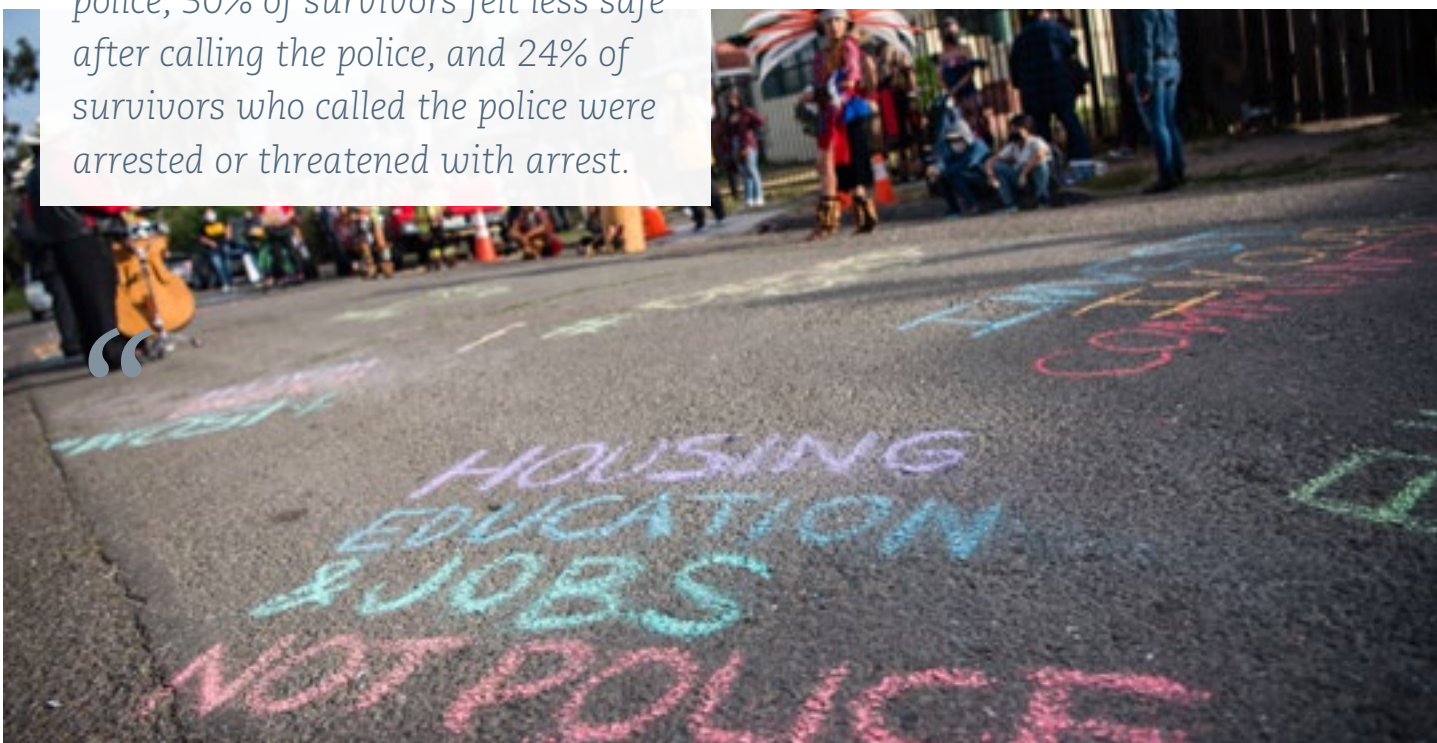
For the less than 30% of survivors who make a report to the police, only 5% of the reports lead to an arrest, only 3% lead to a conviction, and even less than that lead to incarceration. Even if someone who commits sexual violence is incarcerated, that just has the potential to move sexual violence behind prison walls which leads others to be harmed.

If the defund the police and invest in community framework were implemented, sexual assault survivors would be offered [an alternative path for justice](#) because we would be funding shelters, rape crisis centers, mental health services, and programs to prevent and combat sexual violence instead of ill-equipped police.

As for murders, less than 5% of the 10 million arrests made annually are for what are described as “violent crimes.” According to the Vera Institute. A 2019 study found that there is no relationship between arrest rates and homicide rates, meaning the police are doing nothing to deter those who commit murder.

By showing up after a crime has been committed, the police are not stopping a murder nor are they providing those impacted with the services they need for dealing with their trauma and healing. Plus, the police themselves account for over 5% of murders that happen annually by killing over 1,000 people every year. On every measurable marker, the police have proven to not only be ineffective at reducing our homicide rate but also a contributing factor.

80% of survivors are afraid to call the police, 30% of survivors felt less safe after calling the police, and 24% of survivors who called the police were arrested or threatened with arrest.



DefundOPD Coalition rally in Oakland, CA | Brooke Anderson Photography

“The left should retire the ‘defund the police’ slogan”

If we all knew the perfect slogan, Black, Native American, Latinx, low-income and immigrant communities would no longer bear the brunt of a broken system at the cost of their lives. Arguing semantics isn't going to lead to any change.

So let's for a minute look beyond the slogan and focus on what it means—which is a demand to reduce the ever-increasing size of police budgets and reallocate the funds toward social services. If more funding was allocated to social programs and the social safety net was strengthened, this would have a positive effect on public health and safety without the harmful consequences that police have in communities.

What would X city look like without policing?

Think about the safest communities. They are the wealthiest neighborhoods where there is effectively no police presence. The wealthiest neighborhoods are what whole cities could look like, where everyone has access to housing, food, clean water, and good public schools. When we respond to conflict in poor communities by increasing policing, we also increase incarceration, separate families, and subject individuals to police violence. Instead, we could be funding mental health services, public schools, gardens, parks, housing security, and so much more.

What would take the place of the police?

Police abolition is not about making police officers suddenly vanish, either. Instead, we actively shift responsibility for community safety to the people who are best equipped to deal with those crises. Mental health service providers, social workers, violence interventionists, victim/survivor advocates, religious leaders, neighbors, family members, and friends—all of the people who really make up the fabric of a community—are better equipped to respond to crises than armed strangers who are statistically unlikely to live in the neighborhoods they patrol.

I agree we devote too many resources to policing, but there's simply no other option or no one else to call. What do you suggest I do when I see a dangerous person threatening someone on the street?

We should all have someone to call on when we need to. But for too long, police have been used as a one-size-fits-all solution to every social problem, and that approach just doesn't work. A handful of cities have created non-police alternatives to call for folks experiencing a mental health crisis. Before you dial 911, just think for a second about whether an officer in a uniform carrying a badge and a gun is going to be the right person to deescalate a situation. We both know a cop will likely only exacerbate the situation.



Mural outside of San Francisco City Hall | Brooke Anderson Photography



DefundOPD Coalition rally in Oakland, CA | Brooke Anderson Photography

Do's and don'ts for donors in this space

This isn't easy to talk about but—as a network of donors committed to mobilizing resources to organizers on the frontlines of intersectional movements for racial, gender, and climate justice—we want to address a concern we've observed amongst some of our peers.

Some program officers and donors have told movement leaders and organizers that the move to defund the police didn't work and that they should adopt an alternative approach.

To put it simply, that is not a call for donors to make.

Community-based organizations and grassroots organizers are struggling with demands such as defunding the police because their lives and their communities depend on it. Just because you are dedicating money to a specific organization, doesn't give you the right as a donor to have jurisdiction over what those demands are. These struggles are not yours just because

you are supporting them monetarily.

These movements will always belong to those living under racist policing systems who are willing to die for better conditions, and it is imperative for us as donors to remember that. When people who haven't had lived experiences with the police try to make decisions regarding “reforming” the system, they often come up with ideas and responses that do not address the core concerns of the movement that people who live under police violence seek to address.

We are addressing this because there has been a major increase in false solutions that look like alternatives to public safety such as electronic monitoring, expansion of probation, probation running alternatives to detention or probation, and “boutique courts” such as youth court and drug court. All of these so-called solutions increase racial and ethnic disparities that subject Black people and other people of color to oppression and various forms of incarceration. This directly goes against efforts that community organizers are spearheading to move away from the carceral state by reimagining public safety in ways that will actually keep their communities safe.

Another way donors undermine movements led by community organizers is by not funding those doing the important grassroots work on the ground. Often, donors will invest in legacy service organizations, which is not the way to go because often that funding doesn't go directly to impacted communities and instead gets caught up in the bureaucracy of these groups. Donors also invest in organizations that have extra strict conditions for funding, which serves as a way to gate-keep money from initiatives that really need the monetary support. That is why it is important to not only listen to community organizers and their demands but also to donate to them directly.

When not funding organizers directly, it is possible that donors may invest in the criminal justice system under the guise that it will reform itself. For example, the MacArthur Safety and Justice Challenge is the largest philanthropic reform investment, operating in 52 jurisdictions across 42 states while investing \$148 million over the course of 5 years. While the foundation stated that its resourcing was in direct response to social movements, it gave 100% of its financial and

technical support to criminal justice systems themselves or intermediaries that work with criminal justice system stakeholders directly. This directly negates the efforts of the defund the police movement that seeks to take away funding from the carceral state.

Donors may be skeptical that defunding the police is an initiative that is too radical and will never be implemented, but historically, all the major social demands over the past century such as Social Security, the 8-hour workday, the abolition of slavery, the Civil Rights Movement, etc. were considered both radical and deeply unpopular. *Movements are what make the demands realistic.* Also, folks with wealth are generally unaware of what's actually popular among the working class. They are out of touch with what's potentially realistic because they are using what works for their class as a reference point instead of what would work for those directly impacted by the police state as it stands. This is why it is important to center the voices of the people who are fighting nonstop for a society that de-prioritizes policing and funds resources in their communities.



Further reading & resources

#8toAbolition

[#8toAbolition](#) offers a vision of a society without police or prisons, where communities are equipped to provide for their safety and wellbeing. Of note is their [Community Models page](#) listing different community-led models of building safety and collective care.

Bay Area Transformative Justice Collective

BATJC's [resource page](#) offers critical readings and resources about transformative justice. They have audio recordings of the materials so that they are more accessible to those who may need an audio recording. There are tools, worksheets, and case studies in transformative justice.

Close the Workhouse

[Close the Workhouse](#) is a campaign to close one of two jails in St. Louis that is infamous for its inhumane conditions. It was launched by ArchCity Defenders, Action St. Louis, The Bail Project, and Advancement Project.

Community Resource Hub

Community Resource Hub's gathering of reports, proposals and other justice resources from a variety of different organizations and projects. Of note are their [No Cop Academy's Organizing Toolkit](#) and [Interrupting Criminalization's Guide to Alternative Mental Health Responses](#).

Critical Resistance

The [Critical Resistance website](#) offers readings, videos, infographics, reports, research, and toolkits for abolition. Critical Resistance was started in 1997 by Angela Davis, Ruth Wilson Gilmore, and Rose Braz.

DefundPolice.org

[Defundpolice.org](#) is a one-stop shop for organizers and advocates to

find everything they need for their campaign to defund police: examples, resources, trainings, budget tools, and information about policies. It is staffed by the [Community Resource Hub](#) and collaboration between organizations leading this work.

Defund OPD

Defund OPD is a campaign started by [Anti Police-Terror Project](#) in 2016, after the [rape and sex trafficking within the Oakland Police Department](#). In June of 2021, the [Defund OPD Coalition](#) removed \$18 million from Oakland Police Department's budget. Of particular note is APTP's [M.H. First](#) project and the [Reimagining Public Safety Taskforce](#) report.

Defund Sheriffs

[Defund Sheriffs](#) is a [toolkit](#) designed to support organizers in launching their own campaigns to defund their local sheriff. It was created with the Cr-Immigration/ poli-migra (immigration and criminal justice) dual framework in mind.

Durham Beyond Policing

Durham Beyond Policing's [Proposal for a Community-Led Safety and Wellness Task Force](#) is a concrete proposal around funding and support to better achieve true safety in Durham. The City adopted [parts of its plan in 2021](#).

Funders for Justice

[Funders for Justice](#) is a network and organizing platform for funders working to divest in criminalization and invest in community. Of note is [their tool showing](#) how different classic funder silos interact with criminalization.

Justice for Steven Taylor

After Steven Taylor was killed by San Leandro, CA police his grandmother Addie Kitchen [began organizing](#) with

friends and community members. The [officer has been charged](#) and the City is now implementing a [non-police crisis team](#), tiny homes for the shelterless, and other [changes due to their activism](#), which serves as a model.

MPD150

MPD150 is a community initiative designed to challenge the notion that police exist to protect and serve in Minneapolis. Of note is their [Community Police and Other Fairy Tales comic book](#) and their FAQ [zine](#).

No New SF Jail Coalition

[No New SF Jail Coalition](#) stopped the building of a new jail in San Francisco and is now working to [#ShutDown850](#), an existing jail. Their website has useful [Organizing Resources](#) and [Reentry Support](#) sections.

Poder in Action

[Poder in Action](#) interviewed 10,000 local residents to document community interactions with Phoenix Police Department to create the report [Phoenix Futuro: A People's Report on Policing and Safety](#). The group looks at the injustice, immigration, and education systems.

Project NIA

[Project NIA's tools for action](#) offer research, curricula, and programming materials to help you take action in your community and start a dialogue around transformative justice. Of particular note are the [Building Accountable Communities Toolkit](#) and the [Defund the Police animated video](#).

SURJ

[Showing Up for Racial Justice](#) organizes white people for racial justice. [Their Defund the Police toolkit](#) is aimed at white communities to take action.

About Solidaire Network

[Solidaire Network](#) is a community of donor organizers mobilizing critical resources to the frontlines of intersectional movements for racial, gender, and climate justice. We believe that the current economic, political, and cultural systems that concentrate power and wealth must be fundamentally reimagined. We believe in the power of social movements, especially those led by Black and Indigenous people, to bring about this change. Below are our non-profit movement partners that are working to stop mass incarceration and police violence.

Movement

Infrastructure Fund

[Arch City Defenders](#)

[Law for Black Lives](#)

[Muslims Counterpublics Lab](#)

Black Liberation Pooled Fund

[African Bureau for Immigration and Social Affairs \(ABISA\)](#)

[Action St. Louis](#)

[African Communities Together](#)

[Alabama Justice Initiative](#)

[Anti Police-Terror Project](#)

[Black Feminist Future](#)

[Black Land Liberation Initiative](#)

[Black Organizing Project](#)

[BLM Phoenix Metro](#)

[Black LGBTQIA Migrant Project](#)

[Center for NuLeadership on Human Justice](#)

[Dignity & Power Now](#)

[Essie Justice](#)

[Families for Freedom](#)

[Free Hearts](#)

[Freedom to Thrive](#)

[HEARD](#)

[Official BLM Memphis](#)

[Project NIA](#)

[Question Culture](#)

[UnDocuBlack Network](#)

[Women on the Rise GA](#)

Our sister organization, [Solidaire Action](#), supports movement leaders who are organizing their communities to transform political power. Learn about our C4 movement partners working in the decarceration space at [SolidaireAction.org](#).



Black Organizing Project rally at Oakland Unified School District | Brooke Anderson Photography

The *Defund the Police for Funders* primer was created by the Decarceration Working Group at Solidaire. It was co-authored by Isaac Lev Szmonko and Malachi Garza. Graphic design by Claudia Lui, photography by Brooke Anderson, and edited by Deborah Goldberg and Barni Axmed Qaasim. Many thanks to William Fitzgerald and Gabrielle Sharpe of The Worker Agency for coordination and support.

TOGETHER
WE WILL
CHANGE THE
WORLD

solidaire