

COVID-19 Eviction Protections in San Francisco and Oakland: Your Rights And How To Get Help If You Get An Eviction Notice

by Lisa Schottenfeld, CJJC



At the height of the deadly COVID-19 in 2021, tenant activists with the Bay Area Regional Tenant Organizing Network blockaded the entrance to the Santa Clara County Courthouse and shut down eviction court for the day, January 27, 2021. | Photo by Brooke Anderson

As of May 2023, many renters in Oakland, and some in San Francisco, are protected from eviction under each city’s COVID-19 eviction policies. Below is information on who is protected, how long each policy is expected to last, and what to do if you receive an eviction notice.

If your landlord gives you an eviction notice, **do not move out** - you have rights and may be able to fight back! However, *there are still specific steps you need to take to stay in your home even if you are protected under these COVID-19 policies.* It is important to seek

support quickly from one of the organizations below. In both cities, even if you cannot be evicted for not paying rent during a period, you still owe that rent, and your landlord can sue you in small claims court to collect it.

San Francisco COVID-19 Eviction Protections

SAN FRANCISCO’S EVICTION PROTECTIONS: WHO IS PROTECTED, AND HOW LONG WILL THEY LAST?

The current remaining law protecting tenants from COVID-19 related evictions is not a true moratorium, meaning that landlords can still file paperwork to evict you. However, if you can prove that the reason you did not pay rent due on or after July 1, 2022 was because of COVID-19 related financial distress, you can use this to defend yourself against an eviction in court. If you can prove this, your landlord also cannot charge you late fees for that rent. This protection will last until 60 days after the COVID state of emergency ends. Mayor London Breed has announced that the COVID state of emergency will end on June 30. That means that this eviction protection will remain in effect until August 29, 2023.

WHAT TO DO IF YOU RECEIVE AN EVICTION NOTICE IN SAN FRANCISCO:

- If you receive a form with the title “Unlawful Detainer,” contact the Eviction Defense Collaborative IMMEDIATELY for free legal help. Call (415) 659-9184; email legal@evictiondefense.org; or visit in-person Monday, Wednesday and Friday, 10-11:30am and 1-2:30pm at 972 Mission St., 1st Floor, San Francisco.
- If you receive another kind of eviction notice, or have other questions related to evictions or other housing issues, contact Causa Justa::Just Cause (CJJC) at 415.487.9203.

Oakland Eviction Moratorium

After an Oakland City Council meeting that lasted late into the night on April 18, a proposal by Councilmembers Nikki Fortunato Bas and Dan Kalb to end the eviction moratorium while introducing new tenant protections was approved. The proposal was formally approved May 2. This means the Oakland eviction moratorium will be lifted July 15 of this year, with the rent increase moratorium extending to July

SEE Eviction Moratorium, PAGE 4

Everyone Deserves A Safe, Quality, And Affordable Place To Call Home

By Yaasmeen Williams, CJJC

“There is still important language in the bill that will close loopholes around ‘renovictions,’ and strengthen public and private enforcement so that landlords who violate the rent cap can finally be held accountable.”
—Shanti Singh, Tenants Together

California is facing a housing crisis and it's clear that the current system is failing to provide affordable and safe housing for all.

This is why we need to support policies to protect Californians from unfair rent hikes and evictions by corporate landlords, and promote the development of social housing, which is housing that is owned and controlled by the public or nonprofit organizations.

This spring, three bills that worked toward these goals were making their way through the legislative process: Senate Bill (SB) 567, SB 555, and SB584. These bills may continue to change as they move through the legislative process; the information below is accurate as of May 4.

Authored by Sen. Maria Elena Durazo, SB 567 builds on the existing California Tenants

Protection Act (AB 1482) that went into effect in 2020. AB1482 limits annual rent increases, among other protections. However, it is full of loopholes that make it easy for people to get evicted. Housing rights advocates hoped to close those loopholes with new legislation, SB567.

SB 567, known as the Homeless Prevention Act, made it out of the Senate Judiciary Committee in late April with provisions that provide more eviction protections. SB 567 limits the circumstances under which landlords can evict tenants for no fault of their own, such as withdrawing the property from the rental market, moving into the unit, or substantially renovating the unit in order to evict existing tenants. It also dramatically strengthens enforcement of the existing protections in AB1482. This will help ensure that tenants are not displaced from their homes without a valid reason.



Photo: Brooke Anderson

Unfortunately, legislators removed two important provisions from the original bill: one that would have lowered the allowable annual rent increase from 10% to 5%, and another that would have expanded the tenant protections in AB1482 to cover single family homes and mobile homes.

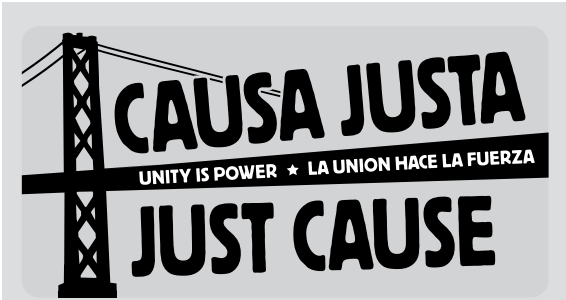
Shanti Singh of the statewide organization Tenants Together says, “While we’re disappointed that SB 567’s language to tighten the statewide rent cap and expand just-cause protections to single-family homes and mobile homes was gutted by a real-estate-backed Judiciary Committee chair, there is still important language in the bill that will close loopholes around ‘renovictions,’ and strengthen public and private enforcement so that landlords who violate the rent cap can finally be held accountable.”

Another important bill, SB 555 (authored by Senator Aisha Wahab) requires the Department of Housing and Community Development to develop a plan to create 1.2 million units of social housing in the next 10 years.

Singh comments, “We’re excited that SB 555 has passed the Housing Committee and has a good chance of getting to the floor. It supports all sorts of “social housing” models, from public housing to community land trusts, while defining social housing as permanently affordable for every Californian who can’t afford market rents. And it tasks the state of California to come up with an action plan to acquire and build the housing our communities need.”

This bill works alongside SB564, authored by Senator Monique Limón, which would

SEE SB 567 and SB 555, PAGE 5



WE ARE CAUSA JUSTA :: JUST CAUSE

Causa Justa :: Just Cause is a multi-racial, grassroots organization building community leadership to achieve justice for working class San Francisco and Oakland residents. In 2010, CJJC emerged from the strategic collaboration of two powerful organizations: St. Peter’s Housing Committee and Just Cause Oakland. In 2015 we merged with POWER. These three organizations represent more than 30 years of combined experience working toward housing and racial justice for African-Americans and Latines. With offices in San Francisco’s Excelsior neighborhood, and Oakland’s Fruitvale District, we are a force for justice and unity among Black and Latine communities.

Our work includes protecting tenant’s rights and housing security through our tenant’s rights hotline; engaging community members in voter education and mobilization to affect ballot initiatives that impact their lives; as well as supporting community members to advocate for policy changes through grassroots campaigns. CJJC strives to lift up the leadership and voices of community residents to build power and make change for our neighborhoods and cities.

TO CONTACT US

Oakland Office: 1419 34th Ave., #203, Oakland, CA 94601 (p) 510.763.5877 (f) 510.763.5824	SF Office: 4804 Mission Street, #231, San Francisco, CA 94112 (p) 415.487.9203 (f) 415.487.9022
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Check out the Causa Justa :: Just Cause website or join the email list for regular updates at www.cjjc.org
Email us at: info@cjjc.org

Follow us at:
@causa_justa @causajusta1 @causajusta

JUST CAUSES THE NEWSPAPER

“Just Causes” is the community newspaper of Causa Justa :: Just Cause. We have been printing two issues per year since 2007 covering stories and events relevant to our members and community supporters. We would like to hear your thoughts and opinions about the paper. If you are interested in seeing something covered, submitting content for the paper, purchasing an ad, giving us feedback or anything else, contact us at rose@cjjc.org, lisa@cjjc.org or info@cjjc.org

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Unlawful Detainers & Repairs

By Lau Lopez, CJJC

ESCALATION OF UNLAWFUL DETAINERS (UDS)

RESPOND TO UDS WITHIN FIVE DAYS

Causa Justa has a counseling hotline in San Francisco that assists tenants in defending their housing rights, such as seeking repairs or responding to evictions. In recent months, we have seen an increase in evictions without the tenant being able to effectively respond to them.

There has been some confusion since COVID eviction protections have been in place, where renters think they do not need to respond when they receive an unlawful detainer. This is NOT the case. As tenants, when we receive an unlawful detainer we must respond WITHIN the first 5 days, though it is best to respond as early as possible.

What is an Unlawful Detainer? An unlawful detainer means that the landlord has started a legal process in court. Through this process the landlord asks the judge to order the tenant to move out.

WHAT TO DO WHEN FACING AN EVICTION

- If your landlord tells you they are evicting you by text message, email, phone call, or verbally in person, THIS IS NOT A LEGAL EVICTION and you do NOT need to leave your home.

GET INVOLVED TODAY

Cause Justa::Just Cause invites San Francisco and Oakland residents to our Know Your Rights workshops, where we provide vital information on tenants' rights and immigration rights. We offer in-person and online sessions to help you understand your rights & take action to protect them.

IF YOU CAN GATHER 5 OR MORE PEOPLE, WE CAN COME TO YOU OR WITHIN YOUR VICINITY TO PROVIDE A FREE TRAINING SESSION FOR YOUR GROUP ON EITHER TENANTS' RIGHTS OR IMMIGRATION RIGHTS. CALL OR EMAIL US TO SCHEDULE A TRAINING SESSION.

DON'T WAIT TO LEARN ABOUT YOUR RIGHTS. EMPOWER YOURSELF AND YOUR COMMUNITY TODAY!

415.487.9203

EMAIL US: LAU@CJJC.ORG

CAUSA JUSTA JUST CAUSE

- If you receive papers that say “**3-day Notice to Pay / Cure or Quit**” or a “**30/60/90/120 Day Notice**,” you do NOT need to leave your home within 3 days. However, you DO only have 3 days to respond in writing to address the issue with your landlord.

WHAT TO DO WHEN FACING AN UNLAWFUL DETAINER

- If you receive papers that say **SUMMONS or COMPLAINT-UNLAWFUL DETAINER**, you **MUST file paperwork (an “ANSWER”) in court within 5 DAYS** (excluding Saturdays, Sundays, and holidays) to prevent your eviction.

SEE UDS and Repairs, PAGE 5

Expanding Language Justice and the Power of Effective Organizing

By Trilce Santana, Right to the City Alliance

We all use language, whether we communicate in the over 7,000 spoken languages and/or over 300 sign languages. We use it to share our dreams, experiences, and needs. Language is critical to everything we do, every way we interact with each other.

The US does not have an official language federally and over 21% of this country speaks a language other than English at home, yet many linguistic barriers still exist for people who do not speak English fluently. Even for those who do speak English other than White Mainstream English or “Standard” English, for example if they speak Black, Southern, or Cajun English, or English with pronunciation connected to their native language (an “accent”), they often experience linguistic racism and discrimination.

Federally, Title VI of the Civil Rights Act of 1964 prohibits discrimination based on national origin and Executive Order 13166 of 2000 affirms Title VI’s language access requirements. Legally, language access means providing Limited English Proficient (LEP) people with reasonable access to the same services as English-speaking individuals.

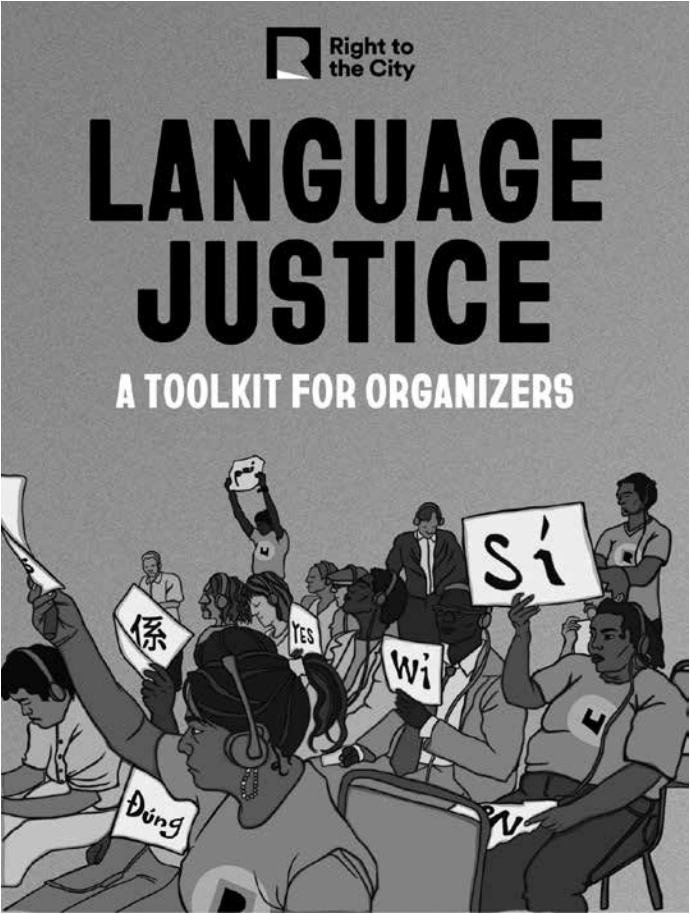
There has been a long history of organizing to gain and expand language access. In fact, one of the most important cases which expanded these rights happened in San Francisco.

Language justice is about creating equitable language spaces where people can participate fully, lead, and teach, and where values and practices are employed to end discrimination.

The Lau vs. Nichols case was a class action lawsuit brought on behalf of Chinese school children. This ruling created the foundation for bilingual education and for how U.S. public institutions provide services to people with different needs, impacting voting rights, public services and resources for people with disabilities. Although these laws exist, their implementation is uneven across cities, states and services. Organizers, service providers and educators continue to work to ensure adequate implementation and enforcement of language access rights.

“Language justice”, a phrase more commonly used after the 2007 US Social Forum, includes: “The right that we all have to communicate in the language(s) in which we feel most powerful and articulate, to understand, and to be understood”.

Language justice is about creating equitable language spaces where people can participate fully, lead, and teach, and where values and practices are



employed to end discrimination based on race, class, gender, physical/mental ability, and sexual orientation as well as language.

There is no language justice in a space of male dominance, anti-Black racism, or ableism.

Language justice means organizers or service providers working with translators to ensure that written materials are available in needed languages and with interpreters so that people can communicate across languages.

Language justice means making spaces and materials accessible to people with disabilities.

Planning, collaboration and constant learning are key to language justice.

To learn more about language justice, check out Right to the City Alliance’s www.righttothecity.org/resources.

Trilce Santana is the National Organizer for Language Justice at Right to the City Alliance. ■

Housing Inventory: SF Landlords Must Register Properties Before Rent Increase

By Lucia Leál, CJJC

Tenants in San Francisco now have another protection whenever their landlords try to raise their rent every year.

On March 1, 2023, San Francisco's new Housing Inventory went into full effect. This program prevents landlords of residential homes from imposing allowable annual rent raises until they have paid a fee to get a license. These raises are limited to the percentage allowed every year under current rent control laws. Even if these rent raises are within the legal limits, they can only be levied once a year.

HOW DOES THE HOUSING INVENTORY WORK?

Any tenant who lives in housing that isn't part of subsidized housing can benefit from this bill. If the landlord plans to raise rent, first they must fill out the housing inventory

petition required by the Rent Board of San Francisco and pay for the house or unit license, before they can raise the rent on tenants.

What's interesting about this bill is that inventory licenses are required **per unit**. That means that a landlord of a building with multiple apartments must have a license for each apartment unit every year. These housing inventory licenses required for every unit must be renewed every year. Additionally, the housing inventory licenses will serve as an informational tool for the Rent Board to know more about units in general.

If there is no housing inventory license, there can be no rent raise. It's also important to highlight that if a landlord of residential housing has the inventory license and 1) isn't respecting the allowed yearly

percentage, or 2) hasn't done repairs in the units, then the tenants can report these problems to the Rent Board of San Francisco and/or inform a housing counselor.

REMEMBER: all people who are tenants in San Francisco have the right to seek help or housing counseling if they aren't sure the rent raise they're getting is legal. Even if landlords have an inventory license, they also have the responsibility to maintain the housing, with all necessary repairs. Landlords legally cannot retaliate against tenants for demanding their rights. If you or someone you know are having your rent raised and you have any questions about this raise, you can reach CJJC's counseling line by calling 415-487-9203 or you can contact the Rent Board directly at 415-252-4600 to ensure everything is following the law. ■

Landlords who have a building in San Francisco with multiple apartments must have a license for each apartment unit in order to raise the rent. They have to apply for a license to do this every year.

WE'VE MOVED!

CJJC has moved our **San Francisco** office from the Mission to the Excelsior district. Our new office is at 4804 Mission Street, Suite 231, San Francisco, CA 94112.

While we are still working remotely, we continue to support tenants through our **San Francisco hotline: 415.487.9203**. Check our website for updates as we transition back to being in person: www.cjjc.org

Our **Oakland** office continues to be at 1419 34th Ave., #203, Oakland, CA 94601.

Oakland tenants: visit <https://oaklandtenantrights.org/> to find resources and tools if you have a housing question.

HOUSING RESOURCES

OAKLAND

HOUSING ADVOCATES

East Bay Community Law Center
(www.ebclc.org)
(510) 548-4040

Eviction Defense Center
(for help with unlawful detain- ers/summons, evictions)
(510) 452-4541

Bay Area Legal Aid
(www.baylegal.org)
(510) 663-4744
1735 Telegraph Ave. Oakland

Centro Legal de la Raza
(www.centrolegal.org)
(510) 437-1554

Department of Fair Employment and Housing
(www.dfeh.ca.gov)
(800) 884-1684

East Bay Community Law Center
(www.ebclc.org)
(510) 548-4040
2921 Adeline St, Berkeley CA

Eviction Defense Center
(for help with unlawful detainers/summons, evictions)
(510) 452-4541

Oakland Tenants Union
www.oaklandtenantsunion.org
Information and Referral line: (510) 704-5276. OTU has tenant clinics every first Sunday at the Oakland Main Library and every second and fourth Sunday on Zoom. Call (510) 704-5276 to register by phone for zoom. To schedule a consultation call or email at 510-704-5276 or help@oaklandtenantsunion.org. Please indicate one of the following times: 3:15 PM, 3:45 PM, or 4:15 PM. Please be advised this is not a private consultation.

HOUSING RIGHTS & RESOURCES

Oakland Residential Rent Arbitration Board
250 Frank Ogawa Plaza
(510) 238-3721
Rene C. Davidson Courthouse
1225 Fallon Street
Oakland, CA 94612
(510) 891-6003

Hayward Hall of Justice
24405 Amador Street
Hayward, CA 94544
(510) 690-2700

Superior Court of Alameda County Self-Help Center
(510) 891-6003

OAKLAND CODES & COMPLIANCE

Alameda County Vector Control (rodents & pests)
(510) 567-6800

City Code Enforcement Housing Inspectors
(510) 238-3381
Do not call if you live in an "unpermitted or illegal" unit

County Assessor's Office (to find out who owns a property)
(510) 272-3782

Lead Poisoning Prevention Program
(510) 567-8280

Oakland Fire Prevention Bureau
(510) 238-3851

Sheriff's Eviction Line
(510) 272-6890

RENT & DEPOSIT ASSISTANCE

For Rent Assistance Call 2-1-1
Catholic Charities Housing Clinic (510) 768-3100

Operation Dignity (for veterans/para veteranos)
(800) 686-9036 or (510) 844-0785
160 Franklin Street, Suite 103, Oakland

Season of Sharing
(510) 272-3700
SSN REQ/NOT ACCESSIBLE TO UNDOCUMENTED FOLKS
Tenant Support
Housing referrals, food, access to phones, computers
(510) 594-1951
Oakland (English only/Solo ingles)

Dolores Street Community Services
938 Valencia St
(415) 282-6209
Support for Tenants in Single Room Occupants (SRO) / Residential Hotels
Monday-Friday, 9am-noon & 1-5pm

Eviction Defense Collaborative
1338 Mission Street
(415) 947-0797
Help with unlawful detainers and other eviction lawsuits, rental assistance for families and single adults at RADco.

Housing Rights Committee Tenant Rights Clinic
1663 Mission Street, #504
(415) 703-8644

Homeless Advocacy Project
125 Hyde Street
San Francisco
(800) 405-4427
Tues.: 9am-noon; Weds.: 1-5pm
Thurs & Fri: 9am-noon & 1-5pm
Drop-in every day 1-5pm

Public Housing and Section 8 Human Rights Commission
25 Van Ness Avenue
San Francisco, CA
(415) 252-2500
Discrimination & harassment cases

Mission Neighborhood Resources
Homeless Resource Center, shelter, and housing search services.
165 Capp Street, San Francisco, CA 94110
(415) 869-7977

Open Door Legal
Available support depending on your zipcode.
Attorneys available
Support with eviction cases
Please call. 415-735-4124
To start a case go to <https://opendoorlegal.org/starting-a-case/>
Monday-Friday; 9am-5pm

San Francisco Housing Authority
1815 Egbert Avenue
(415) 715-3280

SF Rent Board
25 Van Ness Avenue Suite #320
San Francisco, CA
(415) 252-4602
www.sfrb.org
Mon-Fri, 8am-5pm

Tenants Together Tenant Hotline
(888) 495-8020

Causa Justa :: Just Cause (We are still remote)
PLEASE CALL OUR HOTLINE (p) 415.487.9203
Leave your name, number and a brief explanation of the help you need
4804 Mission Street, Suite 231, San Francisco, CA 94112
(p) 415.487.9203 (f) 415.487.9022
www.cjjc.org
Spanish-speaking counselors

Access Center (inside SF Superior Court)
400 McAllister Street, Room 509
San Francisco, CA 94102

BISHOP (Bill Sorro Housing Project)
1360 Mission St. #400
San Francisco, CA 94102
415-513-5177

Catholic Charities
1641 La Salle Avenue
(415) 972-1301
Rental assistance for single adults

Community Boards
601 Van Ness Ave, # 2040
(415) 920-3820
Issues between tenants or neighbors

Expanding TPS Toward A Reparative, Restorative and Remedial Approach

By Kitzia Esteva Martinez, Grassroots Feminisms and Gender Justice National Organizer, Grassroots Global Justice

Although TPS is a helpful program, it is far from a holistic solution to the climate refugee crisis that only promises to expand in our current times.

The Temporary Protected Status Program (TPS) was established as part of the Immigration Act of 1990 to give temporary protection from deportation to certain individuals who have had to flee their countries due to war, civil unrest or natural disasters. It is a type of refugee relief without long term commitments. Recipients of TPS have to re-register for TPS designation that lasts 6, 12 or 18 months as assigned by the Department of Homeland Security.

In 1998, Hurricane Mitch battered much of Central America, killing thousands of people. The U.S. government made the call to allow Nicaraguan and Honduran nationals without status who were present in the United States to legally reside and work in the U.S. for the next 18 months. The TPS for Nicaragua and Honduras was then extended for approximately 8 years.

As of today, Central America is the region with the vast majority of TPS designations. However, many Central American people reside in the U.S. without a long-term solution or a path to citizenship. The response by the U.S. government to Hurricane Mitch could be seen as a model for what TPS designation could look like, if it was altered to create a more holistic approach.

IMPACTS OF CLIMATE CHANGE

To qualify for TPS status, climate-displaced people have to either be on U.S. soil or arrive in the U.S. within 60 days of a country being designated. This creates special challenges for those who are unable to finance their arrival to the U.S. and it has a specific gender impact.

The United Nations Department of Economic and Social Affairs estimates that in 2019, women and girls were roughly 47.9% of all international migrants. However, women are not equally represented as TPS holders. The National Immigration Project reports that 43.71% are women and 56.23% are men.

Although TPS is a helpful program, it is far from a holistic solution to the climate refugee crisis that only promises to expand in our current times. As of now, countries designated for



Activists gathered outside the CA Air Resource Board (CARB) listening session to advocate for a climate plan that centers health and equity, not fossil fuel profits. July 28, 2022 | Photo By Brooke Anderson

TPS status are not uniform and are vulnerable to geopolitical biases.

The U.S. must transform its relationship to mass migration forced by climate change catastrophes.

To see the TPS program as a model to respond to the challenge of climate-forced migration, the program would have to take a restorative, reparative and remedial approach for climate refugees.

The TPS program could be transformed into a reparative approach to climate change if countries suffering climate devastation were automatically assigned, and if the program became permanent. The program should also create a pathway to citizenship to TPS recipients, specifically those who have been in the country for several years. Finally, in order to remediate class and gender disparities, Congress should allocate funds to this program

to provide grants for travel to migrant refugees impacted by climate catastrophe.

A report by Grassroots Global Justice Alliance, “A People’s Orientation to a Regenerative Economy”, states that transitioning from economies of war and violence is necessary to build regenerative economies of life. “A just transition means investing in alternatives to policing and military intervention that advance accountability, healing, and transformative justice, including for those in the military and police, while upholding community self-determination and sovereignty.”

It is our duty to develop a reparative approach to U.S. foreign and immigration policy. Expanding TPS to become holistic and reparative is one important step toward this transformation. ■

BIPOC Trauma: The Greater Work of Healing to Birth A New World

By Brittini “Ree Belle” Gray-Chiquillo, CJJC

We live in a trauma-inducing culture made of white imagination, and it has been Black, Brown, and Indigenous communities who have both borne the brunt of it and sought to address it and be made whole again from the damaging impact of white supremacy.

We are, through healing, not only addressing the harm endured by communities of color, but creating new pathways to exist and be in the world that stand in direct opposition to the culture of white supremacy.

White supremacy permeates all aspects of society from politics to social structures to culture and everything in between. Its tactics range from sexual assault, enslavement, genocide, land theft. It continues today, through ongoing acts of state violence, gentrification and displacement, daily microaggressions, and policies that perpetuate poverty and benefit wealthy white people at the expense of everyone else. It is violence in every form and fashion.

Violence has long been part of life in the United States, but the last few years has seen a resurgence in hatred and vitriol directed towards Black, Brown, and Indigenous communities.

You only need to look at the headlines to understand this. In response, many communities have developed creative ways to counter this and work to heal from its legacy.

From large scale demonstrations which raise awareness and drive social change, to small, grassroots groups providing emotional healing and spiritual guidance, community responses express a remarkable diversity of thought and practice. The last few years have seen an incredible outpouring of BIPOC-led initiatives that are gaining traction in the public conversation more now than in previous years.

RESPONSE AND REVITALIZATION

The Native American community has responded to the trauma of genocide and relocation to reservations by encouraging and supporting Native language revitalization. Cultural ceremonies and the use of traditional medicine have helped to stamp a contemporary Native identity and have offered a platform for spiritual healing. Moreover, the focus on landback has become a rallying call for all who see the depth of the environmental degradation.

The Latine community has used their cultural knowledge to protect their families and further an ethos of resistance. Participating in social movements, use of artistic expression, and connecting with their ancestral identity through celebration of cultural and spiritual

Eviction Moratorium, CONTINUED FROM PAGE 1

2024. Here’s what you need to know.

OAKLAND’S EVICTION MORATORIUM: WHO IS PROTECTED, AND HOW LONG WILL EACH PROTECTION LAST?

Most Oakland renters are protected from eviction until July 15, 2023 and cannot be charged late fees unless:

- You live in a unit where you share a bathroom or kitchen with your landlord
- The property was built in the last 10 years
- The landlord is removing the unit from the rental market for at least 10 years
- You have created an imminent health or safety concern

Oakland renters who live in rent-controlled properties are also covered by a rent increase moratorium until July 1, 2024. This prevents landlords from raising the rent above 3% each year, and from “banking” past rent increases, or passing through other costs to the renter. Starting **July 1, 2024**, landlords will still only be able to raise the rent up to 3% each year, but will be allowed to “bank” past increases, and can pass through other costs.

FUTURE PROTECTIONS FOR OAKLAND TENANTS

Once the Oakland City Council ends its moratorium on July 15, renters will get new protections:

- If you did not pay your rent between March 9, 2020 and July 14, 2023, your landlord can try to evict you, BUT you can stay in your home if you can show you did not pay rent due to COVID-19 related financial hardship
- You cannot be evicted for owing less than 1 month of HUD fair market rent



May Day 2022 | Photo: Causa Justa

- If your landlord tries to evict you for violating your lease, they have to prove that you violated a term you accepted in a written lease.

WHAT TO DO IF YOU RECEIVE AN EVICTION NOTICE IN OAKLAND:

- If you receive a form with the title “Unlawful Detainer,” contact:
 - Eviction Defense Center: (510) 452-4541
 - Centro Legal de la Raza: (510) 437-1554, tenantsrights@centrolegal.org
- If you receive another kind of eviction notice, or have other questions related to evictions or other housing issues, contact:
 - Oakland Tenants Union: (510) 704-5276, help@oaklandtenantsunion.org

UDS and Repairs, CONTINUED FROM PAGE 2

STEPS IN THIS PROCESS INCLUDE:

- **Filing an ANSWER with the court on time.** If you do not do this, your landlord may be able to evict you just because you did not respond.
- **Having someone deliver a copy of the ANSWER to your landlord** (“Proof of Service”)
- Filling out a Fee Waiver-001 form.
- If you can get legal help within 5 days to respond to a **SUMMONS or COMPLAINT-UNLAWFUL DETAINER**, that is best. If not, <https://tenantpowertoolkit.org/> explains how to respond (in English & Spanish).
- Other resources to help you respond to SUMMONS or COMPLAINT-UNLAWFUL DETAINER paperwork:
 - <https://www.ac-housingsecure.org/evictions>
 - <https://selfhelp.courts.ca.gov/eviction-tenant/respond>
- **REMEMBER:** You have rights as a tenant, and you are not alone! There are many resources available to help you stay in your home.

TO GET HELP IN SAN FRANCISCO:

- **Non-legal counseling:**
 - Causa Justa::Just Cause: 415-487-9203 (inglés y español)
 - San Francisco Tenants Union: <https://sfthu.org/drop-in-clinic/>, ayuda en español: 415-606-3160
 - Housing Rights Committee of San Francisco: <http://hrcsf.org/hours-locations/>, (415) 703-8634
- **Legal counseling:**
 - Eviction Defense Collaborative: (415) 659-9184, legal@evictiondefense.org

TO GET HELP IN OAKLAND:

- Non-legal counseling:
 - Oakland Tenants Union: (510) 704-5276, help@oaklandtenantsunion.org
- Legal counseling:
 - Centro Legal de La Raza: 510-437-1554, tenantsrights@centrolegal.org
 - East Bay Community Law Center: (510) 548-4040 ext. 201

REPAIRS

The landlord or master tenant is responsible for maintaining a habitable and safe unit for their tenants, including running water and heat. We recommend documenting any request for repairs in writing, as well as taking photos of needed repairs.

For San Francisco

If you are in a **legal unit**, we recommend that you call the Department of Building Inspections (DBI) (628) 652-3200

If you live in an **illegal unit**, we advise you **do not call DBI** and instead, call the Department of Public Health to report the issue (415) 554-2500

For Oakland

For repairs in **legal units**, call:

- Building Inspection Department (628) 652-3200,
- Oakland Vector/Pest Control (510) 567-6800,
- Oakland Public Health Dept (510) 267-8000 1000

For repairs in **illegal units**, file a petition with the Oakland Rent Board (510) 238-3721 ■

QUEER WOMEN OF COLOR MEDIA ARTS PROJECT

Arts, Culture And Bearing Witness To Our Varied But Interconnected Stories

By Anna Dubón, CJJC

*“Well I’m on my way to heaven
We shall not be moved
On my way to heaven
We shall not be moved
Just like a tree that’s standing by the water side
We shall not be moved”*

The voices of the Freedom Singers rang through music halls, churches, coffeehouses, and universities across the South, reaching the ears of people far and wide. For T. Keba Drew (she/her), Managing Director of Queer Women of Color Media Arts Project (QWOCMAP), the Freedom Singers show us how art can be a vehicle for bringing people into movements.

Founded in 2000 by Madeleine Lim (she/her), QWOCMAP began as a sixteen-week long film workshop for queer and trans folks of color in San Francisco. However, as gentrification in the city accelerated and the cost of living rose, QWOCMAP’s target population was displaced, making it difficult for folks to commit to meeting once a week in SF for sixteen weeks. In response to the changing landscape, QWOCMAP decided to take their workshop on the road, offering four-day intensive training to communities and organizations across the state.

In an industry dominated by cis-heterosexual white men, both behind and in front of the camera, QWOCMAP was founded to provide a space for folks whose stories were not typically told and voices not heard.

In a recent interview, Keba and Madeleine referenced the Hays Code, a set of film industry guidelines that was active between 1934 and 1968, which “dictated what images and characters were okay and which were ones unsavory,”—the unsavory characters most often being Black, indigenous, queer, disabled, or sex workers. While the Hays Code has since been abandoned, its principles endure.

QWOCMAP presents 19TH ANNUAL
**QUEER WOMEN OF COLOR
FILM FESTIVAL**
FILMS FULLY CAPTIONED & DESCRIBED



PRESIDIO THEATRE
99 MORAGA AVENUE, SAN FRANCISCO

FRI. JUNE 9, 7PM
Opening Night
MAGIC AT THE ROOT

SAT. JUNE 10, 1PM
Featured
GINGER & HONEY MILK

SAT. JUNE 10, 3PM
Featured
UNSEEN

SAT. JUNE 10, 8PM
Centerpiece
GATHERING SWEETNESS

SUN. JUNE 11, 1PM
Centerpiece
WIND SOWN MEMORY

SUN. JUNE 11, 5PM
Closing Night
MYCELIAL CARE

QWOCMAP’s existence as an organization that creates and exhibits films about queer and trans folks of color, as well as nurtures their creativity and leadership, is therefore an act of resistance. As Madeleine told me, **“If we are not the ones making films about ourselves—who will?”**

At QWOCMAP, **art is not mere entertainment, nor to be hung in the galleries for the ruling class to buy and sell, but rather it is an intimate part of who we are as a people. Art is tied to our culture and as such, art is political.** “Art is resistance, resilience, and renewal,” says Madeleine.

Art is a language we all understand and has the power to carry stories and ideas across communities. **We see both ourselves and each**

other in art, bearing witness to our varied but interconnected stories.

Perhaps most importantly, art is imaginative—artists experiment with the boundless possibilities that lay in our future. Art is the medium through which we manifest a vision of the world that we want to live in—a world that is different from our own.

In addition to providing film workshops, QWOCMAP hosts an annual film festival, holds film screenings, partners with local organizations to support movements impacting our communities, and more. This year’s QWOCMAP film festival will be held on June 9-11, 2023 in San Francisco and is free! We hope to see you there. <https://festival2023.qwocmap.org> ■

SB 567 and SB 555, CONTINUED FROM PAGE 1

introduce a tax on short-term rentals in order to fund affordable housing.

Together, these policies would be a crucial step toward addressing the affordable housing crisis in California, as they will provide housing to those who need it most.

These bills are important steps toward achieving housing justice in California. However, we can see from the ways that important parts of SB567 were removed that more must be done to ensure that all Californians have access to a safe and affordable place to call home. We need to continue to push for policies that promote the development of social housing, protect tenants from unjust evictions, and address the root causes of the housing crisis.

When people blame individuals for the housing crisis, they perpetuate the myth that housing is a personal responsibility. “Housing is a privilege,” they say, “if you want to live here, you have to pay the price,” or “they choose to live this way.” But this narrative ignores the systemic issues and the players that actively benefit from the housing crisis.

Corporate landlords and big real estate developers are driving up housing costs, making an essential need unaffordable to more and more of us.

The truth is, housing is a public good, essential for building stronger families and communities, just like our roads, schools, and water.

The overwhelming majority of Californians support rent control and protecting renters from unjust evictions. Our government can and should do better in solving the housing crisis, but only if we demand that the people we elect care for our needs, not corporations.

We can let our leaders know that we need them to take immediate action to protect our communities from unfair rent hikes and evictions and keep families housed by passing policies that make these changes. By standing together and demanding change, we can ensure that everyone has **access to housing**, and we can hold our elected officials accountable for making this a priority. ■


Oakland Tenants! KNOW YOUR RIGHTS

Saturday, June 3, 2023

11 AM–1 PM

CJJC Oakland office 1419 34th Ave., #203

Register: <https://bit.ly/KYRJune3>



We Love Our Teachers



Oakland teachers and the Oakland Unified School district reached an agreement after a 7-day strike in May. The deal includes a 15.5 percent salary increase and ensures that educators, parents, students and other stakeholders have a voice in the decision-making process. There will be improved services for students with disabilities, mental health services, school safety. The Common Good goals were reached through a Memo of Understanding. Included is support for unhoused students, shared governance and resources for Black thriving community schools. When we fight, we win!

¡Presente!

We have all lost so many people these past few years. We honor and remember these two beloveds who were deeply connected to our organization.

Alejandra Ortiz-Acho



One of our youth members, Alejandra Ortiz, was killed in a car accident March 18. She was 18. Her sister, Margarita, was with her and thankfully, she is recovering. Alejandra became a part of our organization at a very young age. Her mother, Margarita Acho, has been a long-time member, supporting our work, providing food, speaking out against Santa Rita jail, and organizing around tenant rights. Alejandra came to us when she was just 9 years old and officially joined as a youth in our youth summer program. At member meetings she was always one of the first to comment and share what she thought. A while back she told us: "I went from a relatively quiet kid, to a confident girl who enjoys public speaking."

As an engineering student at Cal State University East Bay, she was excited to be in college. Alejandra wanted to get into community work and explore how to impact gentrification from that profession. She was an inspiring organizer and a loving community leader at heart -- in all the ways she showed up.

May she soar in power.

Princess Beverly Williams



Princess Beverly Williams, community organizer, activist, mother, sister, auntie, grandma, and beloved friend to many, passed on September 15, 2022. It was a deep loss. She was a housing counselor and organizer with us for many years. She ensured that so many of our Oakland neighbors stayed housed, before she was displaced from Oakland and moved to Stockton. Princess Beverly transformed the pain she felt from losing her only child Lorenzo Ward to gun violence in 2012, into envisioning a justice that heals rather than harms. Through the North Oakland Restorative Justice Council and Self-Help Hunger Program, she co-facilitated an ongoing circle for people who had lost a loved one to gun violence or incarceration. Princess Beverly inspired people to create the world we want with restorative justice values. We honor her legacy by keeping up the fight for dignity for the people of Oakland and beyond.

May she rise in glory.

Our Houseless Neighbors Need Homes, Not Criminalization

By Jennifer Friedenbach, Coalition on Homelessness

Anti-homeless measures have skyrocketed. These measures are unsuccessful at reaching their goals—ticketing and property confiscation has not led people off the streets.

There have been two major episodes of mass homelessness in the United States. The first was after the Great Depression when households across the country lost work, and subsequently their homes. This first episode was addressed by major federal legislation and investments in job programs and housing affordable to the poorest people.

However, these gains and protections were lost over the years, with federal housing programs cut 78% by the early 1980's. These reductions intersected with an economic shift nationally towards the service sector and created the second biggest wave of homelessness in the US.

Cities and towns were suddenly faced with a homeless crisis, but lacked the funds to address it by housing people. Instead, they managed the issue by using law enforcement to push unhoused people out of centers of commerce and tourist areas.

Cities across the country started passing laws aimed at curbing the presence of unhoused people. Named "anti-homeless laws," these laws punish people by issuing tickets for doing life-sustaining acts they have no choice but to do in public. They include lodging, sitting, sleeping, sharing food, loitering and vagrancy.

CRIMINALIZATION OF OUR HOUSELESS POPULATION IS COUNTER PRODUCTIVE

Over the past 40 years, the number of anti-homeless measures passed have skyrocketed across the country. These measures are unsuccessful at reaching their goals—ticketing and property confiscation has not led people off the streets.

San Francisco has 24 of these anti-homeless laws—the highest number in the state—and California has the highest number in the country.

When unhoused folks get tickets, and can't pay them or can't keep track of court dates, these tickets turn into warrants issued for arrest. It is not uncommon for unhoused people to "pay them off" with up to 6 months of jail time.

In San Francisco, we have been able to get the courts to stop issuing warrants for these tickets, and have a system for people to get them dismissed if they receive services. However, this entire endeavor—including police time and court time—continues to be quite expensive.

About 15% of police responses in San Francisco are low level homeless responses regarding the presence of an unhoused person, and usually folks just return to within a block of where they were.

Criminalization efforts often exacerbate homelessness. Unpaid fines lead to destroyed credit, making it harder to get housing. If someone has been on a public housing waitlist for years, and housing finally becomes available, an active warrant can get them kicked off the waitlist for housing.

The confiscation of property means loss of survival gear and medications, but also paperwork and identification—things you need to get housing.

In sum, criminalization costs a lot, and makes homelessness worse.

Nationally, this practice of criminalization has been recognized as counter productive. In 2018, HUD started dinging municipalities on their applications for federal homeless dollars if they didn't change their approach.

In 2018 a landmark decision was made in federal court that giving a ticket to homeless people for lodging when there was no space in shelters amounted to cruel and unusual punishment. This ruling was supported by an amicus brief submitted by the Obama Justice Department.

Yet here in San Francisco, the practice of criminalization continues. The City issues between 10,000 and 20,000 tickets to homeless people each year. This has been coupled with mass illegal property confiscation. This has all been carefully documented in a recent lawsuit by the Coalition on Homelessness.

THESE ISSUES ARE NOT CONFINED TO SAN FRANCISCO

In Oakland, the recent closure of the Wood Street encampment demonstrates the ways in which our governments prioritize trying to clear people off the street, rather than building affordable permanent housing.

The street response to homelessness does not need to look this way. While blaming homeless people for their lack of rent money may make great political fodder for ambitious politicians looking for a convenient scapegoat, in



Photo courtesy of Coalition on Homelessness

reality there are larger reasons homelessness exists. High rents mean those facing the greatest level of oppression—racism, disablism, homophobia —simultaneously face homelessness.

An effective response by local governments is one that works closely with unhoused people, truly listening to their needs and working to meet those needs. That must be partnered by serious investments in housing by the state and federal government to address the disparities between rents and income among impoverished people.

Jennifer Friedenbach is the executive director of the Coalition on Homelessness in San Francisco. <https://www.cohsf.org/> ■



Photo courtesy of Coalition on Homelessness

Sanctuary is the Solution: Today’s Fight for Sanctuary in San Francisco

FREE SF

“¡Aquí estamos y no nos vamos! ¡El pueblo, unido, jamás será vencido!”

“We’re here, and we’re not going anywhere! The people, united, will never be defeated.”

Gloria Esteva’s voice echoed through the megaphone outside San Francisco City Hall as she energized and mobilized dozens of supporters gathered to defend the city’s historic sanctuary ordinance from attacks by some local politicians on February 28, 2023. The rain had poured all morning, and suddenly stopped in time for the rally, bringing in warmth from the sun as speaker after speaker—from labor leaders, to domestic violence advocates, social workers, and elected officials—showed up in support of sanctuary.

This wasn’t Gloria’s first time here. Gloria, a beloved elder in the immigrant justice movement in San Francisco and an organizer with CJJC, has long been a part of the FREE SF coalition. FREE SF has advocated for and defended San Francisco’s sanctuary policy for over a decade. Sanctuary, at its core, advocates for equal treatment by ensuring that no local resources are used to separate families by colluding with Immigration and Customs Enforcement (ICE). With refugees and immigrants making up one in every three San Franciscans, sanctuary policies are crucial to upholding our values of equality and inclusion, and to building strong, safe communities.

In February 2023, District Attorney Brooke Jenkins and Supervisor Matt Dorsey sought to weaken the sanctuary ordinance. With particular cruelty, Dorsey’s proposal explicitly scapegoated immigrants for the fentanyl overdose crisis. Instead of focusing on evidence-based public health solutions, Dorsey chose to single out the identity of a vulnerable group and blame them for the painful impact of fentanyl overdoses affecting cities across the country. Outrage rippled across community-based groups in San Francisco against Dorsey and Jenkins’ proposals, and people quickly



Gloria Esteva organizing at SF City Hall

mobilized alongside people like Gloria to defend sanctuary.

With intense organizing led by the FREE SF coalition, labor, and public health advocates, the message was clear: Sanctuary is part of the solution to keep all our communities safe. Our city leaders heard story after story about how sanctuary ensures that immigrants can get the support they need without fear of discrimination or deportation—whether it’s speaking up about wage theft, getting support to leave an abusive partner, going to the hospital, or getting treatment for addiction. Our elected leaders heard loud and clear that sanctuary also safeguards our city against racial profiling and inflicting double punishment on our immigrant community.

A week after the rally, Jenkins withdrew her proposal to weaken the sanctuary policy. Dorsey was alone with his scapegoating proposal. This incredible win was a direct result of the hard-fought advocacy from people who embraced values of equality and our common humanity.

The fight isn’t over though, and leaders like Gloria know this deeply. This is why she has mentored a generation of advocates to take up the torch to ensure our leaders know that the movement for immigrant justice is here to stay. Will you join us?

Follow FREE SF on twitter @FreeSFcoalition to stay updated on upcoming actions. ■



San Francisco City Hall. | Photo: Causa Justa

Immigrants: You Can Fight Against Exploitation And Win

By Natalia Patiño, CJJC

Albertina is a Causa Justa::Just Cause (CJJC) member dealing with a private immigration lawyer. He led her to believe that she was receiving support with a family immigration issue. Months went by and she received very little support or results despite having struggled to get the money together to afford the lawyer. Eventually she realized this situation was starting to seem like fraud. She told our organizers that she was very distressed about the way the lawyer took her money without being reliable.

Albertina was acutely aware folks in the immigrant community scrape money together to get legal immigration support and end up being taken advantage of by some lawyers—and that it happens often.

...her experience inspires immigrants to understand that they’re not powerless.

She asked CJJC for support and Gloria Esteva, one of our longtime organizers, helped her connect to local legal organizations who successfully fought on her behalf to get her money back from the lawyer—in full.

She told Gloria she is very grateful and that she hopes her experience inspires other immigrants to understand that they’re not powerless when folks try to take advantage of them, and that there are people and resources that can successfully support folks who are trying to find justice after dealing with unscrupulous attorneys.■

Santa Rita Jail: Care not Death

By Joy George and Zoe Parsigian,
Restore Oakland

On Saturday, April 1, 2023, over 75 people gathered with The Care First Community Coalition (CFCC) under a bright, warm sun at Santa Rita Jail. We gathered to honor the lives of those lost needlessly to incarceration, and to demand an end to the criminalization of substance use and mental illness in the stead of life-affirming community-based solutions.

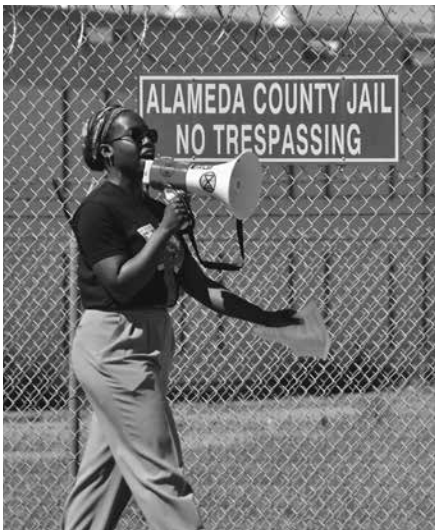
Stephen Lofton, Elizabeth Laurel, Charles Johnson, and Cody Vanburen are beloved community members who were incarcerated and lost their lives in just the first 2 months of 2023, under the watch of the newly elected Sheriff Yesenia Sanchez. Seven other people at Santa Rita Jail have also experienced fentanyl overdoses in February alone.

“... Our elected officials have poured millions of dollars into a jail that continues to kill those who are in desperate need of medical care.”
— Joy George, Restore Oakland

“We are calling on Sheriff Yesenia Sanchez and the Alameda County Board of Supervisors to take urgent action in ending the practice of detaining individuals with mental health and substance use needs,” said Joy George with Restore Oakland, Inc. “66 people have died in Santa Rita Jail since 2014 and our elected officials have poured millions of dollars into a jail that continues to kill those who are in desperate need of medical care. This ends now!”

The vigil and action centered around stories of people impacted by incarceration and their family members who shared beautiful tributes and powerful demands for decriminalization.

We heard from Amir Sundiata Rashid of Lighthouse Mosque in Oakland; Dorsey Nunn, Executive Director of Legal Services for Prisoners with Children; Kimberly Graves, Families Advocating for the Seriously Mentally



Joy George of Restore Oakland leading folks in song for care, not cages at Santa Rita Jail on April 1, 2023. Photo Credit: Micky Duxbury

Ill; and voices from those currently still inside. The mobilization was a powerful showing of community members, healers, organizers, faith leaders, currently incarcerated comrades, and system-impacted family, friends and survivors.

We are grateful to everyone who came, marched, and shared their stories, as we affirm the fight for care, not cages!

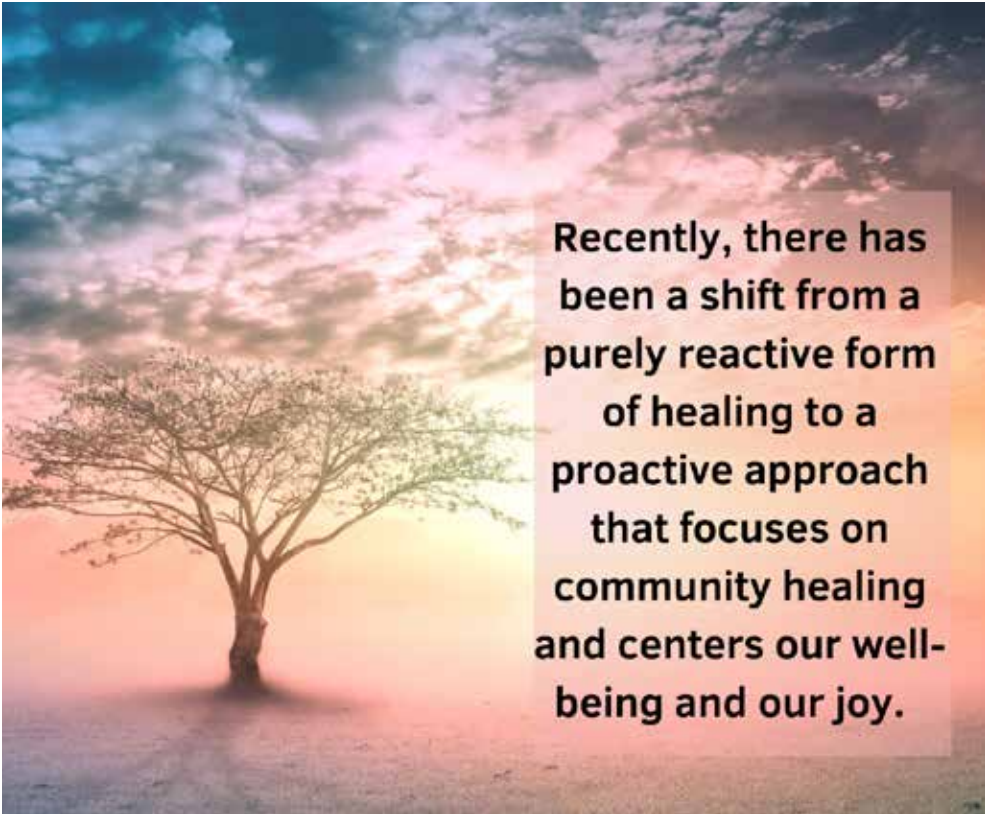
With the energy and connection created on April 1st still vibrating through our community, we must use this moment to demand accountable action from the Alameda County Board of Supervisors and County Administrator. We demand that:

1. Sheriff Yesenia Sanchez and all law enforcement agencies in Alameda County immediately end their deadly practice of arresting and incarcerating people with mental health and substance needs.
2. Alameda County Board of Supervisors order an investigation of deaths in Santa Rita Jail, including a review of the contract with the private medical provider in the jail, Wellpath, which has utterly failed to prevent these deaths of people on intake.
3. Alameda County Board of Supervisors immediately fund \$50M of life-saving community mental health services they committed to last year but have stalled to implement.

To learn more about the work of the Care First Community Coalition and join in the fight to resource and prioritize care in Alameda County, please visit us at www.carefirstcoalition.org ■



Trauma, CONTINUED FROM PAGE 4



Recently, there has been a shift from a purely reactive form of healing to a proactive approach that focuses on community healing and centers our well-being and our joy.

holidays has empowered the Latine community to resist.

In the Black community, numerous grassroots organizations continue to work towards enacting legislation, organizing protests and marches, and providing resources and healing to our communities. Black folks have also begun returning to the land to engage in sustainable, self-sufficiency efforts that engage the whole of the being and community towards living into a new way of being in harmony with the land, repairing our connections along the way.

CREATING SAFE SPACES

Recently, there has been a shift from a purely reactive form of healing to a proactive approach that focuses on community healing and centers our well-being and our joy. This includes creating safe and welcoming community spaces, facilitated dialogues, public memorials, and activist art initiatives. These initiatives seek to help individuals and communities heal through participatory art and creative expression. They also strive to empower community members to take action and create long-term meaningful change.

We are, through healing, not only addressing the harm endured by communities of color, but creating new pathways to exist and be in

the world that stand in direct opposition to the culture of white supremacy.

While many get caught in the first step of healing, which seeks to address harms and traumas, that is not the extent of community healing. In fact, it is solely the foundation to the greater work of healing, to produce environments that are centered in our well-being and wholeness as a collective, to express the fullness of our humanity through rest, creativity, and time for solitude and reflection. It is the process by which we birth new worlds. It begins when we choose to acknowledge the harms of our current way of life, and commit ourselves to healing them so we can be free.

To heal is to embrace the practices that restore balance in our existence.

It is to birth a new world.

For resources & support in the Bay Area: Circle Community Acupuncture @circleca or www.circleca.com; Temple of Earth Apothecary @templeofearth @danielleelainebenjamin; Flor y Machete @florymachete; Sacred Semillas @sacred.semillas; Roots of Labor @rootsoflaborbc; Steadfast Herbs @steadfastherbs; People's Org of Community Acu @pocacooperative; Flower Medicine @maasomedicina; Ancestral Arts Apothecary @ancestral.arts.apothecary ■

CAUSA JUSTA
JUST CAUSE

RENTERS, YOU HAVE RIGHTS!

- IS YOUR LANDLORD THREATENING TO EVICT YOU?
- ARE THEY REFUSING TO MAKE REPAIRS?

TO GET HELP:

WWW.CJJC.ORG

IN SAN FRANCISCO: 415-487-9203

IN OAKLAND:

WWW.OAKLANDTENANTRIGHTS.ORG

Fighting Veritas



Over a hundred protesters turned out for a public march on the headquarters of corporate landlord Veritas Investments on April 26th to denounce the company’s unfair rent hikes, union-busting, and aggressive eviction practices against tenants with COVID-related rent debt. This march was an escalation of the Veritas Tenants Association's campaign for a citywide contract limiting Veritas’ exploitation of rent control loopholes, such as passthroughs and “banked” increases, to inflate rents and force out long-term tenants. Thankfully, a broad coalition of SF political leaders, drag queens, labor leaders, mutual aid groups, and community organizations joined the VTA's march and rally at Veritas HQ, with powerful speeches from Juanita MORE!, SF Supervisor Dean Preston, Honey Mahogany, and labor leaders from Unite Here Local 2 and United Educators of San Francisco. To conclude the day, the SF Democratic Party passed a unanimous resolution in support, declaring that Veritas’ violence against rent control tenants “is life-threatening, exacerbates homelessness, and is harmful to the City economy.”

Veritas tenants need a fair contract to keep rents low and protect their right to organize—for the good of ALL of San Francisco. To learn more about the #VTAContractNow campaign, visit www.veritastenants.org, and follow @HousingRightsSF on Twitter, Instagram, and Facebook for social media updates! | Photo by Lenea Maibaum

Critical Resistance

CLOSE CALIFORNIA PRISONS

for Racial Justice

Critical Resistance is working in coalition to shut down 10 California prisons by 2025. Too much of our state's budget is being used to lock up working class Black and brown people—our family members—when what we need is housing, healthcare, and dignified jobs. Find out more here: <http://bit.ly/closeCPrisons>