

# BLACK LIVES MATTER



## Narrative for the Movement for Black Lives National Convening, July 2015 Black Lives Matter - Bay Area

### Completed Activities

From July 23rd to the 27th, Black Lives Matter - Bay Area sent over 60 people to the Movement for Black Lives National Convening. At this event, our members both attended and facilitated workshops on some the following topics:

- **Political Education in Black Communities**
- **Direct Action Tactics and their strategic usefulness**
- **The history of Black liberation struggles**
- **The difference in armed and unarmed resistance**
- **(Her)story of Black women's social movement work**

### Impact

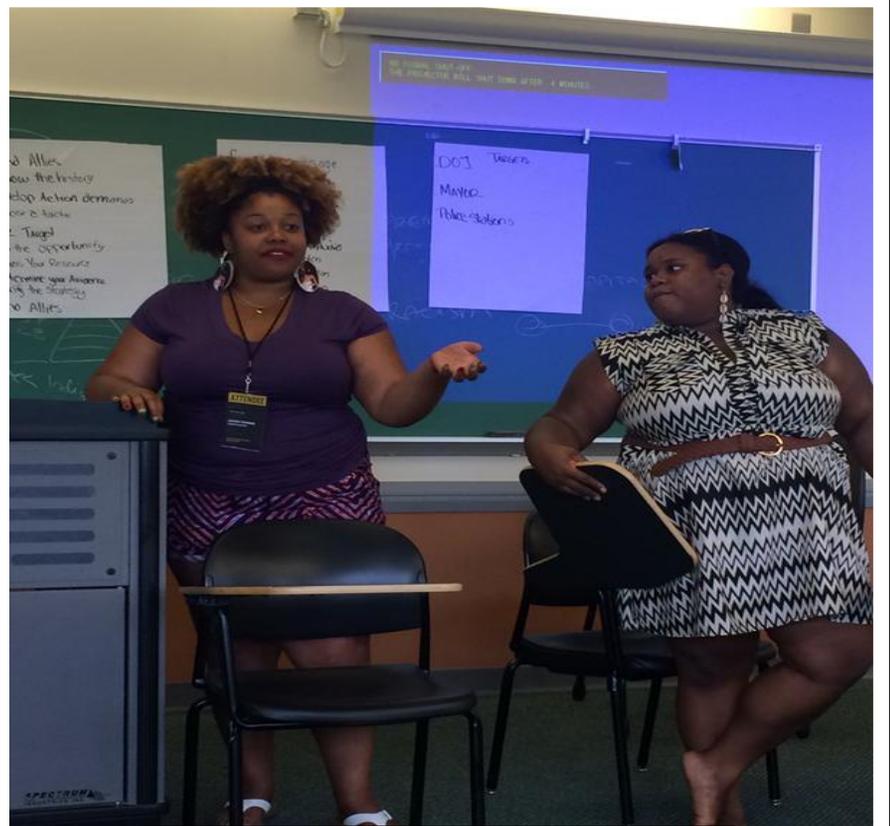
While most aspects of the event were well attended, one of the most critical factors of the event was the networking. At this event, members and affiliates of the Bay Area chapter of Black Lives Matter were able to connect with their peers internationally and brainstorm strategies for moving forward. Some of our members attended workshops dedicated to global Black struggle. Others used the opportunity to figure out how they can support other organizers across context, which has led to new organizations, to new chapters in larger organizing networks, and to a new mobilizing base for coordinated direct action

### Outcome

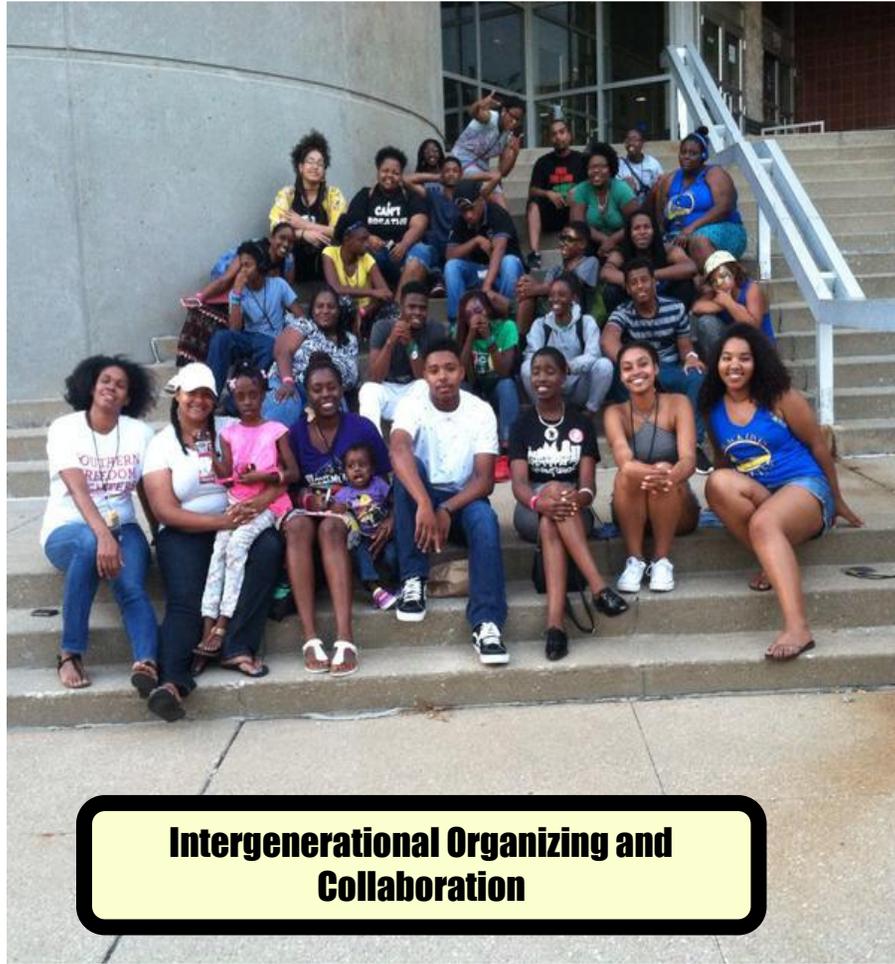
After the convening, central members led a community report-back of the convening on August 26th, 2015, with 153 people in attendance. Among attendees sharing their collective Black joy and resilience with other members of the crowd, we split up into groups to begin collectively scaffolding the knowledge we collected at the convening to build our own political campaigns.

### Direction

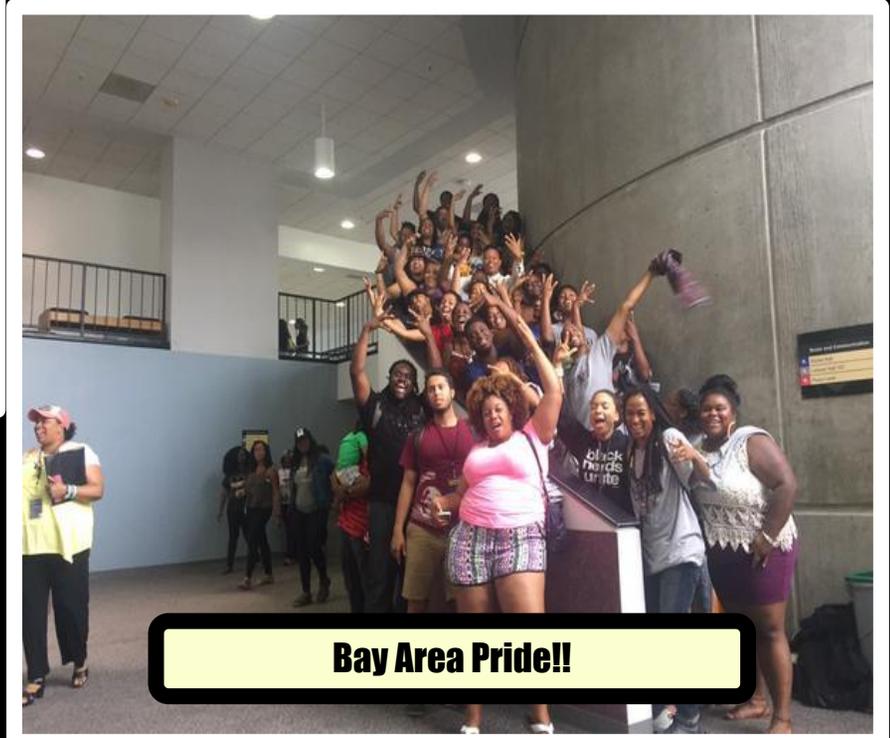
From our M4BL report back, we began to develop our organizational structure that we have today, which is split in manageable sub-committees. Without the initial funding to get our members and affiliates to the convening, and to create the conditions where we would establish a close-knit network that has built a strong local movement together, none of our most recent work would be possible.



**Training and Workshops**



**Intergenerational Organizing and Collaboration**



**Bay Area Pride!!**



**Special Thanks to the Akonadi Foundation and to Black Lives Matter: Bay Area for making this trip possible!**

