Citizens submit a process to re-envision public safety

Brattleboro Selectboard will discuss the proposal for an RFP and its implementation at a special meeting on Aug. 6

By Olga Peters

BRATTLEBORO—A proposal to review how the town funds public safety and if it can prove more comprehensive and effective was adopted by the Selectboard. The board voted 5-0 to ask the Brattleboro Town Manager to draft an RFP (request for proposals) to review how the town funds public safety and if it can prove more comprehensive and effective.

According to the proposed RFP, the assessment will begin with looking at the Police Department and municipal support for non-profit organizations and social service agencies, as well as identifying current gaps and inefficiencies.

“This open process will invite the wealth of knowledge and life experiences that our community holds, from police services, mental health, and alternatives to punishment and violence,” the proposed RFP explains. “We are seeking to create a community that is free of white supremacy and all of its manifestations.”

The RFP suggests that this happen through the creation of a “cross-section of Brattleboro residents and community members, activists, and social justice organization leaders who have been harmed and/or work families, and individuals from groups who exist and are excluded from the current systems of public safety (such as, but not only, people of color, the LGBTQ+ community, disabilities, people with substance use disorders, and emergency responders).”

“We come from a variety of historically marginalized perspectives. Black, Indigenous, people of color with medicinal health needs; sex exposed disadvantage, LGBTQI+ identifying, and more,” the proposal to the RFP states.

According to the proposed RFP, the assessment will be guided by looking at the Police Department and municipal support for non-profit organizations and social service agencies, as well as identifying current gaps and inefficiencies.

The first set of recommendations would go before the board this November in time for the board to discuss the proposal to review how the town funds public safety and if it can prove more comprehensive and effective.

The Selectboard will discuss the full proposal at a special meeting on Thursday, Aug. 6, at 7 p.m. in the Selectboard Meeting Room in the Brattleboro Town Building.
By Olga Peters

Retreat Farm receives National Endowment for the Arts grant for special projects

By Maja Smith

The Retreat Farm, a historic site and former farm blighted by years of neglect, is emerging as a living history museum where visitors can trace the history of the Retreat property. The signs were designed by Maja Smith of Maja Design in Shelburne, VT.

The project is led by Jon Alberts, award-winning author of “Food in the U.S.” and “The Meat Project.” The project will include historic signage around the farm in the summer of 2021.

According to Alberts, “We’re overlaying a history of the land and its farm, and the materials and techniques that have been used on the land over time.”

The first year has been tough, but “we’re certainly going to make up for lost time” by producing a wide range of vegetables that we want to cultivate and sell. The farm plans to establish new public features.

“While we’re certainly not going to make up for lost time, we’re certainly going to make up for lost time by producing a wide range of vegetables that we want to cultivate and sell. The farm plans to establish new public features.”

Free membership is available to everyone. Joining Retreat Farm as a member provides a reason for everyone to get involved in the community and enjoy the farm’s many activities and programs.

![Image of Retreat Farm](image-url)

One of the series of 13 in a 24-in. signs highlighting and contextualizing the history of the Retreat Farm property. The project was designed and fabricated by Adelante Design, LLC.

Switch your propane to Sandri and get your first 100 gallons free!
candidate services. Former Republican State Senator Scott has run for governor in 2014, 2018, and 2024. Scott was one of the first Republicans to openly support President Biden and to back efforts to expand the Affordable Care Act.

**Governor’s race**

Rebecca Hamill, 53, is the first Democrat to announce her candidacy for governor. Last fall, but big candidates are rare in Vermont, and in the recent round of primaries and caucuses, the name recognition of candidates like Scott, Holcombe, and Zuckerman is well established.

Hamill said she plans to challenge Democratic Party leaders to move forward with a review of public safety. She said that in the pandemic, “the public’s trust in public authorities is shaken,” and that the Vermont public needs a new leader to help rebuild trust.

Hamill is the founder and CEO of Wellness and Equity, a company that provides health care to people in prison, and is now a registered nurse and a Vermont school system. He calls the current system a “crisis that the state faces.”

Hamill’s campaign platform is abolishing private prisons, providing health care for all, and making the state with a huge — as much as $90 million — a “reform legislation.”

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**RFP**

**Arts**

Arts was the only group that proposed a plan that the Board and Review Committee’s recommendations will be acted upon rather than stuck on a shelf. The group also wants the process to be open to the public, and for the board to communicate in its decision-making and next steps.

**News**

The proposed RFP offers grants to public service in the amount of $50,000 to $90,000. The first grant proposal was made by the Vermont Arts Council, which oversees the Vermont Council on the Arts. The Vermont Arts Council's mission is to bring the arts to all Vermonters, regardless of their ability to pay.

The RFP was developed by the Vermont Arts Council and the Vermont Council on the Arts. The RFP was also developed by the Vermont Arts Council and the Vermont Council on the Arts. The Vermont Arts Council's mission is to bring the arts to all Vermonters, regardless of their ability to pay. The RFP was also developed by the Vermont Arts Council and the Vermont Council on the Arts. The Vermont Arts Council's mission is to bring the arts to all Vermonters, regardless of their ability to pay.
To advertise, call 802-246-6397 or email...

Mr. Rouleau, a lifelong resident of the area, died peacefully July 13, 2020 at Pine Heights Nursing Home. Post-deadline urgent submissions. We will always do our best to accommodate contributors in their time of grief.

Mr. Rouleau's memorial service will be held August 19, 2020 at 11 a.m. at the Catholic Church in Brattleboro. The service will be celebrated by the Rev. Msgr. Jack J. Smith. The family requests that donations be made in his memory to the Catholic Charities of Southern Vermont or Brattleboro Memorial Hospital.

Obituaries

• Robert (Bob) Norman Bohlken, 66, of Bellows Falls, died July 23, 2020 at his home in Brattleboro. The son of Bob and Louise Bohlken, Bob was born in Montpelier, Vt. on April 17, 1954. He grew up in Manchester, Vt. and served in the U.S. Army. He was a carpenter by trade and retired from the Brattleboro Landfill in 2015. He enjoyed hiking, fishing, and camping with his family. He is survived by his wife, Susan; his daughter, Sarah; his son, Brian; his stepdaughter, Jennifer; and his stepson, Michael. He is also survived by his sisters, Janice Dufour, of Vermont, and Nancy Hamm, of Wisconsin. He was predeceased by his parents. A memorial service will be held at a later date. Call 802-257-2681 for information.

• Dorothy L. Dvorak, 92, of Brattleboro, died July 27, 2020 at home. She was born on Jan. 26, 1928, in New York City, the daughter of Peter and Mary (Vele) Dvorak. Dorothy grew up in the city and later moved to New Hampshire where she attended Cheshire Academy High School. She was a graduate of the University of New Hampshire, with a degree in home economics. In 1949, she married the late Michael Dvorak of Brattleboro. Dorothy maintained her love of travel and socializing throughout her life. She enjoyed spending time at her beach house and in the Brattleboro area, attending fall foliage events. Dorothy was predeceased by her husband. Memorial contributions can be made to the Unitarian Universalist Congregation of Southern Vermont, 159 Main St., Brattleboro, Vt. 05301.

• Salvador L. “Ballo” Bittel, (Bretford) Fiskel, 85, of Brattleboro, died July 27, 2020 at home. He was born on July 27, 1935, in Bellows Falls, Vt., the son of the late Harry E. Fiskel and Margaret Bittel. He attended Brattleboro High School from 1949-1951, where he lettered in football and baseball and was class president. He had been a volunteer fireman in Bellows Falls since 1951. From there, he worked his way up to being the Fire Chief and served in the Vermont National Guard Air National Guard. Dru’s love of music led him to join the Guilford Church Choir. Road with her. Although his career called for relocation, he enjoyed their time in Vermont and always made a point to return home. Dorothy and her husband, of 50 years, Первый недельник 35-я серия, том 1-й, выпуск 1-й, раздел 1-й, раздел 2-й, раздел 3-й, раздел 4-й, раздел 5-й, раздел 6-й, раздел 7-й, раздел 8-й, раздел 9-й. His parents were Jack and Mary Shepley. A memorial service will be held at a later date. Call 802-257-2681 for information.


• Dorothy A. Beane, 93, of Rockingham, Vt., died July 20, 2020. Born on June 28, 1927, in Wilmington, Vt., she was the daughter of Eugene and Florence (H undermin Lyman) Denerley. After graduating from Dummerston High School, she attended Vermont Academy, where she was a cheerleader. Dorothy earned her bachelor’s degree from the University of Vermont in 1954. She then attended the Vermont Law School, where she took classes in business law. After graduating, Dorothy was employed by the Vermont Department of Labor and Employment Relations. She was predeceased by her husband, Larry Beane. A memorial service will be held at a later date. Call 802-257-2681 for information.

• Wayne A. White, 78, of Riverton, died July 16, 2020 at his home in Brattleboro. Born on June 14, 1942, in Seattle, Wash., he was the son of Ben and Thelma (Lehman) White. Wayne attended New York Institute of Technology in 1960-64, and served in the U.S. Army from 1963-69. In 1970, he married Nancy堆田于。A memorial service will be held at a later date. Call 802-257-2681 for information.
Brattleboro sets date for annual Representative Town Meeting

Meeting on Sept. 12 (and maybe Sept. 13) will take place over Zoom, almost half a year after the pandemic forced the town to postpone it.

By Peter Elwell

The Commons

Brattleboro—Desperate to get on with the business of governing, the Selectboard decided recently that the town’s annual Representative Town Meeting would be held using Zoom on Sept. 12, 2020, perhaps with an additional day if needed.

Six possible ways

A Selectboard meeting in Zoom will be held in place of a floor vote for select-board members. There were six possible options for the Selectboard to consider. They were: (1) a full meeting in Zoom, with the Selectboard in Vermont to approve their respective meetings in person; (2) a few days earlier, leading the Selectboard to consider a virtual meeting; (3) responding to the COVID-19 pandemic; (4) a meeting in person; (5) a meeting on remote public meetings during the pandemic; and (6) another one for Selectboard members for their online meetings.

Selectboard switches to Zoom for its online meetings

The meeting will take place on the Zoom platform or, if needed, on Sept. 12, 2020, and the videoconference continues to save money on the meeting.

The company responded with a 10-line plan to add new security features, controls for meeting organizers, and options for users in an effort to make it easier to join a virtual meeting. They also explored the idea of having an all-online meeting.

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COVID Support VT offers tips, resources, and connections to existing mental health, community services, and social supports.

Coping with mental health during COVID-19 can be challenging. Here are some tips and resources to help you:

1. **Connect with others**: Reach out to friends, family, and neighbors to stay connected. Join support groups or online communities where you can share your experiences and receive encouragement.

2. **Practicing mindfulness and relaxation techniques**: Mindfulness meditation, yoga, or deep breathing exercises can help reduce stress and promote relaxation.

3. **Sustaining a healthy lifestyle**: Regular physical activity, proper nutrition, and adequate sleep are crucial for mental well-being.

4. **Maintaining a routine**: Establishing a daily schedule can provide a sense of normalcy and help manage daily stress.

5. **Sleep hygiene**: Ensure you are getting enough sleep. Poor sleep can exacerbate mental health symptoms.

6. **Managing daily stress**: Learning coping strategies such as problem-solving, relaxation techniques, or creative expression can help manage stress.

7. **Seeking professional help**: If you are struggling to manage your mental health, consider speaking with a mental health professional.

For more information, visit COVID Support VT's website: covidsupportvt.org.

**Emergency Numbers**
- **911**: For immediate danger.
- **1-800-243-7823**: Vermont Suicide Prevention Hotline.
- **1-800-243-7823**: VT CRISIS Text Line.
- **1-800-291-4433**: National Suicide Prevention Lifeline.

**Additional Resources**
- **National Alliance on Mental Illness (NAMI)**
- **National Institute of Mental Health (NIMH)**
- **Mental Health America**

Remember, it's okay to ask for help. You do not have to face this alone.
Noah: I use the library more than in college, and I would say, to be honest, more than when I was in high school. It's really a great source of information and a fantastic way to learn about things that you're passionate about. For me, it's really important to have this kind of resource available. I think it's really beneficial to have this kind of resource available for everyone, whether they're a student or a professional. It's really important to have this kind of resource available for everyone, whether they're a student or a professional. It's really important to have this kind of resource available for everyone, whether they're a student or a professional. It's really important to have this kind of resource available for everyone, whether they're a student or a professional. It's really important to have this kind of resource available for everyone, whether they're a student or a professional. It's really important to have this kind of resource available for everyone, whether they're a student or a professional. It's really important to have this kind of resource available for everyone, whether they're a student or a professional. It's really important to have this kind of resource available for everyone, whether they're a student or a professional. It's really important to have this kind of resource available for everyone, whether they're a student or a professional.

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Zuckerman-Siegel team

GRAY: A fresh face
who understands the needs of Vermont

It is time to make Black people, our overlooked contributions, and their vulnerabilities visible for all — and to make this country stronger in the process.

Why Black Lives Matter

DISPATCH

Our life jackets saved us

‘Just like that, we were forced upon the cottonwood and into the water. Our canoe was flipped, with my end towed under the big tree.’

Vermont

IMAGENO, DRAKES has a document in public health from Walden University and has consulted in the health care field for over 4 years. A Black health activist, she is the founder of Black Love Matter Move- ment, and why would any- one think that George Floyd’s death at the hands of police to treat him like that. Does the nation currently have the care justice? “The reason I am writing this essay is that words regarding their rights are not trampled on — or, at least, that is the answer, and I allowed my ket term of “racism” as an explain my position regarding Black lives. “I felt the question ever since an racists, a criminal justice. “The reason I am writing this essay is that words matter. Black people are generally taken from society and not contributors. A non student activist label as us “Willie Horton’s or an "outliers’ question?”

Before the pandemic and our other recent troubles, the United States was seen as a desirable destination for much of the world. Per capita income is the highest in the world, and this country

NORMA MANNING, originally wrote this essay for “IIT Purple Pündeke” (international) in 2013.


Regardless of the egregious acts of criminals, our criminal society is organized to give them this privilege and ensure that their rights are not trampled on. What do you think?”

I cried out in anguish. I was never a professional activist, but I have been pondering to take differing positions, and I allowed my ket term of “racism” as an answer, and I allowed my ket term of “racism” as an issue, and I allowed my ket term of “racism” as an issue, and I allowed my ket term of “racism” as an issue, and I allowed my ket term of “racism” as an issue, and I allowed my ket term of “racism” as an issue, and I allowed my ket term of “racism” as an issue, and I allowed my ket term of “racism” as an issue, and

In June 2020, an African American man George Floyd died while in the custody of a police officer after being restrained by the police. The incident sparked widespread protests across the country and globally, calling for an end to police violence and systemic racism.

The Black Lives Matter movement has gained momentum in recent years, with activists advocating for racial justice and challenging systemic racism.

In this essay, the author explores the importance of understanding the contributions of Black people and the need for making their vulnerabilities visible. The author highlights the need for Black people to have equal voice and equal representation.

The challenges faced by Black people are complex and multifaceted. Systemic racism, economic disparities, and historical injustices continue to impact their lives. The author argues that Black people should be treated with care and justice, and that their rights are not trampled on.

The essay also touches on the importance of education and empowering Black people to take active roles in shaping their communities. The author encourages readers to listen to Black voices and to work towards creating a more equitable and just society.

In conclusion, the author reminds readers that Black lives matter and that we must continue to fight against racism and for justice.

Join the conversation: voices@commonsnews.org

COLUMNS • MEMOIRS • EDITORIALS

Wednesday, August 5, 2020 page B1

LETTERS FROM READERS

Election is Tuesday, Aug. 11

Zuckerman-Siegel team

GRAY: A fresh face
who understands the needs of Vermont

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Vermont
Liz Platttenberg's recent comments about the COVID-19 pandemic and its economic impacts are insightful. The stock market is still holding on, but the economic uncertainty is still high. Liz's discussion about supply chain management and its effects on businesses in Vermont is particularly relevant. Liz's comments on the need for coordination and collaboration are crucial in a time of crisis. The second-quarter economic report on the U.S. economy showed a drop in gross domestic product that could portend more than 30 percent over the past year—an unprecedented drop. The economic crisis in the U.S. is certainly the greatest in a generation, but we are not alone. In a sea of red, yellow, and orange. We are not an island that can isolate itself from the wildfire on the mainland.

In this economic news was bad, the news on COVID-19 was even worse. It was thought that younger children were relatively immune to the virus and didn't spread it much. That is not the case. More than 60 percent of seventh grade students tested positive for COVID-19, and studies have been in contact with those who were infected. According to reports, more than 250 children and at least 10 adult members were infected at a summer camp that had followed guidelines from the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention for masking, distancing, and contact tracing.

The question of whether to act now is alarming, but it may not be the case. A recent New York Times report said that most high school college students have already been affected by the virus, even those who are not college students. Some colleges have begun to test staff but have yet to open. The Times reports that more than 10,000 colleges have signed up for testing, but on a small fraction of the various institutions it had signed up for.

In a board meeting on Aug. 13, Dr. Mark Schuster, the assistant commissioner of health for the United States, with a national role, said that colleges and universities must be held in colored masks and that they are not immune. The number of students has increased since the previous report, and the number of students has also increased. The number of tests is not as high, but it may be the case. The recent reports have linked the virus to a nursing home in a small community. It is possible that the virus is related to the infection with the virus.

We are to deep, deep trouble, probably the worst crisis of the Civil War, and we have known from the start that any of the states that would have been severely hit by the virus would have been severely hit by the virus. The crisis has eliminated all social contact and minimized the time spent around other people to avoid possibly contacting other diseases. I have no hope that this will go away, but I hold out hope that we will be able to work through this crisis and that we will be able to work through this crisis.

There are two other factors, the economy, the virus, and the government's response. Liz Platttenberg's comments on this are very important. The virus has exploded, and the economic crisis has exploded. That concept has exploded, and the economic crisis has exploded. We will be at a very low level.

The state and the federal government have taken a number of steps to address the situation, including social distancing, increased testing, and contact tracing. In addition, the Vermont government has required businesses to follow specific protocols, including requiring employees to wear masks in public places. The Vermont government has also implemented a number of other measures to help control the spread of the virus, including closing schools and colleges, limiting gatherings, and issuing travel restrictions.

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Sielig: a voice we need in Montpelier

Gray: Preserve Vermont's culture and history for its future

Zuckerman: First D and Zeke

Welcoming offices: RVCU

Elayne Clift

OPEN LETTER

Proposed partnership

As two small Vermont credit unions, we have been strategically focused on joining forces through a merger of equals that would benefit all members.

A partnership between the two of us makes us stronger and will provide us with more resources to better serve our members.

M ost of you are likely familiar with the potential of the pending partnership between RVCU (in Brattleboro and Montpelier) and CWA (in Barre). Many Members Advantage (in Putney) and American Way (in Woodstock) will also benefit from this new structure.

Our goal is to develop a stronger credit union and financial services provider to serve all communities across Windham and southern Vermont.

We believe that this proposed partnership will enable us to:

- Offer a more comprehensive strategic approach, with our combined financial resources, to expand and improve financial and technology services.
- Create a more sustainable model for revenue growth, which will improve stability and provide more resources for the future.
- Provide a broader range of products and services to our members, including mortgages, business services, mobile banking, and more.
- Enhance our ability to offer lower cost, competitive services to our members.
- Improve our ability to offer innovative services and products, which will benefit our members.
- Strengthen our ability to attract and retain members.
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We are excited about this opportunity to create a stronger, more sustainable credit union that can better serve our members and communities. We believe that this partnership will result in a more member-focused credit union that will be better equipped to serve our members and communities in the future.

Open to your feedback

We value your feedback and encourage you to share your thoughts and ideas on this proposed partnership. Please feel free to contact us with any questions or concerns.

Thank you for your support as we work to create a more sustainable credit union for our members and communities.

RVCU

CANDIDATE STATEMENT

We are interconnected

‘Policies that promote justice and an opportunity for people to thrive, that prioritize sustainability and address climate change, are the heart of my campaign’

T his is what I believe and what I stand for.

‘People and Place’

I believe that people and place are interconnected. We cannot succeed in the world we want to create if we do not do so as one whole.

‘For People and Place’

For people and place, I believe we will be able to create a better Vermont and a better America.

Vermont’s lieutenant governor.

For those in need. Right now, she is the voice we need in the State House — a voice that is strong, passionate, and independent.

Molly Gray has been a pursuer of human rights, an attorney and adjunct professor, and has been a true champion of Vermont. She is the voice we need in the State House — a voice that is strong, passionate, and independent.

Our Revolution, Rights and American Way, among others.

She is the voice we need in the State House — a voice that is strong, passionate, and independent.

Elected positions

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We support the efforts of all of the members of our community who engage in counter-demonstrating, peaceful protest, and other efforts to ensure that our public streets remain safe and open and that voices of expression, our society would not have the ability to grow and change in a positive way.

Twisted Tongues

Donald Trump has done and criminal and immoral things across the country, in mainstream media of people they've arrested, and of these "pandemics" have one hell of a tsunami come from the heat of the inferno and we are melting together from all kinds of backgrounds, little cult. (Thank you for the banner.)

We are all kinds of people from all kinds of backgrounds, we are in every town and city, and we are working to ensure that the head of the institution of our heads and hope in our hearts have not4

They are here. There is, for the lack of the little cut. (Thank you for the banner.)

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The Commons  • Wednesday, August 5, 2020  VOICES B5

IS FOR SALE!
This cafe and artisan bakery in a prime location on Main Street. Included in sale: equipment and inventory, overlooking the Connecticut River, and outside seasonally for the meeting place” of Brattleboro for 20 years and over 15 years as a boon to the community. The building is owned by the town tax base.

You can make a difference.
And my life jacket is still wet. And He is on his way to Tractor Supply.

So here I am two hours later not knowing the reason—the reason for the injustices of their severe dependence on others and the health of their grandchildren.

The Commons  • Wednesday, August 5, 2020  VOICES B5

HELP WANTED
■ Black lives FROM SECTION FRONT TO GET OURSELVES TO SAFETY. WE AND I TOLD WAYNE TO LEAVE THE RIVER. WE PASSED A BEAUTIFUL CAYUGA, BUT WE WERE BEHIND THE POST-OFFICE BUILDING. WE WERE TAKING ONE, TWO, THREE steps forward, but we didn’t move, but we turned our sea and dried our sails, and I wondered if we were the news we needed.

“Can you go towards that middle of Walden Pond in a boat? I don’t know, unless you take a little tweaking,” I asked.

“The gifts they have brought to America in immeasurable ways and continue to make the U.S. exceptional—a feeling of being a part of a great experiment, an unending wishful thinking that they were in charge of everything from sea to shining sea. The gifts they have brought to our collective future, to our own industry to our American culture, but contributions of African Americans have at various times been valued, or taken for granted. And contributions of Black folks to social justice movements are revered and celebrated without fail each February for Black History Month.

In the words of Mahalia Jackson, “Don’t let anyone turn you back, no matter what they say. I’m going to the end. I’m going to the end. I’m going to the end.”

I looked like a drowned rat covered in a cucumber, completely repro
duced with a smile. My glasses were falling up, and the fact that I couldn’t read the end of a sentence was the reason that I had been keeping the boat afloat.

I couldn’t match a single chapter and I was behind the book. But I had the number for more grandable

One way, we were forced upon the cayuga and forced to its will. I wanted to get a point into the blossom in the swamp. I felt the pressure of the river on the leg. The log wasn’t true, and I had my hand on it, pushing it up against the tree. We were tugging away, pulling, and tugging. The log wasn’t true, and I had my hand on it, pushing it up against the tree. We were tugging away, pulling, and tugging.

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**COLUMN**

**Improving communities, reinvigorating the electorate**

The nonprofit Movement Voter Project provides financial support to grassroots organizations in underrepresented communities.

MOVIP, a nonprofit that provides financial support to grassroots organizations in underrepresented communities, is working strategically to elect candidates who understand and abides by the Constitution, not one who uses his own self-aggrandizement to procure votes. MOVIP’s results are twofold: the organization’s strategy of electoral organizing has led by people of color in the single best month in 2020.

MOVIP is working strategically this election cycle, finding success in the states that crucial in a right win. The organization continues to work with states like Wisconsin, Florida, and Arizona.

One way to try to rescue our democratic system is to help cast ballots where all eligible voters can vote. Since community organization can’t knock on doors during the pandemic, they are canvassing by mail and online to enable registered voters to cast ballots.

If those voters have previously been unregistered or underrepresented, we can right this democratic wrong and return power to the people.

I WANT A return to dignity in the presidency. I want a president for whom the office is an opportunity to understand and abides by the Constitution, not one who uses his own self-aggrandizement to procure votes. MOVIP is working strategically this election cycle, finding success in the states that crucial in a right win. The organization continues to work with states like Wisconsin, Florida, and Arizona.

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