

Annual Report 2018 - 2020

BWPAC

BLACK WOMEN'S PAC

A Political Action Committee



A Message from Our President

TRACY Y. SCOTT, FOUNDER & PRESIDENT

In the 2020 presidential election, 91% of Black women voted for Democratic presidential candidate Joe Biden and vice-presidential candidate Kamala Harris according to exit poll results. Across the U.S., Black women were also on the front lines of this year's election, working to ensure that all eligible voters had a voice at the polls.

That's no surprise considering that Black women have lent their voice to every fight critical to improving voting rights. Starting with Sojourner Truth, who delivered her memorable speech, "Ain't I A Woman?" at the very first "Women's Convention" of 1851 in Akron, Ohio.

In Texas, we also have a long and storied history of Black women using their voice in the political arena to speak up for what is right, just, and equitable.

In 1966, the eloquent and powerful Barbara Jordan was the first Black woman elected to the Texas Senate. She pushed through bills establishing the state's first minimum wage law, anti-discrimination clauses in business contracts, and the Texas Fair Employment Practices Commission. Elected president pro tempore of the Texas Senate, she was the first Black woman in America to preside over a legislative body. And in 1973, Jordan became the first African-American woman from the Deep South elected to the U.S. Congress. Through the thickest of glass ceilings, We Rise.

After serving in the Texas House and Senate, in 1993, Congresswoman Eddie Bernice Johnson was the first African-American and woman to chair the House Committee on Science, Space, and Technology and the highest-ranking Texan on the House Transportation and Infrastructure Committee and the first nurse to be elected to the U.S. Congress.

Since 1994, the resounding Congresswoman Sheila Jackson Lee has valiantly held the seat of the pioneering powerhouse, the late Barbara Jordan. Congresswoman Lee is a senior member of both the Judiciary and Homeland Security Committees and was appointed by the leadership as a member of the crucial Budget Committee.

Texas' Black women continue to be at the forefront of cultural, economic, and electoral engagement at every level, leading voter registration drives, marches, campaigns, challenging the judiciary, and creating movements like #BlackLivesMatter. The collective effort has resulted in historical voter turnout across all communities and flipped counties from red to blue.

As I reflect on 2020, a year fraught with tribulations on so many fronts, it was our resilience on Election Day, the moments of grace, persistence, and triumph that I chose to focus on.

This report for the Black Women's Political Action Committee (PAC) captures just a portion of all that has been made possible by those who believe in the value of public service. This includes partnerships with organizations to address key issues that disenfranchise the Black community in Texas and beyond.

I'm pleased to share what we have accomplished together from our founding in 2018 through 2020. In the following pages, you'll find more information on how we've supported amazing candidates and engaged voters through issues-based programming, mobilizing industry professionals, and social media engagement, thanks to the support of donors like you. I thank you and hope you take pride in continuing to count yourself among them.

Mission

WE ADVOCATE, WE VOTE, AND WE FINANCE,

The Black Women's PAC (BWPAC) is dedicated to building political infrastructure and helping to elect Black women to public office at the municipal, state, and federal levels in Texas.

Our mission is holistic, we develop, build, train, fund, and grow the political and intellectual infrastructure necessary to help Black women win elections, successfully govern once elected, and serve the communities in which we live.

To achieve these goals, we also seek to empower Black women as donors, thus building the participation and influence of Black women in all aspects of the political process.

Supporting key issues impacting Black women in social justice, human rights, and equity is our aim.

Advisory Committee Members 2018 - 2020

Mikita Robinson, Vice President

Jean Coleman

Tasha Dennis

Kelly Allen Gray

Audrey Lawton, Esq.

Gleniece Robinson

Joy Thomas

Nancy Wallace

Lorraine Birabel

Genea Brice

Brianna Golden

VaShon Huff

Jane Hamilton

Cora Robinson

Nakisha Walker

Lola Wilson



**"WHEN BLACK WOMEN STICK
TOGETHER, WE ARE THE MOST
POWERFUL FORCE IN THE
UNIVERSE." – ALFRE WOODARD**

WHY SUPPORT FOR THE BWPAC IS IMPORTANT

The candidates we empower,

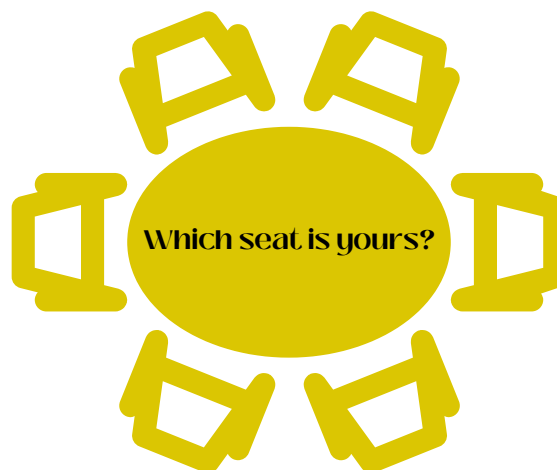
Therefore, we strive to achieve parity of access in the political process, with representation at every table and in all the rooms where policy decisions are made. Because as we have seen time and again, to achieve the fundamental shifts in policies that affect the health, education, and prosperity of our community, we must be our own champions and support legislators who truly understand us, in every stage of economic status.

To that end, we support candidates whose platforms align with the BWPAC agenda in the following areas.

In the Texas Legislature

Black Women in the Senate 0 of 10
Total members 31

Black Women in the House 10 of 38
Total members 150



Statistics

COST & DAMAGE

Texas Ranks 1st in Prison Population

In Texas, Black people constituted 13% of state residents, but 27% of people in jail and 33% of people in prison.

Texas Ranks 43rd in Education

Over 690K students, 12.6%, in Texas are Black. Hispanic students account for the largest percentage of total enrollment (52.8%).

Texas Ranks 34th in Healthcare

Black Texans constitute 10% of the uninsured population, Hispanic Texans represent 61%. Healthcare costs without insurance devastate a monthly budget.

Texas' Student Loan Debt is more than the state's budget

Due to systemic inequities, Black women have acquired more student loan debt than any other group. The racial and gender wealth gap. Black women are the most educated demographic group in the United States with the economic challenges that affect our community for life.

2018 ANNUAL REPORT

The 2018 midterm elections were impressive with over 200 Black women running for office and 113 in the General Election. It was a bellwether year that saw many incumbents unseated in the Texas State legislature. BWPAC supported 83 candidates in a year that also saw the highest ever voter turn-out for a midterm election in Texas, with 8.2 million votes cast. A 16% increase from previous years and one of the highest in the nation.



Total raised: \$ 47,000
94 Candidates

PROGRAMS & EVENTS

Black Women Lead Candidate Fundraiser - Houston

Supporting Houston area run-off candidates Tawana Cadien and Leticia Plummer for Congress, Gayle Young Mitchell for Harris County Clerk, and Rozzy Shorter for Harris County District Clerk.

Congresswoman Barbara Lee (CA) Black History Month visit to Texas - Marshall

A Texas girl, now representing California, traveled home to help turn out voters and build awareness of the value of the Texas vote. Hosted by Harrison County NAACP and Democratic Party.

Texas Democratic Party Convention Reception Honoring Black Women In Politics

Congresswoman Sheila Jackson Lee, Congresswoman Eddie Bernice Johnson, State Representatives Toni Rose, Yvonne Davis, and Nicole Collier - Fort Worth

Hosted by national radio legend Sybil Wilkes, over 200 politically savvy attendees celebrated the accomplishments and dedication of Black women protecting the interests of the Black community.

Community Conversation on Criminal Justice with U.S. Senate Candidate Beto O'Rourke - Dallas

Brunch with voters sharing his awareness, stance, and willingness to resolve the exponentially negative impact on the Black community when encountering law enforcement.

Harris County Judicial Candidates First Lady Brunch - Houston

Houston area churches honored the 19 Harris County Judicial Candidates nationally known as the "Black Girl Magic" Campaign.

March to Polls - Houston

Houston community candidates and sorority sisters gathered at the Shrine of the Black Madonna to parade to the early voting location Young Neighborhood Library in South Houston.

1st Annual Policy, Politics, and Donor Summit - Austin

A culturally centered four-panel discussion led by elected officials with academic and industry professionals to review the national election results, 86th Texas Legislative session, and how Black and brown women are overcoming obstacles and swaying governance.

2019 ANNUAL REPORT

In 2019, we took time to reflect on and solidify new relationships established during the 2018 Election cycle. We also monitored municipal elections to identify candidates in local markets who would align well with the BWPAC platform. We executed support through candidate contributions, digital media, and events focused on empowering more Black women to run for office and engage in the political process.



Total raised: \$ 14,000
23 Candidates

PROGRAMS & EVENTS

Five Year Candidate Plan Nuts & Bolts Training with Dr. Harryette Erhardt, Dallas

Secrets shared by loyal Democrat and former state representative Dr. Erhardt. A jewel in the Dallas community.

She the People Presidential Forum - Houston

State media partner to uplift the first-ever national Presidential candidate forum focused on women of color. The forum will focus the nation on the issues important to women of color—issues of racial, economic, gender, and social justice. Attended by Senator Cory Booker, Former Secretary Julián Castro, Representative Tulsi Gabbard, Senator Kamala Harris, Senator Amy Klobuchar, Former Representative Beto O’rourke, Senator Bernie Sanders, And Senator Elizabeth Warren.

The Collective PAC Black Campaign School Black Women’s Lunch (co-sponsor)

Partnered with Annie’s List to present culturally relevant training focused on the importance of building a strong campaign, running for office, and fundraising.

Tarrant County Citizen Training on Redistricting Partnered with Texas Redistricting to host a citizen training on the significance of testifying to protect and represent Tarrant County communities from gerrymandering, a practice of diluting the voting power across districts.

Focus Group Research - Sister Style: The Politics of Appearance for Black Women Political Elites

A candidate and elected official focus group centered on sharing their unique personal experiences while navigating American politics as it relates to body politics, the practices and policies through which the power of society regulates the human body. Facilitated by Dr. Nadia Brown, Purdue University, and Dr. Danielle Lemi, Michigan State University

2nd Annual Policy, Politics, and Donor Summit - Dallas

Continuing the annual conversation on the issues that empower and concern our communities. Panelists covered the U.S. Census's importance and link to the community and redistricting grassroots political organizing, shaping political policy, and the power of political action committees. Special thanks to Helen Giddings, State Representatives Ron Reynolds and Toni Rose, and Next Wave Strategies.

2019

The BWPAC also received its first awards, recognizing founder Tracy Y. Scott and the organization for leadership in public service:

The Texas Legislative Black Caucus, Barbara Jordan Leadership Award for her work advancing civic engagement through the BWPAC during the 2018 election cycle.


And the Houston League of Business and Professional Women's Inc. 55th Anniversary Trailblazer Award.



2019 Digital Footprint

**BLACK WOMEN'S PAC
REACHED 15,732,000*
IN 2019**

*Increased reach due to national presidential program participation



The Problem:
Not enough Black women in public office in Texas.

The Women of Color Working To Solve It:
Black Women PAC Texas helps Black women get elected by engaging Black women donors.

#SheThePeople2020

2020 ANNUAL REPORT

2020 was a general election year unlike any in recent memory. Protecting the integrity of the voting process dominated the national conversation and the question on everyone's mind was "Will my vote count?" In 2020, BWP supported 12 candidates, our largest slate of candidates to date.

Total raised: \$ 41,000
12 Candidates



PROGRAMS & EVENTS

Supreme Court Justice Candidate Forum

An introduction to the four women candidates campaigning to serve as Justice on the Texas Supreme Court.

Crisis Has Purpose: A Mental and Financial Wellness Lockdown Life Check

The framework of the Life Check was to share our pandemic adjustment challenges and hear from financial and psychological professionals to help us cope.

Texas Democratic Party Black Caucus Conversation

We joined the Texas Coalition of Black Democrats to strengthen communication, unveil expectations, and suggest strategies needed to effectively engage Black voters.

The #TCBlackCensus + GOTV Project

A multi-channel, social media outreach campaign targeting the Black community of Tarrant County, Texas. In Tarrant County, the Black community comprises almost 15% of the total population. The campaign educated individuals on how Census tallies affect funding and legislative representation at the state and federal levels. The GOTV component reminded the community of the election and the importance of casting a ballot. Project partner OCG+PR.

Black Women + Politics: A Virtual Discussion Series with special guests National Strategists Minyon Moore & Donna Brazile

To celebrate and highlight the 60+ Black women candidates running for elected office and raise funds for our voter education program.

Say Her Name: Black Women on the Ballot video montage

Featured all 60+ Black women running for office distributed nationally on social media and electronically.

3rd Annual Politics, Policy, and Donors Summit (Virtual) focused on Redistricting, Texas' Lowest Life Expectancy 76104, election polling, and the strategy behind Black Voters Matter win in Georgia.

2020

The BWPAC's 2020 digital footprint shows you our online reach and followers on Facebook, Twitter, and Instagram. We connect with voters and candidates where they are daily. We engage and promote Black women in the news, key voter initiatives like the #2020Census, #2020election, and more!



2020 Digital Footprint BLACK WOMEN'S PAC REACHED 1,906,000* IN 2020

BY

Black Women's PAC
3RD ANNUAL POLICY, POLITICS AND DONOR SUMMIT
 Register and Donte at blackwomenspac.tx.org or FaceBook @blackwomenspac

7 p.m. cst
WED DEC 09TH
The Intersection: Redistricting and Texas' Lowest Life Expectancy

Gary Bledsoe
Texas State NAACP

Yannis Banks
NAACP

Lorraine Miller
Fort Worth Redistricting Task Force

3 p.m. cst
THU DEC 10TH
Election Polling and Black America Results and Messaging

Camille Burge Ph.D.
Center for Peace and Justice Education, Villanova University

Michael Adams Ph.D.
Mickey Leland School of Public Affairs Texas Southern University

Tamieka Atkins
ProGeorgia

1 p.m. cst
FRI DEC 18TH
Black Voters Matter! We'll talk to LaTosha Brown about engagement and Georgia's mobilization

LaTosha Brown

Pol. adv. paid for by Black Women's PAC



Thank You!

for your investment in Black women and communities across Texas. Become a recurring donor to broaden our reach to candidates, advocates, potential and current voters. Our future elections are the greatest influence we can all make to affect policy locally and nationally. We want you to join us and a coalition of organizations across the state to reach non-voting Texans.

Black Women's PAC is consulting its commitment to initial goals. With the election of Vice President Kamala Harris (check one off the list). We are advocating for a Black woman appointed to the United States Supreme Court, Secretary of the Treasury, and the advancement of Black women to corporate Board of Directors and C-Level positions of executive administration.

Thank you to all our 2018 Contributors*

Shannon Baldwin
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Joy Dawson-Thomas
Linda Dunson
Rosalind Ferguson
Geraldine Hall

Chris Hamilton
Angela Harrington
Cassandra Hollemon
Christopher Hollins
Erica Hughes
Eric Igwe
Tonya Jones
Sandra Lee
Latosha Lewis Payne
William Lumpkin
Rowena Maclin
Michelle Moore

Kelli Newman
Carrin Patman
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D K Wilkerson
Lashawn Williams
Terri Williams
Reginald Wilson
Wallace Consultancy

and more. ...



Thank You!

to all our 2019 Contributors*



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Colette Vallot
Nakisha Walker
Rashida Wright
Wallace Consultancy

and more...

*We have to realize we
are building a movement*

DOROTHY HEIGHT
PAST PRESIDENT
NATIONAL COUNCIL OF NEGRO WOMEN

Thank You!

to all our 2020 Contributors*

Victoria A Adams
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 Kit Victoria Wells
 Cathy Welsh
 Royce West
 Carl White
 Caroline Wilkinson
 Alexis Williams
 Kevin Williams
 Hank Woolley
 Wallace Consultancy

and more...



RESOURCES:

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- <https://www.sacurrent.com/the-daily/archives/2021/03/01/texas-is-among-19-states-where-student-loan-debt-is-larger-than-the-entire-state-budget>
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- <https://www.aclu.org/news/racial-justice/canceling-student-debt-can-help-build-black-womens-futures/>
- <https://www.texmed.org/template.aspx?id=5519>