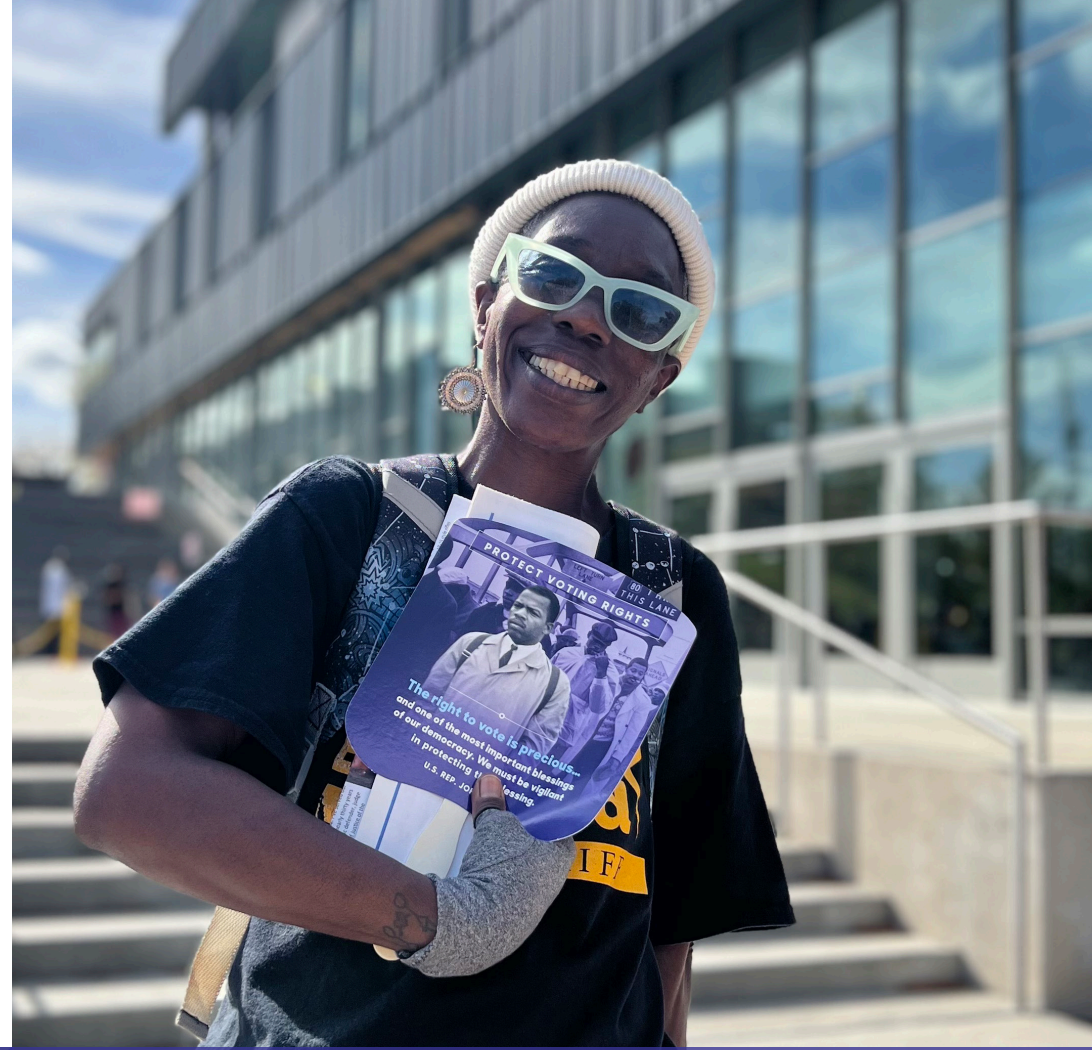


“With patient and firm determination we will press on until every valley of despair is exalted to new peaks of hope, until every mountain of pride and irrationality is made low by the leveling process of humility and compassion; until the rough places of injustice are transformed into a smooth plane of equality of opportunity; and until the crooked places of prejudice are transformed by the straightening process of bright-eyed wisdom.”



- Rev. Dr. Martin Luther King Jr.



Contact Us

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DEMOCRACY NC

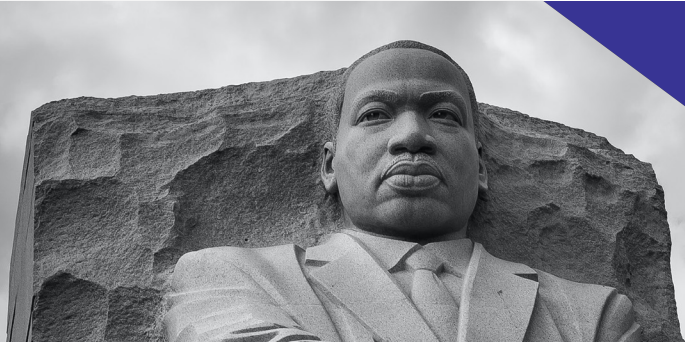
Learn more about our work at democracync.org.

DEMOCRACY NC

*Democracy North Carolina is not
affiliated with any candidate or party.*

*“We must walk on in the days ahead
with an audacious faith in the future.”*

- Rev. Dr. Martin Luther King Jr.



“This will be the day when we shall bring into full realization the dream of American democracy – a dream yet unfulfilled. A dream of equality of opportunity, of privilege and property widely distributed.”

- Rev. Dr. Martin Luther King Jr.

A DREAM YET UNFULFILLED

This past year, the “dream of equality of opportunity” that Dr. King spoke of in 1961 seemed at times both farther from and closer to reality. After years of national hardship and heartache, 2022 concluded with an election that saw historic wins and turnout among young voters.

Even with some victories for democracy, we know fear remains. But we’ve seen change can happen when people show up. If we fight, we can win. Fair and accessible elections, holding those in power accountable, demanding transparency, true democracy – all of this is possible. And it is worth the work.

In 2023, we’ll see a legislative session possibly spawning efforts to diminish rights and access to the ballot box; the impact of the U.S. Supreme Court *Moore v. Harper* redistricting case; and the ever-important municipal elections. It may not be a “major” election year, but there are no off years when it comes to this work.

Dr. King called American democracy a “dream yet unfulfilled.” It would be easy at times to throw up our hands and grow weary at the cycle of forward movement in the face of backward thinking. But there are signs pointing us toward true liberation. We rest, regroup, and resume our efforts to fulfill the dreams of those who came before us and those who come after.



Have a question about voting or experiencing problems at the polls?

Call our non-partisan voter assistance hotline:

888-OUR-VOTE (888-687-8683)

In 2022, Democracy NC celebrated 30 years of mobilizing, protecting, and educating the public. We want to make voting easier, more accessible, and equitable, especially in Black and brown communities that have been targeted for anti-voter measures restricting access to the ballot. We want to work with and foster courageous leaders willing to join us in this fight. Here’s how you can tap into our work.

Fight for the future.

Know a college student who wants to make a career in social change? The Democracy Summer internship program exposes young leaders to political movements and teaches them how to organize around a shared vision for a better democracy.

[Learn more at demnc.co/demsummer.](https://demnc.co/demsummer)

Protect the freedom to vote.

Join one of the nation’s largest Election Protection programs, including a team of lawyers and experts answering a voter hotline and volunteer Vote Protectors monitoring voting sites. Our year-round Vote Protectors will focus on counties with municipal elections in 2023, participate in meetings, and educate their community about election basics.

[Learn more at demnc.co/voteprotector.](https://demnc.co/voteprotector)

Be an advocate.

Protest, as Dr. King taught us, comes in many forms, including being part of a proactive movement toward better policies and institutions. Becoming an Elections Advocate and learning how elections are run in your community is a simple, impactful way to advocate for better elections, fund accessible voting sites, and create greater transparency.

[Learn more at demnc.co/electionsadvocacy.](https://demnc.co/electionsadvocacy)

Support fair maps.

The next year will be crucial in the fight for fair maps in our state, given the *Moore v. Harper* redistricting case. Legislators will redraw state congressional maps because the current maps only apply to the 2022 election. Be part of the movement by continuing to speak out against efforts to restrict fair representation for all North Carolinians.

[Learn more at demnc.co/fairmaps.](https://demnc.co/fairmaps)

Vote every election.

The 2022 midterms once again showed us the power of a single vote. Municipal elections are vitally important to the future of policies and leadership in our communities. Stay up to date on elections, voting rules, and what’s on your ballot at the newly redesigned ncvoter.org.