

**TAKE
ACTION
MN**



2023 Impact

Report

Organizing for the world we deserve

IN MINNESOTA, 2023 WAS A YEAR OF INSPIRING PROGRESS. We won statewide policy changes we organized toward for more than a decade and elected member leaders to office across the state. Our victories improved jobs, invested in our children and caregivers, advanced climate justice, and strengthened our rights and democracy. We celebrate the organized people who brought so much change across the finish line! The year was also marked by a summer with air quality so bad children could not play outside, corporate lobbyists blocking essential workers' rights legislation, and hateful violence in Minnesota and across the globe. **At TakeAction, we hold the hard and the hopeful together.**

Victories in 2023, whether at the Capitol or the ballot box, were not brought to us by accident or chance. They were built by us – every person willing to raise their voice, pledge their dollars, and take a risk to organize for the world we deserve. In our work, those risks looked like volunteers knocking on a door to have a conversation with a stranger about our shared values, renters confronting fear and tapping into righteous anger to build power, member leaders running for office on bold platforms, and neighbors mobilizing across religion and background to demand peace and diplomacy.

By acting together we reject despair, choose hope, win more, and build the world future generations deserve. With members like you, we are delivering on our mission to make more possible for our communities.



**Together,
we are
mighty**

We won at the state capitol

Minnesota's movement ecosystem is strong and collectively we won a lot. We were proud to show up with our allies to win democracy reforms, enshrine reproductive rights, restore voting rights, and ban no-knock warrants. Our members and organizers were proud to lead in campaigns to win:



Paid Sick Days and Paid Family & Medical Leave so we can care for ourselves and our families.



The strongest Prescription Drug Affordability Board in the country regulating Big Pharma and guaranteeing access to life-saving medicines.



A MinnesotaCare Public Option taking us one step closer to universal healthcare and expanding quality, affordable coverage to 50,000+ Minnesotans.



100% Clean Energy and the Cumulative Impacts bill, nation-leading legislation to address the climate crisis and environmental racism.

We elected champions

Going into election season, we were ready to motivate Minnesotans to show up at the ballot box with our values. We mobilized our members into action by using our non-partisan Busy Voters Guide to support 23,957 voters with educational resources, including recruiting more than 600 people to share it with their friends and family, and following up with 100% of our supporters at least twice in the final days before the election to make sure they had everything they needed to vote.

Our strategy of year-round organizing with our statewide voter base of young people, BIPOC folks, and parents and caregivers, led to 14 out of 19 endorsed candidates winning their elections. These newly elected champions in Minneapolis, Saint Paul and Duluth will govern with us to support life-affirming policies, stable housing, and clean air and water.



BY THE NUMBERS

22,525

conversations with neighbors on the phones & doors

8,100

people mobilized

363,446

people reached

62%

growth of our
grassroots
membership

4,342

people took their first
action with us this year

\$700,000+

regranted to partner organizations

Organizing tenants in Duluth

Across Minnesota, we hear stories from members struggling to find safe, stable and affordable housing. Whether people are homeowners or renters, our broken housing market hurts us all. This summer, after hearing from Duluth residents that housing is one of the most challenging issues in the city, we launched our work to organize a tenants union in Duluth. We know that organized people mean organized power, and we all deserve safe and stable housing. After 1,776 conversations with renters across the city, member leaders are preparing to launch a powerful campaign around high rent prices, lack of housing stock, and unresponsive, dangerous landlords.

“



When I got the opportunity to be part of the outreach and strategy team for the tenants union, I jumped on it because **I felt passionate about creating change and giving individuals and families hope and empowering their ability to make change.**”

Naseem (they/them) MEMBER LEADER

Organizing parents and caregivers in Hennepin County

We believe in a world where every person has ready access to the care they need. As we make progress on many economic justice fronts, families continue to feel the squeeze of the status quo, particularly when navigating the chaos and insufficiency of childcare options. Hennepin County parents and caregivers stepped into powerful leadership roles during the 2023 legislative campaigns to win earned sick & safe time and paid family & medical leave and have kept on building their team. This winter, they launched Hennepin Parents and Caregivers United and are completing a participatory research project surveying 250 caregivers about their experiences. In 2024, they will use their growing base to build and lead campaigns at the State Capitol and locally to win the care families need.



There's so much to do and we are only getting started. It's awesome to see what it takes to implement changes and see the real work that goes into a movement up close. A highlight from my work this year as a leader was when I spoke to the county board about shutting down the HERC incinerator. I felt heard, and involved politically in a way I hadn't considered previously."

Marco (any pronoun) MEMBER LEADER

Organizing musicians in solidarity with workers

We organized an underground committee of musicians in solidarity with the union organized by workers at Minnesota's legendary First Avenue music venue. Twelve local musicians formed the committee and trained together to have relational organizing conversations. They mobilized more than 400 performers to sign a letter of support for workers, which was delivered to First Avenue management a week after the workers went public with their union. They are discerning what's next for their organizing – stay tuned!



Organizing youth and partners for climate justice

Powerful coalitions won big for climate in 2023 and together we are making plans for the next decade of movement building. We organized a long-term care and climate agenda setting process with 19 organizations representing faith, labor and diverse communities from across the state through the Minnesota Green New Deal Table. Our organizations are committed to continue building power to win at every level of government and are defining the campaigning we will do together over the next decade. TakeAction's climate base of grassroots leaders continues to grow. In 2024, we will activate the 2,000 students we've connected with, begin a high school fellowship program, and launch campaigns for green and healthy schools in the Twin Cities.

Rod Adams (he/him)

EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR AT NEW JUSTICE PROJECT MN



New Justice Project MN is a black-led organization focused on building power for Black Minnesotans. They work in coalition with other diverse groups working to dismantle systems of harm. Rod joined the Green New Deal Table to make sure communities of color didn't miss the opportunity to build wealth through the green movement and to move folks into green careers that pay well and sustain our planet. Although Rod has

been in many climate justice spaces, he has committed to the Green New Deal Table because he feels it has the diversity of opinions and representation needed to make positive changes in Minnesota.

Organizing with you!

We hope you see yourself in these numbers and stories because whether you attended a meeting, volunteered at a doorknock, or made a donation – we have an impact because you choose to organize with us. Join Lena and deepen your commitment today:



Save the date: Our annual fundraiser and celebration is on Thursday, June 13.



Sign up: Weekly events are posted on our calendar, use the QR code to register now!



Reach out: Contact us to get in touch with an organizer about getting more involved. E-mail info@takeactionminnesota.org or go to takeactionminnesota.org/contact-us.



I feel inspired by the folks at TakeAction who have vocalized their long-term commitment to the movement, and it makes me feel like I want to be part of that. With everything I've learned, I can see myself making that commitment too – and sticking with it.”

Lena Pak (she/her) ORGANIZING FELLOW



**Together, we rise.
Organized, we thrive.**



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