We can’t believe it’s August either, folks. All the same, we hope this finds you enjoying your last weeks of summer and feeling rejuvenated and replenished before the days grow shorter and work and school and life are back in full force.

Last month we talked about the story of Movement Strategy Center, coinciding with our relaunched website and our brand new Instagram. If you’re following along on Instagram, maybe you’ve noticed that August is all about the ecosystem. We’re talking about the organizations we have partnered with — past and present — and the incredible work they do every day. Check it out and get to know these incredible projects.

But we also want to talk about what’s happening in terms of voting rights in Texas and all over this country.

The words of Coretta Scott King are as true as ever: “Struggle is a never-ending process. Freedom is never really won, you earn it and win it in every generation.”

Last week was the anniversary of the 1965 Voting Rights Act. Sixty-five years later, we are facing a “Jim Crow 2.0.” In Texas (and elsewhere), a stream of restrictive legislation is being pushed that will make
Progressive politicians are trying; and Black organizers are organizing — protests have led to the arrest of three Texas lawmakers along with representatives from other states and dozens of grassroots organizers. They are not only working to defeat these new bills but to advance the For the People Act to end gerrymandering and create fair federal guidelines for voter registration.

When President Lyndon B. Johnson passed the 1965 Voting Rights Act he asked “what the hell’s the presidency for” if not to guarantee voting rights. Now it’s time for the Biden Administration to work with congress and the senate to safeguard the voting rights of every American and to uphold the elements of democracy.

We call for President Biden to lead with courage and without apology to advance the passage of HR 1 For The People Act and end the filibuster. And, we call for every citizen to fulfill his/her/their duty and regularly register and vote in local, state, and national elections. We can never afford to sit on the sidelines.

Now, read on for some happenings from the MSC ecosystem:

Calling All Storytellers
Shelectricity is introducing their SheLearns class series and they want to invite you to participate as a speaker in this platform for BIPOC and AAPI girls and genderqueer youth. The series offers an opportunity to develop skills and knowledge through classes featuring speakers sharing life and career stories relating to storytelling and podcasts, business and finance, blogs, coding, branding, activism, music, and other topics. Shelectricity will offer a modest honorarium of $100, or you may donate your time. Complete the survey by Wednesday, August 19, at 12PM PT and email with any questions.

Nothing About Us Without Us
A cornerstone of HIV advocacy is meaningful involvement and partnership among people living within HIV organizations, programs, or groups. To achieve meaningful involvement, we must be prepared to demand it! Positive Women's Network - USA — a national membership body of women living with HIV who, along with their allies, work to strengthen the strategic power of all women living with HIV — is hosting an event that details how Meaningful Involvement of People with HIV/AIDS (MIPA) enriches lives. Register to join the event, it takes place on August 25 at 7PM ET.

Our Economy, Health, and the Environment
Do we want a food and farm policy platform that works for all people and the planet? Of course, we do — food is our most powerful connection to each other! HEAL Food Alliance recently launched the ten point #PlatformforRealFood, a roadmap to a future that truly nourishes our health, economies, and environment. The vision and solutions within were crafted by 50 organizations representing rural and urban farmers, fisherfolk, farm and food chain workers, rural and urban communities, scientists, public health advocates, environmentalists, and Indigenous groups; and it serves as a call to action and a political compass for transformation.

Free the People Fridays
Last week, Urban Peace Movement hosted Free The People Fridays, an Instagram Live
This month, they discussed the need to eliminate the transfer of youth into adult prisons and courts. To join next month’s conversation, follow Urban Peace Movement on Instagram. #FTP

Want to share an event or job in an e-newsletter or on MSC social media? Request a submission form by emailing communications@movementstrategy.org.

Follow our LinkedIn for jobs at and within the MSC ecosystem!