Movement Strategy Center's
May 2024 Community News
Hello Friends,

Mother’s Day is just around the corner, folks. And while this serves as a reminder to order flowers or make lunch reservations for all the moms — birth moms, adoptive moms, foster moms, mother figures, care givers, big sisters, aunties, grandmothers, or otherwise — we also want to consider the care economy.

The International Labour Organization defines the care economy as “childcare and care for the elderly” and notes that so much of this crucial work is “void of benefits and protections,” and can come with “low wages or non-compensation, and exposure to physical, mental, and, in some cases, sexual harm.” The takeaway: “It is clear that new solutions to care are needed on two fronts: in regards to the nature and provision of care policies and services, and the terms and conditions of care work.”

That said, check us out across our social media channels (links are in the footer!) this month, as we salute some of our partners across the ecosystem who exist within the care economy — like BIPOC Student Midwives, who are hosting a fundraiser this month (see below), and New Moon Collaborations, who amplify and uplift communities through story and culture to transform systems. We caught up with Julie Quiroz, the poet-activist-strategist founder of New Moon Collaborations, to bring you the latest installment of the MSC Storytelling Series — our collection of essays exploring the folks who made MSC what MSC is today. Read Quiroz’s story about how and why physical practice is still so core to the MSC ethos.

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

Walk for Midwifery
Join our partners BIPOC Student Midwives for Step Forward for Midwifery, a celebration of community support and midwifery education at Oakland’s Lake Merritt across from the Cleveland Cascade, on Saturday, May 18, from 10am to 12:30pm PST. This event will feature music, refreshments, and family friendly activities like walking, yoga, and arts and crafts. Attendees are encouraged to wear purple to support the cause. The fundraiser aims to raise $10,000 for Student Skills Days and new Apprenticeship Stipends, enhancing perinatal health outcomes and diversifying the midwifery field. Generous donors and top pledge earners will receive thank you gifts. Register or donate here.
Also set for May 18, join Healing Clinic Collective at the 24th Annual Jazz Arts Festival in San Antonio Park, Oakland, from 11am to 7pm PST. This free outdoor event is a celebration of Oakland’s tradition of art and resistance, focusing on unity, land-back, and ending genocide. Hosted by the Eastside Cultural Center, the festival will feature a variety of performances from Oakland based bands and artists performing a mix of jazz and hip hop, alongside dynamic dance troupes and a celebration of Oakland graffiti with live painting and Black Book Battles. HCC network body workers interested in participating can contact healingcliniccollective@gmail.com. For more details and to participate, click here.

Time to Turn Up, Oakland
On May 21, Join Urban Peace Movement from 4pm to 8pm PST at Lake Merritt, for another exciting installment of Turn Up Tuesday — a celebration of Oakland’s vibrant community. This live music festival will feature nine performers, plus two DJs and two hosts, all dedicated to loving and uplifting the beautiful city of Oakland. Don't miss a line up full of the Bay Area’s legends and rising stars in support of community spirit. Get your free tickets here.

MSC Staff Spotlight:
Connections at the ABFE Harambee Conference
The ABFE Harambee Conference brought influential voices from the African diaspora to St. Louis, MO — a city boasting a rich blend of Black history, blues music, and culinary delights. Held over two days starting on April 25, Marcus Cunningham, our Director of Institutional Giving, represented MSC. There, he engaged with key figures, including Leonora Souza Paula, Project Director at Kilomba Collective. Cunningham attended the “America: Building Bridges Across Black America,” panel, featuring Paula alongside Lori Robinson of VidaAfrolatina and Luna Batista from Fundo Agbara. These discussions underscored the significant history and impact of Black-led organizing efforts, which reflected the conference’s themes of unity, innovation, and growth. Cunningham’s attendance allowed him to gather insights on strategic partnerships and community involvement, aligning with MSC’s commitment to fostering collaboration and enhancing community engagement.
Help Wanted!
Join our team! MSC is looking for passionate professionals to fill multiple roles: Project Advisor, Federal Contracts & Compliance Manager, Chief People & Culture Officer, and Chief Operating Financial Officer.
Learn more about all the open roles here.

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.

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