



February 18th, 2021

Hello Pitzer Community,

We hope you had a good fourth week of school! This will be the first in (hopefully) a series of bi-weekly newsletters that we'll send out to student-talk about opportunities to engage in direct action.

Though we want to be clear that we believe every month should be one in which Black folks are supported, celebrated, and acknowledged, we'd like to make space in this newsletter being sent out during Black History Month to specifically uplift/support resources pertaining to Black history and the needs of Black folks:

- Check out the '[Black History Month Library](#)' compiled by [@ CharlesPreston](#) on Twitter for access to readings, curriculums, etc. (stuff written by Angela Davis, bell hooks, James Baldwin, etc. and about Afro-Futurism, Black Communism/Marxism, Mass Incarceration, etc.).
- Read these '[Black Queer Migrant Demands for the Biden Administration](#)'
- [Keep a Black 5C Student Housed](#) - "A 5C student, who wishes to stay anonymous, was relying on Spring 2021 tuition refunds to stay housed safely this winter. Due to unprecedented circumstances caused by the pandemic, they were suspended from school and no longer have the refund/ housing funds. As the sole provider of their family, this student is asking for the community to help keep them housed during this pandemic. Any contribution/share is appreciated."
- [5C Mutual Aid Request](#) - "A first generation low income Black 5C student who wishes to remain anonymous is in need of financial assistance for medical bills. They need to raise up to \$500."
- [3 for 1 Campaign organized by the 5C EESA](#) - "Three for one's purpose is to raise funds for three organizations through one campaign. These funds will go towards covid relief help, the Tigray refugee crisis, and the Amhara genocide. We know that there are a multitude of issues ongoing in Eritrea and Ethiopia. 5CEESA wanted to do our part in directly helping and bringing awareness to these issues. Please consider donating or sharing the efforts of our campaign! **VENMO: @ FiveC_EESA GOAL: \$6,000**"
- [Black Trans Fundraisers Needing Support](#) - Linktree with links to mutual aid funds for Black Trans Folk compiled by the THORN Self Defense Project.
- [Free Ashley Diamond](#) - "Ashley Diamond is a Black, transgender woman, and prisoners' rights activist. She made national headlines in 2016 for her landmark victory against the Georgia Department of Corrections. Ashley has since been re-imprisoned because of a technical parole violation and is currently incarcerated at Coastal State Prison in Garden City, Georgia. Despite governmental promises for change, she has again been placed in a men's facility." Links to the [petition](#) and [Patreon/GoFundMe](#).

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We also want to wish all who celebrate a belated happy Lunar New Year, and highlight some organizations doing important work to support Chinese and other Asian communities in the so-called United States with hopes that folks will support them. These communities are currently facing an uptick in violence and hateful rhetoric.

- [Southeast Asian Community Alliance of LA](#) - "Based in Chinatown. Building power among youth and their communities in Los Angeles for a more equitable society through community organizing."
- [Stop AAPI Hate](#) - "A national coalition addressing anti-Asian hate amid the COVID-19 pandemic." Read their recent report: [New Data on Anti-Asian Hate Incidents Against Elderly and Total National Incidents in 2020](#)
- [Chinese for Affirmative Action San Francisco](#) - "CAA fights for systemic change by advocating for racial justice and immigrant rights, cultivating leadership, and supporting movement building."
- [Asian Prisoner Support Committee](#) - "We provide support to Asian & Pacific Islander prisoners in California and raise awareness about the impact of incarceration on our communities." Take action with their toolkit: [#Pardons4thePeople](#)
- [The Longevity Fund](#) - "While Manhattan's Chinatown is a beautifully resilient neighborhood, the prolonged impact of the COVID-19 pandemic poses a great risk to accelerate the gentrification of Chinatown and the displacement of its residents and small businesses... The Longevity Fund will distribute \$5,000 grants to 40 small businesses to alleviate their overhead costs (rent, labor, insurance, utilities, etc.) with the goal of offering some reassurance and peace of mind to small business owners, allowing them to focus on COVID-19 recovery."
- [Save Our ChinaTowns](#) - "We are a grassroots initiative passionate about supporting Chinatown communities in the Bay Area through art, conversation, and shared love of food. Our goal is to build on our efforts in creating art and culture focused initiatives to benefit our beloved Chinatowns."

Finally, we'd like to draw special attention to some mutual aid funds in Texas and the south, where a winter storm has led to millions of folks being without power and water for many days [thank you to Miranda Ayres for sharing on student talk].

- Venmo accounts:
 - @feedthepeopledallas
 - @austinmutualaid
 - @austinmutualaidhotels
 - @dfwmutualaid
- <https://www.gofundme.com/f/mutualaidhou>

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Below are some of the other direct actions shared with us this week by community members! For more, be sure to follow us on [Instagram](#) and [Twitter](#). There are an abundance of opportunities for you to engage in, support, and share.

Show Up (Virtually) Here:

- [Emergency Response Network Training with Inland Coalition for Immigrant Justice](#) - 03/04/21 4-6PM PST "Join us for an informative and interactive series of trainings! Mario Perez and Kimberly Galindo will provide updates on the ERN's involvement in shaping the narrative and demands for abolishing ICE. You will learn how we support immigrants through mutual aid projects, the long term impacts of ICE enforcement and detention, and how you can do your part to ensure we fight for investment in our communities and divestment from criminalizing systems!"

Sign These Petitions:

- [Tell Biden: End DAPL Now!](#) - "Tell President Joe Biden to stop the Dakota Access Pipeline once and for all. Protect the planet and the Lakota people. No destruction of the earth. No endangering our water. Mni wiconi — water is life."
- [And another one but through a different organization] [President Biden, Shut Down the Dakota Access Pipeline Now!](#) - "The Dakota Access Pipeline (DAPL) is sending millions of barrels of crude oil through unceded Lakota lands and under the river Mni Sósè, threatening our oldest spirit known as Unci Maka (Grandmother Earth). As President, Biden must stop the flow of oil through DAPL, now!"
- [Sign the petition: Demand DHS halt ALL deportations and return iAero Airways Flight 3562 passengers back to the U.S.](#) - "On January 28, 2021, under the cover of darkness, Immigration and Customs Enforcement (ICE) hurriedly deported a group of chained and horrified Black immigrants... This came on the heels of Texas District Judge Drew Tipton's unjust temporary restraining order (TRO) to halt the implementation of President Biden's executive order that placed a 100-day moratorium on deportations."
- [Drop all charges for the #Adelento3](#) - "On September 22, 2020, three Inland Empire demonstrators were brutalized and arrested in Adelanto, CA while protesting ICE. During the peaceful protest, officers from the San Bernardino Sheriff's approached one individual (Perla) and accused her of jaywalking. The deputies then escalated the situation by violently grabbing and pushing demonstrators to grab Perla. She was wrongfully targeted, brutally tazed, stepped on and stood over, and then the officer dragged her through the dirt before she, her husband Travis Halbert and Kai King were also arrested. This is the same sheriff's dept that went on to murder #MarkBender the following month in

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October 2020, for which there has been zero accountability to date. The #Adelanto3 are certainly not the first community members to be targeted by SBSD in Adelanto, CA. Adelanto Police Department lost their privileges and disbanded as a department in 2001 due to corruption. San Bernardino Sheriff department has since taken over policing the area and has a long history of excessive force and misconduct violations."

- [Grant Wilmer Parole - Asylum Seeker Detained 2 Years](#) - "Wilmer is a Honduran asylum seeker who has been detained for two years in Virginia immigrant detention. Wilmer is a victim of the Trump administration's cruel immigration enforcement policies, and he should immediately be released from detention."
- [Rescind the Nomination for Sia's 'Music'](#) - "Sia's debut movie "Music" is severely ableist and contributes to harmful stereotypes of autistic people. The Golden Globes must rescind its two nominations for "Best Musical/Comedy Picture" and "Best Musical/Comedy Actress: Kate Hudson", and the entertainment industry must promise to actively work towards inclusion and better disability representation."

Practice Resource Redistribution:

- [Support a PZ Senior's Funeral Expenses for her Grandma](#) - "My name is Stephanie Camey and I am a rising senior at Pitzer College... My grandma passed away February 13th. She was an amazing and strong woman who would always put others first before herself. I am asking you all for your prayers to keep my grandpa strong. The money will be going for her funeral expenses. Thank you."
- [Pomona Economic Opportunity Center- Operation Rain Jacket](#) - "We want to raise money to purchase 200 rain jackets to distribute to our workers in Pomona, Rancho, San Bernardino & Riverside. Join us in meeting our goal by donating today! All donations will be matched by the PEOC."
- [Immigrant Liberation Fund](#) - "In the midst of the international COVID-19 pandemic, Immigrants detained in ICE detention centers are at high risk of becoming seriously ill or dying from the disease. Even in normal circumstances, ICE has proven time and again that it is unable to protect the health and safety of detained people-- and now more than ever, their lives are at risk, especially those with a history of health problems. Many immigrants detained in Adelanto have been granted bond, but are still detained because they can't afford to pay it (each bond ranges from \$1500-\$10,000+.) Getting out of detention may well save their lives. The Trump administration deliberately excluded undocumented immigrants and their families from the stimulus checks being delivered to millions around the country. Fight back by donating all or part of yours to free someone at high risk for COVID-19 from detention."

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- [#FreeBryantMurphy](#) - "We are a group of students raising money for legal counsel to help Bryant Murphy, an incarcerated man inside Southern Ohio Correctional Facility who knows this nation and its injustices better than anyone. Bryant is an activist, educator, and poet. He is passionate about family, the environment, fitness and nutrition, and he hopes to share his knowledge through TedTalks when he is released." (Organized by 5C students)
- [#FreeJamesTerry](#) - "We are a group of students raising money for James Terry, a wrongfully convicted man who has been incarcerated since 2001. James is an outstanding writer whose story "JT's Story of Justice Denied" is outlined on his website. James relates strongly to Hebrews 13:1-3, and he is passionate about fighting racial injustice and mass incarceration through movements like Black Lives Matter. He has been eager to create friendships with us students and we are hoping to raise money for his legal fees to overturn his wrongful conviction." (Organized by 5C students)

Call/ Email/ Tweet:

- [Release the Yuba 15!](#) - "The contract Yuba County has with ICE to hold 200+ migrants yearly should be terminated, now that there are only 15 folks left, but even still they choose to keep them hostile to maintain the contract and profit off of their misery."
- [#StopTheFlights](#) - "ICE is continuing to deport people to their death in contravention of international law and the Biden/Harris executive order. Under the principle of non-refoulement invoked in treaties signed by the U.S. after the Holocaust, the Biden/Harris Administration cannot deport people to countries where they face torture, cruel, inhuman or degrading treatment or punishment, and other irreparable harm."
- [#FreeWalterCruz](#) - "Walter Cruz has been imprisoned in ICE detention for over 3 years. Despite winning his case TWICE, the Trump admin ordered a "do-over," meaning he would have to take his case through the courts again."
- [#FreeUbaldo](#) - "Ubaldo Ochoa-Lopez sits in an ICE prison - in danger of being deported. He & his son, Fernando came to the US seeking asylum from Guatemala. What awaited them here was a cruel & stunning reality. They were both separated during Trump's Zero Tolerance period in 2018 and remained away from each other for two months. Fernando was only 6 years old when this painful and traumatic experience happened. Now, ICE has separated them again. Ubaldo has been detained at Pearsall Detention Center since October - 4 months - and is in danger of being deported back to Guatemala, leaving his son behind."

Get Support for Organizing



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- [Community Wellbeing Grant](#) - "As part of Tri-City's Prevention and Early Intervention Plan, the Community Wellbeing Grant provides monetary grants (up to \$10,000) and technical assistance to help communities build their own capacity to strengthen the wellbeing of their members and the community as a whole. The Community Wellbeing Grant is for communities who work, serve and support 0-25 year olds in the cities of Pomona, La Verne and Claremont."
Mandatory meeting 02/24 from 9:00-10:30 AM OR 02/25 from 6:00-7:30 PM for folks who are interested in applying.

Please reply to this email [or just email us at immediate_action@pitzer.edu] with any actions or organizing you'd like us to include in the next email.

Have a good week,

The Staff of the CEC