

April 23, 2021

Hello Pitzer Community,

The violence and despair of these past weeks, months, and years have been overwhelming -- especially with the constant influx of information tied to our ever-more digital age. We've found it necessary to actively remind ourselves that investment in and care for self and community is necessary to being sustained, active participants in forcing change/ achieving liberation. Some words that have served as resources to us in remembering to do this:

- **Mia Mingus, [The Four Parts of Accountability: How to Give a Genuine Apology](#)** : "If we cannot handle the small things between us, how will we be able to handle the big things? Learning how to address these smaller hurts or breaks in trust, can help us learn the basic skills we need to address larger harms."
- **Yes Magazine, [Closing the Loop: adrienne maree brown on Harm and Accountability](#)** : "I feel like we're kind of in that moment: everything hurts, I'm tired, nothing I can take can actually numb the level of pain that I'm feeling. I know there's something miraculous coming but I've been pushing a long time for it, and what I want to do is rest my body and my mind and my spirit. And it's like, how do I take in breaths that give me rest, knowing that there are still several more pushes before this new world, this next phase, this next era that we are responsible for bringing into existence, actually comes into existence?"
- **Yashna Maya Padamsee, [Communities of Care, Organizations for Liberation](#)** : "If we let ourselves be caught up in the discussion of self-care we are missing the whole point of Healing Justice (HJ) work. Talking only about self-care when talking about HJ is like only talking about recycling and composting when speaking on Environmental Justice. It is a necessary and important individual daily practice- but to truly seek justice for the Environment, or to truly seek Healing for our communities, we need to interrupt and transform systems on a broader level."

Show up for Claremont Community:

- **[Attend Building Resilience in the Aftermath of Gun Violence](#)** - 04/29 @ Noon "Nurjahan Boulden grew up with dreams of sharing belly dance with the world. When she was shot in the leg with an assault rifle in a random attack before her senior year of college, she thought those dreams were destroyed. She graduated from Pitzer College in 2007, and suffered in silence physically and emotionally for almost a decade before she met

another survivor, Rhonda Foster PZ '82, who inspired her to share her story. She's now a belly dance teacher, gun violence survivor, community builder, and storyteller, inspiring audiences around the world to face their greatest fears and rise in the face of adversity." [Sponsored by the Pomona College Women's Union & the Pitzer Community Engagement Center]

- [Support the Broken Silence 5C Necessity Bag Campaign](#) - "Hello Everyone! Like last semester we wanted to give back to the local community as the semester comes to a close. Los Angeles has one of the highest rates of housing insecurity in the entire US. We want to give back by providing necessity bags to the unhoused in the local LA area. We need your help! Please consider donating and sharing so we can give back to the community." [Volunteer 04/30 or 05/01 or [donate](#)]
- [Support Black women raising \\$1800 for rent and groceries](#) - "5C low income Black women are raising funds to help them cover housing funds and groceries for the semester" [Donate]
- [Support a Black Woman Entering Tech](#) - Support a graduating Pitzer senior with their next steps! "I am determined to become a UX Designer. I have done the research and I am sure that this will be a fulfilling and lucrative career path for me. I just need a little help getting there." [Donate]
- [Tell Pomona to Divest from Fossil Fuels](#) - "In the pursuit of solving our world's growing climate crisis, the Divest Claremont Colleges student movement calls for the Board of Trustees of each of the Claremont Colleges to announce their intention to institutionally divest from all companies involved in the extraction of fossil fuels." [Petition/email]
- [Support OTRASEX: Protecting Sex Workers in the Dominican Republic \[Organized by PZ Senior\]](#) - "OTRASEX is a grassroots organization dedicated to defending the labor and health rights of cis and trans sex workers in the Dominican Republic. They are committed to defending their autonomy and to addressing the stigma and discrimination against sex workers. The COVID-19 pandemic has gravely impacted the livelihoods of sex workers which has had a ripple affect on the wellness of their dependent children and parents. The government has not extended any kind of support nor relief to the community. OTRASEX workers have been engaged in mutual aid organizing since the onset of the pandemic, but a full year later they find themselves in an even more critical situation. All funds raised through this platform will go directly to the OTRASEX organizers, who will use the funds to distribute nutritional needs and healthcare items to their compañeras and their families and to help ensure their wellness and safety." [Donate]

Show Up (Virtually) Here:

- [Creating Police-Free Neighborhoods in Riverside/Inland Empire](#) - [Every 2nd Tuesday, 6-7pm] "Interested in working in your neighborhood to make it police-free and mutually supportive? Join our monthly program where you will get mentoring, monthly assignments, and collective support on how to organize with your neighbors. No organizing experience necessary. Will be geared toward providing skills for those who are introverted and don't know any of their neighbors. Open to all those living in Riverside/Inland Empire."
- [Join the Black Power Collective IE Book Club!](#) - [Every other Sunday starting 05/02] "Join the BPC Book Club starting May 2nd! Free and open to everyone! The first book we will read together is "A History of Pan-African Revolt" by C.L.R. James"
- [Art Against Empire: De-mil-i-ta-rise](#) - [05/01] "Join us to celebrate the launch of DE-MIL-I-TA-RISE: a zine & art project by Dissenters and Justseeds. Poets and organizers will present their poems and visual art, followed by a panel in which they discuss the intersecting roles of activism and the arts in envisioning a world without war, cages, police, and empire."

Sign These Petitions:

- [#FreeAllSurvivors](#) - "This spring, take action every two weeks to free incarcerated survivors in California by submitting public comment to Governor Gavin Newsom! The criminal punishment system does not end domestic and sexual violence, it facilitates domestic and sexual violence. Over 90% of people in women's prisons, and many in men's prisons, are survivors of sexual and/or domestic violence. Some survivors are criminalized for actions they take to survive violence. Some are targeted with violence while incarcerated where they are particularly vulnerable to ongoing abuse. Prisons are gender violence."
- [First Ten to Communities Not Cages](#) - "'First Ten' is the next phase of Detention Watch Network's national Communities Not Cages campaign to shut down Immigration and Customs Enforcement (ICE) detention centers, stop the expansion and construction of new facilities and ultimately abolish the detention system in its entirety. The 'First Ten' detention centers are emblematic of how the immigration detention system as a whole is inherently abusive, unjust and fatally flawed beyond repair." [Though a quick action you can take is signing the petition, the action guide linked also has sample social media posts and opportunities for local organizing].
- [Stop Line 3 Sign This Petition and Tell President Biden: #StopLine3 Pipeline](#) - "There is a massive pipeline underway in northern Minnesota that violates

Indigenous rights and would carry the pollution equivalent to 50 coal power plants. The bulldozers have arrived to plow through sacred wild rice watersheds, over 800 wetlands, and 200+ bodies of water. Indigenous water protectors are fighting to protect their land, but the drones are overhead and the police are militarizing. President Biden has the power to stop this project." [Stop the Money Pipeline](#) - "Over the next two months, we're going to make the financial companies that support Enbridge and its toxic Line 3 pipeline feel the heat. Here's the plan. On March 31st, 18 banks have a \$2.2 billion loan to Enbridge that is due for renewal. That's in 51 days. Between now and then, we're going to do everything in our power to make it loud and clear to the executives of those banks: They must walk away from Line 3 — or there will be consequences."

- [Pass the Garment Worker Protection Act](#) - "Please sign this petition to share with California legislators & Governor Newsom and show your support for the Garment Worker Protection Act. The Garment Worker Protection Act is sponsored by the Garment Worker Center, Bet Tzedek Legal Services, and Western Center on Law and Poverty, and the campaign for its passage is LED BY WORKERS!! Our bill was not voted on this year and we will continue our fight in 2021 because the issues garment workers are facing must urgently be addressed. Your support is needed more than ever!"
- [Stop Israel's Illegal Expulsion of Palestinians in Jerusalem!](#) - "Over 1,500 Palestinians from neighborhoods in Jerusalem are facing threat of forced displacement and home demolitions by Israeli authorities. Children make up a large percentage of the families threatened with homelessness... Take action: call on the U.S. Secretary of State Tony Blinken and Secretary of Defense Lloyd Austin to demand an end to Israel illegal evictions of Palestinians and demolitions of their homes."
- [#FreeDarik](#) - "Instead of allowing Darik to enter a mental health diversion program, District Attorney, Mike Hestrin, is pursuing an extensive prison sentence. Read more in the petition and sign it if you haven't already!"
- [Ethnic studies now Pomona Unified School District](#) - "Ethnic Studies should be a graduation requirement as well as be integrated throughout the K-12 curriculum within the Pomona Unified School District. The majority of students attending PUSD schools are students of color. Latina/o/x students in particular makeup about 86% of the student population within PUSD. Latina/o/x students have some of the lowest rates of educational attainment. More and more studies have shown that when students take an effective Ethnic Studies course, their Grade Point Average, attendance, and overall graduation rates increase."

Practice Resource Redistribution:

- [Support the Sikh FedEx Victims Memorial Fund](#) - "Sikhs For Indianapolis is raising funds on behalf of the FedEx shooting victims and families. All money raised will directly benefit families of those who were killed, persons injured and people present who suffered mental trauma during the April 16th shooting in Indianapolis."
- [Laptop Drive for Formerly Detained Immigrants!](#) - "Covid-19 has dramatically impacted communication between service providers and the folks that need their services. We are heavily dependent on technology to meet and follow up. However, those directly affected do not have access to this technology (laptops, tablets, wifi) as most of them are rebuilding their lives after being held in immigrant detention centers. Due to COVID-19 restrictions, they are unable to access the immediate support they require after being released, including medical and legal assistance. Providing folks with the technology needed would tremendously support them in their journey to recovery. The laptop drive and fundraiser would provide the necessary funds to purchase these items."
- [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."
- [LGBT Rights Ghana COMMUNITY SUPPORT FUND](#) - "Community Support Fund is an initiative designed to support and empower members of our beloved LGBTIQ community who are financially constrained in Ghana. The initiative is a long term support system intended to address the struggles of a fast growing LGBTIQ community in Ghana and measures that have been enacted to ultimately support a wider community through business initiatives and other capacity building auxiliaries."
- [Instruments into Prisons](#) - "Do you have gear laying around that you would love to donate to a great gear drive? Die Jim Crow Records and UMAW are teaming up for a gear drive to support incarcerated musicians! Check out the link in UMAWs bio to complete the intake form, and we will reach out to you about whether or not we can intake your gear and next steps!"

- [Disabled Elders Fund](#) - "The Disabled Elders Fund is a mutual aid effort to support disabled elders in our communities. Ten or more recipients will receive up to \$1,000 to use how they see fit. The goal is to provide collective direct support for their needs."
- [Justice for Matthew Zadok](#) - "Our beloved baby brother, the youngest of six children and the only son was killed heartlessly by Dekalb County Police in his own home on April 12, 2021, although the family was not notified until nearly 24 hours later. We have eyewitness accounts that contradict the false news reports which reportedly states the police's side of the story."

Call/ Email/ Tweet:

- [#FreeGabby](#) - "Gabby Solano will be transferred from prison to ICE, and deported to a country she left as a child and has no family ties. Gabby deserves to be in the care of her family and community in California, not in immigration detention. Take action to urge CA Governor Newsom to stop Gabby's ICE transfer and urge President Biden to stop targeting incarcerated immigrants and refugees for deportation."
- [#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."
- [Free Wilson Pena Logo](#) - "Free Wilson Pena Loji from ICE detention in Batavia, NY. He is on day 20 of his second hunger strike for justice and survival. He needs to be released immediately."
- [#FreeKarim](#) - "Free Karim from Etowah County detention. Karim Golding is a Muslim Jamaican immigrant who came to the United States when he was a child to reunite with his family. Karim has had COVID-19 two times while in ICE detention, where he's been detained for over 4 years. Now, ICE wants to deport him to a country he has not known or been to since he was a child."

- **[Help Pass the Vision Act!](#)** - "The VISION Act, backed by over 35 criminal justice and immigrant rights groups statewide and 11 legislative cosponsors, would ensure that like any other Californian, an immigrant deemed eligible for release from state prison or local jail would not be turned over to ICE detention and instead would be able to reunite with their family and community. This includes a person who has completed their sentence, been granted parole, had charges dropped, or been granted release by a judge."
- **[Decriminalize Street Vendors Now!](#)** - "San Bernardino street vendors are asking for your support! Over the weekend, city staff and police targeted street vendors in operations throughout the city's most popular outdoor gathering spots. Today we need to contact the city to tell them to end the practice and agreements with the police, that puts all communities of color and immigrants at unnecessary risk."

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.

In solidarity,

The Staff of the CEC