

# The **Coalition** of **United** **PROGRESSIVES-**

## **CharMeck Chronicle**

May 25, 2017 Edition

### Welcome:

Greetings to all! We truly appreciate the involvement of everyone. This War on Oppression will only be won as one mass movement. Our Mission Statement is as follows:

Mission Statement- Our process of uniting, educating and activating will be focused on the continual unification of as many organizations as possible starting at the local level, and branching out to both the state of North Carolina and then the entire nation. In doing so the Coalition of United Progressives-CharMeck will continue to disburse and urge as many people as possible to support all organizations' efforts for fighting for the equality and justice for all!

Our Statement of Purpose is as follows:

### The Statement of Purpose-

The purpose of our Coalition of United Progressives- CharMeck is to incorporate as many organizations as one mass national coalition in order to move all of us as one as we focus on our TEN Point Plan: 1) Organizing the city, state, and nation and promoting the organizations that are fighting for the rights of all people; 2) Education; 3) Environmental Protection; 4) Affordable Housing; 5) Affordable Healthcare; 6) Political Empowerment; 7) Labor Rights; 8) Civil Rights; 9) Human Rights; and 10) Youth Development. We will continue to execute our TEN Point Plan in achieving our goals. Our coalition will continue to connect with elected officials in our efforts of achieving a more just, moral, and equal society.

**Once united across the city, state, and nation with the education programs, we will activate as one mass body and will win the war on Oppression!**

### **The History:**

April Jones, a Democratic District Organizer and Jade X. Jackson (Unofficial Assistant Democratic District Organizer) held a Thank You Party for the volunteers immediately following the November 2016 General Elections. Another outstanding Democratic District Organizer, Autumn Alston; former Washington, DC Legislative Director Joel Segal; and Co Chairman of the Charlotte Clergy Coalition for Justice Rev Rodney Sadler were all in attendance with about 30 volunteers. As Joel addressed the volunteers he stated that "Charlotte should be the Hub for the New Civil Rights Movement." Jade and Rev Sadler both supported the statement and the volunteers became focused. After countless discussions, the Uniting Across the Nation Project began on December 29, 2016. Our first Coalition of United Progressives' Meeting took place on March 18, 2017. This first meeting was when we shifted the name of the coalition from Uniting across The Nation to The Coalition of United Progressives CharMeck (C.U.P. CharMeck). Our agenda included a breakout sessions where we broke into 5 groups and each group presented 2 actions in which we would comprise our TEN Point Plan. During our second meeting, we further discussed the points. We also appointed Kevin and Donna Marie Woodson as Co-chairs for our City of Charlotte Picnic, which we are looking to have in late August/ Early September. We also discussed the appointed members to the coalition's Steering Committee. During our May 13<sup>th</sup> meeting we divided into groups again and thoroughly developed our strategies for our Coalition of United Progressives' TEN Point Plan Strategies.

### **The Executive Corner:**

**Rev Rodney Sadler, Joel Segal, and Jade X. Jackson are the founders and are the Executive Committee until they voluntarily step down from the committee.**

Rev Rodney Sadler:

Rev. Dr. Rodney Sadler is an Associate Professor of Bible at Union Presbyterian Seminary and Associate Minister of Mount Carmel Baptist Church. Rodney Sadler served as Mecklenburg Ministries' Board member during the time frames of 2006- 2012 and 2016 until current. Rev Sadler continued to be one of the "go to" folks for dismantling racism work, including the pilot session of a mixed-race clergy seminar held during the summer of 2012. Rodney has been working together to build bridges and advance racial and interfaith understanding ever since. He currently serves as the Vice-Chairman of the Charlotte Clergy Coalition for Justice. Rev Sadler also serves as Chairman of the North Carolina NAACP Health Committee; the Co- chairman of the Environmental Action Mobilization Network; The Chairman of the Justice Action Mobilization Network; and the Co- Chairman of People Demanding

**Action. He is also very active in the Environmental Justice Movement. He is also a Steering Committee Member of Housing, Employment, Healthcare Charlotte.**

Joel Segal:

Segal is the Executive Director of the North Carolina Climate Solutions Coalition, and the National Director of the Justice Action Mobilization Network. Joel is the former Senior Legislative Assistant to Representative John Conyers from 2000- 2013, and led the effort to end homelessness in United States Congress. Joel is the Former Senior Legislative Assistant to Charlotte City Councilman and Former Mayor Dan Clodfelder. Joel served as the Coordinator for Congressman John Conyers Congressional Universal Healthcare Task Force, and the Poor Peoples Caucus. He also served as Executive Director and Founder of "A Free China Movement." Furthermore, he raised more than 10 million dollars for children and homeless organizations. various Human Rights organizations. He served as an Executive Director for several jobs and housing organizations for the homeless. Segal is one of the co-founders and a current board member of the Progressive Democrats of America. Joel Segal served as Chair of the Congressional Universal Health Care Task Force and Senior Advisor and Senior Legislative Director to the Chairman of the United States House Committee on the Judiciary, Congressman John Conyers of Michigan. Joel also led the fight for universal healthcare and the Affordable Care Act. Joel was one of the main organizers of the NYU Climate Action Conference, held in March 2017. He is well connected to dignitaries worldwide. He is also a Steering Committee Member of Housing, Employment, Healthcare Charlotte. He is also a Steering Committee Member of Housing, Employment, Healthcare Charlotte.

Jade X. Jackson:

Jade uses her life story as a motivation to help others. She, being of bi-racial birth on November 11, 1965, was left in the hospital at birth. Her maternal side of the family did not want a "nigger" in the family. Jade travelled through 5 foster homes and was finally adopted by an African American family in 1972. Due to Jade's skin color, she had to defend herself against African American kids. Busing began in the Detroit Public Schools in 1974. At that time, Jade was caught in the cross fire of both Caucasian and African American children. She, then had to protect herself from the bullying of both white and black kids. Jade fought what she describes as an internal gender conflict in having internal desires of a girl but the external appearance of a male. As a child, Jade's parents socialized her into the political world by having her pass out literature at the voting polls. In the fall of 1985 Jade led roughly 500 people through the streets of Ypsilanti, Michigan on an Anti-Apartheid March. In 1989, Ms. Jackson became a labor leader for the A.F.S.C.M.E. Local 1583, which falls under the A.F.L.C.I.O. umbrella. She served various positions and as the University of Michigan Medical Center Executive Board Representative she served 1500 employees. In serving on the Negotiations

Team, in 1991, she represented 2500 members. She focused on her sales career from 1998- 2012. At that time, she published a book and became an advocate for the Transgender Community. Due to Jade being a transgender woman, her adopted mother kicked her out of her life in 2006. In 2013 Jade and 5 other Board Members worked on the Climbing Life's Mountains Project, which focused on equality for all. She was on book tour for about 2 years. Jade was one of 3 co-hosts for the Resist Trump Tuesdays Rallies, held from January 24, 2017 through April 28, 2017. She has fought for others all of her life!

### *The Steering Committee:*

The Executive Committee appointed the members of the Steering Committee. They were selected due to their proven leadership skills. Members of the steering Committee can also be added to or detracted from. The Steering Committee Members are:

Jade X Jackson  
Rev Amantha Barbee  
Julio Fernandez  
Tyler Reed  
Darrell Bonapart  
Debra Zahn

Rev Rodney Sadler  
Ann Harlan  
Donna Woodson  
Kevin Rosano  
Dasia Thomas  
Leeda

Joel Segal  
Brenda Bakari  
Kevan Woodson  
Autumn Alston  
Luis Rodriquez  
Cynthia Perry

### *The Coalition of United Progressives CharMeck Congress:*

We currently have roughly 12,000 members/effective contacts throughout the state of North Carolina and approximately 2000 members/ effective contacts in Charlotte and Mecklenburg County. There are several Environmental, Women's Rights, Labor, Clergy, Resist, Human Rights, and multiple other organizations that are represented. We also have very good contacts with the Mecklenburg County Commissioners, the current Charlotte Mayor, and state and national leaders. The Coalition of United Progressives CharMeck is an all-inclusive coalition that fights for the freedoms of all.

### *Moving Forward:*

We must move forward as one. Our coalition is currently advocating for the Women's Shelter at 734 Spratt Street. We are currently supporting the Mayfield Affordable Housing Project, where 6 churches are coming together with the city of Charlotte to use their excessive land to build housing units with solar panels. Expected ground breaking is set for the early months of 2017. Our coalition has begun its Monthly Movie Nights. We are partnering with Statesville Avenue Presbyterian Church. Thus, far we have watched and discussed the movies "Selma" and "The 13<sup>th</sup>". On May 3<sup>rd</sup> Joel Segal and Jade X spoke in favor of a

resolution that County Commissioner Pat Cotham and the NAACP were working on. The Raise the Age Resolution was to raise the age from 16 to 18 for inmates serving in adult prisons. The County Commissioners passed the resolution. Rev Sadler and Jade X Jackson were speakers at NAACP North Carolina State President William Barber's Moral Monday event that focused on Affordable Healthcare. The rally was held on Tuesday, May 23, 2017. President Barber called for a massive sit-in at the General Assembly for Tuesday, May 30<sup>th</sup> at 10am. Barber is challenging us to get a total of 200 participants. Arrests are possible but worth standing up for affordable healthcare for all. Please remember our forefathers that sacrificed for us. The Raleigh Capitol is located at:

1 East Edenton Street  
Raleigh, NC 27601

We are also in discussion of whether we want to file for a 501 c3 or 501 c4.

### **Next Meeting:**

**Our next meeting is scheduled for June 2<sup>nd</sup> at 12 noon until 1:30. It will be held at Union Presbyterian Seminary, Charlotte Campus. The address is 5141 Sharon Road, Charlotte, NC 28210. Due to the completion of developing the strategy for the TEN Point Plan we can reduce our 2 ½ hour meeting to 60-90 minutes depending on the agenda.**

**The agenda will be as follows:**

**12 noon- Greeting/ Opening Prayer: Jade X/ Rev Sadler  
12:10- 12:45- Rollout of the Coalition of United Progressives CharMeck's Affordable Housing and Jobs Plan; Joel Segal  
12:45-1pm Question and Answer for Affordable and Jobs Plan; Joel Segal  
1-1:10pm- Discussion on Picnic; Kevin and Donna Marie Woodson  
1:10-1:20- Announcement of the First Educational Forum/ Healthcare, Environmental Justice  
1:20-1:25- Announcements; Jade X  
1:25- Announcement of Next Meeting; Jade X  
1:30- Adjournment; Jade X**

**We will also be discussing committees at our following meeting. The Committees will include:**

**The Picnic Committee  
The Organizing Committee  
The Education Committee  
The Environmental Protection Committee**

The Affordable Health Committee  
The Affordable Housing Committee  
The Political Empowerment Committee  
The Labor Rights Committee  
The Civil Rights Committee  
The Human Rights Committee  
The Youth Development Committee  
The Communications Committee

**Mark Your Calendar/ Upcoming Events:**

**Tuesday Morning Breakfast Forum**

**Tuesday, May 30, 2017; 8:30-10 am  
Belmont Regional Center  
700 Parkwood Ave  
Charlotte, NC 28205**

**North Carolina Medicare/ Medicaid Protection Sit-in**

**Tuesday, May 30, 2017; 10 am  
North Carolina Capital General Assembly  
1 East Edenton Street  
Raleigh, NC 27601**

**Dr. William Barber Moral Monday**

**Tuesday, May 30, 2017; 6pm  
Bicentennial Mall  
Raleigh, NC 27601**

**Coalition of United Progressives CharMeck**

**Friday, June 2, 2017; 12 noon-1:30 pm  
Union Presbyterian Seminary, Charlotte Campus  
5141 Sharon Road  
Charlotte, NC 28210**

**March for Truth Rally**

**Saturday, June 3, 2017; 12 noon  
Romare Bearden Park, Charlotte**

**Community Forum and Informational Meeting**

**Tuesday, June 6, 2017; 6-8 pm**

**Pease Auditorium at CPCC Main Campus**

**1206 Elizabeth Ave**

**Charlotte, NC 28204**

**Tuesday Morning Breakfast Forum**

**Tuesday, June 6, 2017; 8:30-10 am**

**Belmont Regional Center**

**700 Parkwood Ave**

**Charlotte, NC 28205**

**Political Candidates Forum**

**June 7, 2017; 6-8 pm**

**2017 Charlotte Millennial**

**Heist Brewery**

**2929 North Davidson Street**

**Charlotte, NC 28205**

**MoveOn CLT RESIST Meeting**

**Saturday, June 10, 2017; 2-4pm**

**Location Will Be Announced**

**Please Contact Jade either via telephone at (336)306-3772**

**Or email: [unitingacrossthenation@gmail.com](mailto:unitingacrossthenation@gmail.com)**

**Ripple Action Group- "Political Story Telling"**

**Saturday, June 10, 2017; 2pm**

**Cornwell Center**

**2001 Selwyn Ave**

**Charlotte, NC 28207**

**Anti-Human Trafficking Discussion Panel**

**Tuesday, June 13, 2017; 8am**

**Charlotte Chamber of Commerce**

**Charlotte, NC**

**Tuesday Morning Breakfast Forum**

**Tuesday, June 13, 2017; 8:30-10 am**

**Belmont Regional Center**

**700 Parkwood Ave**

**Charlotte, NC 28205**

**Union County Democratic Party Executive Committee**

**Thursday, June 15, 2017; 6:30 pm**

**Old Monroe Armory**

**Monroe, NC**

**Indivisible NC District 9 June Monthly Meeting**

**Sunday, June 18, 2017; 3-4:30 pm**

**CHS Waxhaw Hospital Community Room**

**Waxhaw, NC**

**Tuesday Morning Breakfast Forum**

**Tuesday, June 20, 2017; 8:30-10 am**

**Belmont Regional Center**

**700 Parkwood Ave**

**Charlotte, NC 28205**

**NAACP and Greek Organization Mayoral Debate**

**Tuesday, June 20, 2017; 6pm**

**Trinity Episcopal School**

**750 East 9<sup>th</sup> Street**

**Charlotte, NC 28202**

**Summer Social Sponsored by Charlotte Uptown Indivisible & Charlotte's Women's March**

**Wednesday, June 21, 2017; 5-8 pm**

**Free Range Brewing**

**2320 North Davidson Street**

**Charlotte, NC**



**Please forgive us if we happened to accidentally omit any event. If that is the case please email us at [unitingacrossthenation@gmail.com](mailto:unitingacrossthenation@gmail.com).**

**For any future events please also email the details to [unitingacrossthenation@gmail.com](mailto:unitingacrossthenation@gmail.com). Currently, The Coalition of United Progressives CharMeck Chronicle will be distributed on a monthly basis. However, depending on feedback we may distribute it more frequently. We eventually decide on print copies in addition to the electronic copies.**

***A Final Thank You!***

We truly thank you all for your strength and determination. As you have probably heard over and over, this is not a sprint but it will be a long fight. Wars do not end in days, sometimes it takes years. Please remember those that pathed our way. Rosa Parks, Dr. King. Malcolm X, The Black Panthers, The Nation of Islam, The Student Non-Violent Coordinating Committee. Dr. King once stated "Some of us will be jailed and some of us will be murdered for standing up for the equality and justice for all." We cannot afford to lie down and let hateful people ruin our lives. We must fight for our future generations.

**Thank You for Fighting for Us! Thank You for Fighting for You! And Thank You for Fighting for America!!!!**

