



COVID-19 Grantee Spotlight: Emancipate NC



Up to 80% of incarcerated women are mothers—most of whom are women of color. [Emancipate NC](#) is using the COVID-19 crisis to put a spotlight on inhumane conditions in North Carolina's prisons and jails.

Emancipate NC is using a variety of tools during this pandemic, including letter-writing, virtual advocacy, webinars, legislative resolutions, petitions, litigation, and socially-distanced direct action among others.

"We are calling for an end to racialized mass incarceration"

Dawn Blagrove,
Executive Director, Emancipate
NC

On Mother's Day, Emancipate NC remembered these incarcerated mothers by joining allies at the women's prison in Raleigh, calling on the Governor to send them home so they can stay safe from COVID-19.

Emancipate NC's litigation on this pressing issue is moving in Wake County Superior Court. Emancipate NC has asked for the release of vulnerable people, as well as people with upcoming release dates. The judge has already ordered prison officials to take steps to ensure real social distancing in the facilities. If they can't accomplish this public safety order, the judge has implied that the prison will have to release men and women.

Through community education, narrative shift, and idea incubation, Emancipate NC supports North Carolina's people as they free themselves from mass incarceration and structural racism.

The COVID-19 pandemic has laid bare societal inequities that Southern Partners Fund has fought since its incorporation. SPF's capacity for enabling its grantee partners to build coordinated rapid response teams in their communities is well documented. SPF's grantee organizations rely on Justice Fund for Disaster Relief and Renewal grants to identify their most vulnerable populations and connect them to agencies and services that can help. In turn, vulnerable populations in these communities trust SPF grantee organizations to provide them with the best support available. In many communities, our grantee partners are their first responders.

COVID-19 is currently the primary focus for the Justice Fund for Disaster Relief and Renewal while SPF aggressively seeks new funding partners. To date, SPF has reached **\$4.25M out of a \$10M funding goal** and is already issuing its first round of grants to partner organizations throughout the rural Southeast.

For more information on Emancipate NC or on contributing to SPF's Justice Fund for Disaster Relief and Renewal, please click [Donate](#) visit our website or contact us by phone with the contact details provided below.

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