



Grantee Spotlight: South Carolina Progressive Network



The Missing Voter Project (MVP) was launched in 2004 to reach and mobilize new and infrequent voters in South Carolina.

"I want to begin an era of change in my community."

Mysia Wynn-Robinson, 20, MVP team leader

Unlike other voter registration drives, the MVP is nonpartisan, ongoing, and focused on historically under-represented communities. **MVP was created by the [SC Progressive Network](#) to grow an informed electorate with the power to mobilize around public policies critical to young people, working families, and communities of color in South Carolina.**

While most voter registration drives start anew each election cycle, the MVP works year-round to inform citizens about local and county matters that impact their lives, and to invite them to become involved in a growing movement for social and political change. **This year, the MVP is using a novel peer-driven approach of asking young, Black voters to reach young, Black non-voters and get them to the polls in November.**

Just 15% of South Carolina's Black voters under age 26 went to the polls in the last general election. Those voters are central to our 2020 MVP campaign. Over the summer, MVP organizers targeted Saluda and Fairfield, taking advantage of the relationships the Network has built in those counties over the 26 years it has been organizing. The campaign is now expanding into Richland County, and will eventually go statewide.

While 78% of South Carolina's nonwhite voting-age population is registered, only half of them regularly vote. An average of 500,000 of the state's one million registered Blacks (along with 100,000 unregistered citizens), are sitting out the elections. **If those "missing voters" were mobilized, it could change the balance of power in SC politics.**

During the pandemic, we have adjusted recruiting, training, and mobilization strategies to keep everyone safe. **We have been training volunteers on Zoom, and have been registering voters using virtual phone banking, an easy and accessible organizing**

tool. The MVP teams have taken quickly to the new model.

For more information on SC Progressive Network, or on contributing to SPF, please click below to visit our dedicated COVID-19 page or contact us by phone with the contact details provided below.

[More Info](#)

ADVANCING SOCIAL CHANGE IN THE RURAL SOUTH

info@southernpartnersfund.org

P: (404)-541-9091

www.southernpartnersfund.org

