

NCBCP 2006 YEAR-IN-REVIEW

Lest We Forget

Table of Contents

Acknowledgements	3
NCBCP Board of Directors.....	4
NCBCP Member Organizations	6
NCBCP State Affiliates.....	7
Executive Summary	8
NCBCP Overview and Program Descriptions	10

2006 Accomplishments

30th Anniversary-9 th Annual Spirit of Democracy Awards Celebration	12
--	----

NCBCP GULF COAST RECOVERY & REBUILDING EFFORTS

- Unity '06/Rebuild Hope Now Leadership Retreat
- Gulf Coast Assistance Efforts in the States
- New Orleans Mayoral/Municipal Elections & Voter Empowerment Weekends.....
- Hip Hop Caucus/H.R. 4197 Campaign.....
- 4th Annual Spirit of Democracy Symposium.....
- Black Women's Roundtable "Hear Me Now" Listening Sessions Tour.....

NCBCP ON PUBLIC POLICY

- Continued Dialogue with Government Response Agencies
- NCBCP and the National Policy Alliance
- Addressing Katrina Displaced Voter Issues at U.S. Department of Justice
- Vigil to Demand the Voting Rights Act Renewal
- Hands Off the Internet Coalition.....
- Kappa Alpha Psi Capitol Hill Days
- Defending Affirmative Action in Michigan.....

NCBCP'S ELECTORAL ENGAGEMENT

- Black Youth Vote! Campaign Management Training, Voter Registration Project & 6th Annual Civic Leadership Conference
- Power of the Sister Vote Gatherings
- Election Day War Room Operations, Voter Protection/1-866-MYVOTE-1 Voter Assistance Hotline
- Election Day Exit Poll & Analysis
- NCBCP Post-Election Briefing.....

NCBCP TECHNICAL ASSISTANCE & TRAINING

- Membership, Ally & Partner Support.....

NCBCP MEDIA OUTREACH.....

NCBCP RESEARCH PROJECTS

- New Orleans, LA Post-Election Survey Analysis.....
- Black Women's Roundtable "Hear Me Now" Listening Tour Survey Analysis
- Black Youth Vote Pre-Election Survey and NCBCP/Unity '06 Election Day Exit Poll Analyses

APPENDICES

- Appendix A—2006 Sponsors & Contributors
- Appendix B—NCBCP 2006 Official Partners

Acknowledgements

The National Coalition on Black Civic Participation's 2006 Accomplishments were phenomenal. This effort would not have been possible without the support of the Board of Directors, Advisory Board, Membership Organizations, sponsors, and the dedicated commitment of the NCBCP staff, affiliates, site conveners, coordinators, consultants and volunteers. We thank our supporters who helped the National Coalition succeed in 2006 through your financial and in-kind contributions.



A. Shuanise Washington
Chair of the Board of Directors



Melanie L. Campbell
Executive Director & CEO

2006 NCBCP National Staff and Professional Support Team

Kevin Parker, Chief Operating Officer
Nancy Harvin, Membership and Affiliate Services Manager,
Irene B. Schwoeffermann, Program Associate
LaTosha Brown, Regional Director
Vincent Sylvain, Regional Director
Jean Bennett, Resource Development (JB Martin-Mose Consultants)
Dana Lucas, Accountant (The DMP Group)
Marvin Dickerson, IT Specialists (Dickerson Technologies)
Jordan Thierry, Graduate Assistant
Lamar Lockridge, Intern
Tinia McCoy, Intern
Kendra Whitaker, Intern

Acknowledgements

The Unity '06 Civic Engagement and Voter Empowerment Campaign/Rebuild Hope NOW, which was the main focus of all of our programs and resources, would not have been possible without the experience, skills and expertise of a remarkable national team of co-chairs, support team, local staff, volunteers and other partners, including:

National Co-Chairs

Marc Morial, Co-Chair, Field Mobilization and Training
Clayola Brown, Co-Chair, Resources and Technology
Reginald Weaver, Co-Chair, Communications & Messaging
Ted Shaw, Esq., Co-Chair, Voter Protection
Sheryl Lee Ralph, Celebrity Spokesperson

NCBCP 2006 Program and Organizational Support Team Consultants and Volunteers

Faye Anderson, VOTE Program and Public Policy Consultant
Derrick Humphries, Legal Counsel (pro-bono)
Kirk Clay, Black Youth Vote, (Common Cause)
Y. Edrea Davis, Media Director (Dogon Village)
J. Bradley Starks, Media (Persuasion FX)
Joanne Williams, Media (Barrington Consultants)
Beth Hodges & Ruby Pulliam, Event Support (Spirit of Democracy Gala)
David Hardrick (Rebuild Hope NOW)
Greg Moore (Rebuild Hope NOW)
Natasha Jennings, BYV Coordinator (Alabama)
Steven Waddy, BYV Coordinator (Georgia)
Sherika Wilson, BYV Coordinator (Louisiana)
Hassan Allen, BYV Coordinator (Maryland)
Stephanie Moore, BYV Coordinator (Michigan)
Christina Sanders, BYV Coordinator (Texas)
Carmen Watkins, BYV Advisor (Texas)
Salandra Hanna, BYV Advisor (Florida)
Felicia Davis, Special Projects Support
Brian Young, Graphic Design Consultant (Young Design)
Leslie Watson-Malachi, Consultant
Opel Simmons (Program Support)
Darwin Fishman (Program Support)

2006 Year-End Report Team

Melanie L. Campbell, Editor-In-Chief
Kevin Parker, Co-Editor
Nancy Harvin, Co-Editor
Irene Schwoeffermann, Contributor
Joanne Williams, Contributor
LaTosha Brown, Contributor
Y. Edrea Davis, Contributor
Jordan Thierry, Contributor
Brian Young, Graphic Designer

NCBCP Board Of Directors



NCBCP Executive Director and CEO Melanie Campbell (far left) stands with new 2006-2007 Board of Directors officers (l-r), Dorothy Jackson-Treasurer, Foster Stringer-Vice Chair, Leslie Jackson-Secretary and A. Shuanise Washington-Chair at a reception held in their honor in July 2006.

CHAIR

Ms. A. Shuanise Washington
Vice President
Government Affairs, Policy & Outreach
Altria Corporate Services, Inc.

VICE CHAIR

Mr. Foster Stringer
Director, Human Rights & Community
Relations Department
American Federation of Teachers

SECRETARY

Ms. Leslie Jackson
Civil Rights Director
Communication Workers of America

TREASURER

Ms. Dorothy Jackson
Vice President
American Gaming Association

EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR & CEO

Ms. Melanie L. Campbell
National Coalition on Black Civic
Participation, Inc.

NCBCP LEGAL COUNSEL

Mr. Derrick A. Humphries, Esq.
Humphries and Brooks, Attorneys at Law

CHAIR EMERITUS

Mr. Eddie Williams
President
Eddie Williams & Associates
Chair, NCBCP By-Laws Committee

IMMEDIATE PAST CHAIR

Mr. Richard Womack, Sr.
Assistant to the President
AFL-CIO

FINANCE

Mr. Melvin Bazemore
Director of External Affairs
General Motors Corporation

PERSONNEL

Ms. Leslie M. Watson-Malachi
Public Member
Chair – Black Women’s Roundtable

Dr. Delisa Saunders
Public Member
American Federation of Teachers

PROGRAM DEVELOPMENT

Ms. Jennifer Henderson
President
Strategic Directions, LLP

Mr. Michael Brown
Corporate Relations Manager
State Farm Insurance Company

NOMINATIONS

Dr. Dorothy I. Height
President Emerita and Chair
National Council of Negro Women, Inc.

BYLAWS

Mr. Eddie Williams
President
Eddie Williams & Associates

BOARD MEMBERS

Ms. Diane Babineaux
Executive Assistant to the International
President
International Association of Machinists

Ms. Clayola Brown

President
A. Philip Randolph Institute

Mr. Diallo Brooks

BYV Representative
Director of Legislative Relations
Center for Policy Alternatives

Ms. Jo Ann Davidson

Co-Chair
Republican National Committee

Mr. Howard Dean

Chairman
Democratic National Committee

Mr. Albert E. Dotson

Chairman
100 Black Men of America, Inc.

Mr. Samuel Hamilton**

Grand Polemarch
Kappa Alpha Psi Fraternity, Inc.

Mr. Gerald Hudson

International Executive Vice President
Service Employees International Union

Mr. Garrison Jackson
President & CEO
Circulation Experts, LTD

Mr. Bruce Gordon
President & CEO
NAACP

Ms. Sharhonda Knott
BYV Representative
Director
Chicago Coalition on Black Civic
Participation

Dr. Joe Leonard
Executive Director
Black Leadership Forum

Reverend Joseph E. Lowery
Public Member
Joseph E. Lowery Institute for Justice and
Human Rights

Mr. William Lucy
International Secretary Treasurer
AFSCME

Mr. Marc Morial
President & CEO
National Urban League

(Open Seat)
United Auto Workers

Ms. Carlottia Scott
Public Member
LaCause, LLC

Dr. Elsie Scott
Interim President
Congressional Black Caucus Foundation

Dr. Yvonne Scruggs-Leftwich
Public Member
National Labor College

Dr. Margaret Simms
Interim President
Joint Center for Political and Economic
Studies

Ms. Stacey Davis Stewart
President and CEO
Fannie Mae Foundation

Ms. Cynthia Swann
Special Assistant to the President
Director of Governance and Policy
National Education Association

Dr. Ronald Walters
Public Member
African American Leadership Institute
University of MD – College Park

Mr. Michael Williams
Special Assistant to the President
Coalition on Black Trade Unionists

Ms. Robin Williams
Associate Director
Human Rights & Community Action Dept.
United Food and Commercial Workers
International Union

NCBCP Advisory Board

Mr. Norman Hill
President Emeritus
A. Philip Randolph Institute

Ms. Gloria Johnson
President (Retired)
Coalition of Labor Union Women

Mr. John Sweeney
President
AFL-CIO



Sam Hamilton, Grand Polemarch, Kappa Alpha Psi Fraternity presents NCBCP Executive Director & CEO, Melanie Campbell, check for 2006 NCBCP board assessment, with other senior officials of fraternity.

*A new slate of officers was inducted at the NCBCP Annual Joint Board and Membership Meeting on February 22, 2006. A. Shuanise Washington took the helm as chair, and in so doing, became the Board's 3rd and only female chair in its 30-year history.

**Mr. Hamilton's request to join the NCBCP Board of Directors was resoundingly approved at the NCBCP's Spring Board Meeting on May 5, 2006. Kappa Alpha Psi is the only Black fraternal organization which is expressly represented on the Board.

NCBCP Member Organizations

100 Black Men of America, Inc.
A. Philip Randolph Institute
Advance America
African Methodist Episcopal Church
Alpha Kappa Alpha Sorority, Inc.
Alpha Phi Alpha Fraternity, Inc.
Altria Group, Inc.
American Federation of Government Employees
American Federation Of Labor and Congress of Industrial Organizations
American Federation of State, County and Municipal Employees
American Federation of Teachers
American Postal Workers Union
Auxiliary to the National Medical Association
Benjamin E. Mays Educational Resource Center
Black Congress on Health, Law and Economics
Black Leadership Forum, Inc.
Blacks in Government
Church of God in Christ
Circulation Experti, LTD
Coalition of Black Trade Unionists
Coalition of Labor Union Women
Communication Workers of America
Congressional Black Caucus Foundation
Delta Sigma Theta Sorority, Inc.
Democratic National Committee
Fannie Mae Foundation
Frontiers International, Inc.
General Motors Corporation
Improved Benevolent Protective Order of the Elks
International Association of Black Professional Fire Fighters*
International Association of Machinist and Aerospace Workers
International Brotherhood of Electrical Workers
International Union of Operating Engineers
Iota Phi Lambda Sorority, Inc.
Joint Center for Political and Economic Studies
Kappa Alpha Psi Fraternity, Inc.
Leadership Conference on Civil Rights
Lawyers' Committee for Civil Rights Under Law
Listen, Inc.
MLK, Jr. Center for Nonviolent Social Change
National Alliance of Black School Educators
National Alliance of Postal and Federal Employees
National Association of Black County Officials
National Association of Black Owned Broadcasters
National Association of Black Women Attorneys
National Association of Investment Companies
National Association of Minority CPA Firms
National Association of Negro Business & Professional Women's Clubs, Inc.
National Association of Social Workers
National Association for the Advancement of Colored People
National Bankers Association
National Baptist Convention of America
National Baptist Convention-U.S.A., Inc.
National Bar Association
National Black Catholic Clergy Caucus
National Black Caucus of School Board Members
National Black Caucus of State Legislators
National Black Child Development Institute
National Black College Alumni Hall of Fame Foundation
National Black MBA Association, Inc.
National Black School Boards Association
National Black United Federation of Charities, Inc.
National Committee to Preserve Social Security and Medicare

*The IABPF was voted in as a new member of the NCBCP at its Annual Joint Board and Membership Meeting on February 22, 2006, having been an active participant in the Unity '04 Voter Empowerment and Civic Engagement Campaign, Rebuild Hope NOW, and numerous other NCBCP activities.

NCBCP State Affiliates

National Congress of Black Women
National Council of Black Family and Child Development
National Council of Churches
National Council of Negro Women
National Education Association
National Medical Association
National Newspaper Publishers Association
National School Boards Association
National Urban League
Omega Psi Phi Fraternity, Inc.
Opportunities Industrialization Centers of America
PACE International Union
People for the American Way Foundation
Phi Beta Sigma Fraternity, Inc.
Progressive National Baptist Convention, Inc.
Rainbow / P.U.S.H. Coalition
Religious Coalition for Reproductive Choice
Republican National Committee
Service Employees International Union
Sigma Gamma Rho Sorority, Inc.
Sony Music Entertainment, Inc.
Southern Christian Leadership Conference
State Farm Insurance Companies
Strategic Decisions, Inc.
The Black Women's Agenda
The College Fund
The Judicial Council of the National Bar Association
TWD, Inc.
Union of Needletrades, Industrial Textile & Employees (UNITE!)
United Auto Workers of America
United Food and Commercial Workers Int'l Union
United Steelworkers of America
Voices, Inc.
Zeta Phi Beta Sorority, Inc.

Alabama

Natasha Jennings
Alabama Coalition on Black Civic Participation (ACBCP)

California

Robert Phillips
Bay Area Coalition on Black Civic Participation (BCBCP)

Florida

Salandra Hanna
Florida Coalition on Black Civic Participation

Georgia

Helen Butler
Georgia Coalition for the Peoples' Agenda

Illinois

ShaRhonda C. Knott
Chicago Coalition on Black Participate (CCBCP)

Louisiana

Vincent Sylvain
Louisiana Unity Coalition

Mississippi

Debra Robinson and Stephanie Parker Weaver
Mississippi Coalition on Black Civic Participation (MCBCP)

North Carolina

Cynthia D. Brown
North Carolina Coalition on Black and Brown Civic Participation (NCBBCP)

Ohio

Petee Talley
Ohio Coalition on Black Civic Participation (OCBCP)

Pennsylvania

Rev. Judith Moore
Pittsburgh Area Coalition on Black Civic Participation (PACBCP)

Donna Frisby-Greenwood
Richard Womack Jr.
Greater Philadelphia Coalition on Black Civic Participation (GPCBCP)

Texas

Carmen Watkins
Houston Coalition on Black Civic Participation (HCBCP)

Wisconsin

Paula Dorsey
Wisconsin Coalition on Black Civic Participation (WCBCP)

NCBCP AFFILIATE RETREAT

On January 26-27, 2006 the NCBCP hosted its first affiliates retreat at the National Education Association and the AFL-CIO headquarters in Washington, D.C. Seven of the 12 state affiliates were represented at the retreat, which was facilitated by NCBCP Board Member Carlotta Scott and Membership and Affiliate Services Manager Nancy Harvin. The main focus of the meeting was to review, assess, and discuss the NCBCP 2006-2008 Strategic Plan and Strategic Directions as well as NCBCP programmatic plans as they pertain to affiliates. Affiliate representatives also offered their views on how to strengthen and expand the affiliate network by expressing their needs and expectations. The legal and fiduciary criteria and responsibilities of becoming an affiliate were reviewed by NCBCP Legal Counsel Derrick Humphries, whose firm also prepared and distributed a "Reference Guide to Internal Revenue Service Group Exemption." As affiliates are in varying stages of incorporation, the goal is to have all affiliates fully incorporated and included in the NCBCP's group exemption by the end of 2008.

The retreat concluded with affiliate representatives attending the NCBCP Winter Board meeting on January 27th.

Executive Summary

The National Coalition on Black Civic Participation (NCBCP) was convened on May 5, 1976, to address the low civic and voter participation levels of the black electorate, by the Joint Center for Political and Economic Studies, NAACP, the AFL-CIO and 35 national organizations and now boasts a diverse membership of over 80 national organizations and twelve (12) state and local affiliates. (*originally named National Coalition on Black Voter Participation and incorporated as a 501© 3, non-partisan national organization*)

Over the past 30 years, through cooperative efforts and activities, the National Coalition has grown from an ad hoc affiliation of member organizations to a nationally recognized grassroots coalition with a new name, a new mission to engage the Black community on a year-round basis through its dynamic and effective civic and voter participation signature programs and initiatives---and continues to evolve and fine tune the organization's capacity to be effective by utilizing cutting-edge tactics, strategic planning and technical tools. (www.ncbcp.org)

At its inception, the National Coalition undertook the responsibility to enfranchise more than seven million non-voting Black voters who had been locked out of the political process. The catalyst for the formation of the National Coalition was the 1974 election when Black voter turnout was only 34 percent nationwide. Nearly half (48 percent) of the 15 million Black voting age population were unregistered. Just 9 years after passage of the Voting Rights Act of 1965, apathy gripped the Black community. Today, more than 16 million [68 percent] of the Black voting age population is registered to vote and in the last three presidential elections (1996-2004), black voter turnout exceeded 55 – 60 percent and in 2006 averaged 40 percent, which impacted a revolutionary change in the 110th Congress and governor's races across the country.

The 2006 Mid-Term Election Cycle resulted in a historical “*year of firsts*” for our nation's political landscape:

- **First woman was selected Speaker of the House of Representatives**, Congresswoman Nancy Pelosi and **First African**

American to serve as Majority Whip---Congressman James Clyburn.

- **First time in U.S. history---five major committees will be led by African Americans in the House of Representatives**---**Ways & Means**---Congressman Charles Rangel---**Judiciary**, Congressman John Conyers---**Ethics**---Congresswoman Stephanie Tubbs-Jones--- **Homeland Security**---Congressman Bennie Thompson and **House Administration**---Congresswoman Juanita Millender-McDonald.
- **First African American elected governor of Massachusetts** and a host of other firsts were reelected as lieutenant governor, secretary of state and other statewide constitutional seats and **several African Americans were major contenders for United States Senate and governor as republicans and democrats in Maryland, Tennessee and Ohio.** (See www.jointcenter.org for details)

In 2006, we celebrated the National Coalition's 30th Anniversary under the banner, “*Lest We Forget: Celebrate Our Past to Forge A Bold New Future!*” “by continuing to civically and politically engage the Black community, with a special emphasis on youth, women and immigrant populations, to make voting and civil participation a responsibility and tradition now and for future generations.

We celebrated by engaging fully in helping to bring a sense of hope and restoration for nearly one million survivors of Hurricanes Katrina and Rita, as well as the nation to regain a sense of responsibility for our most vulnerable and precious resources---our children, who are our future and our elders, who have sacrificed and paid their dues to live in dignity in their senior years. We presented “Hear Me Now”, a 7-day, 7-city **Black Women's Roundtable** Listening Sessions Bus Tour in Alabama, Louisiana and Mississippi and helped displaced New Orleans voters **Rebuild Hope NOW** by participating in municipal elections which

determined who will lead the largest rebuilding of a modern urban city in over 100 years.

We celebrated by building upon the National Coalition's Black Youth Vote! civic leadership capacity to educate, motivate and engage local Black communities in all levels of civil society by registering over 21,000 and training Black youth leaders and activists to lead the National Coalition in 2006 and beyond.

We celebrated by ensuring that Black communities are a major factor in our democracy and all Voices of the Electorate are uplifted and armed with the power of the law of the land to ensure "We the People" continue to participate in our representative democracy without barriers, fear or intimidation by fighting to engage our communities to have their voices heard in the 109th Congress for the passage and restoration of the Voting Rights Act of 1965, (Fannie Lou Hamer, Rosa Parks, and Coretta Scott King Voting Rights Act Reauthorization and Amendments Act of 2006) for another 25 years and vowing to continue the fight to save affirmative action in Michigan and other states.

We celebrated by protecting not only Black voters' right to have their vote counted, but, over 19,000 voters across the country no matter their race, ethnicity, class or culture in the 2006 mid-term election by sponsoring a national voter assistance hotline—1-866-MY-VOTE1--and helping to increase Black voter turnout in 18 states and monitoring the Election through a national Unity '06 Election Day War Room.

We celebrated by strengthening our ability to provide high-quality service and benefit to our constituency base--membership, affiliates, partners, communities and sponsors-----by providing technical assistance, training and support as speakers, panelists, conveners and facilitators for over 50 national, state and locally-based conventions, conferences, forums, marches, rallies, strategic sessions and workshops.

We celebrated our 30th Anniversary by honoring and celebrating a stellar

cadre of African American leaders who have built upon the legacy of the Black experience through public service, civil rights, corporate, labor, community empowerment and board service at our 9th Annual Spirit of Democracy Awards Celebration.

Today we are challenged to ensure an independent, self sustaining Black Electoral Political Movement: An Electoral Movement that fuels the advancement of the public policy priorities of the African American community. Meeting the charge of furthering the progressive public policy agenda of our community from the School Board to the City Council; from the State Legislature to the Executive Mansion; from Congress to the White House requires a conscientiously evolved Black Campaign that develops new independent resources to support our activities; employs new methods to engage our people and institutes new metrics to measure our progress.

Finally, we invite you to join us by dedicating your time, your talents and your dollars as we celebrate and thank our ancestors who came before us by working smarter to prepare the National Coalition for the next 30 years, dedicating our work in 2007 to *Cultivate Civic Leadership for Future Generations.*

Melanie L. Campbell
Executive Director & CEO

Overview of NCBCP / NCBCP Program Descriptions

The National Coalition on Black Civic Participation, Inc. (formerly the National Coalition on Black Voter Participation, Inc.) was founded in 1976 on the principle of the yet unfulfilled realization of a full democracy. Building upon its rich history and strong relationships, the National Coalition serves as an effective facilitator and convener at the local, state and national levels. For 30 years, the National Coalition, through its 80 member organizations, has proven itself uniquely qualified to address the disenfranchisement of African American voters.

A 501(c) 3, non-profit, nonpartisan, membership organization, the National Coalition is dedicated to increasing African American participation in civil society. The current programs and initiatives of the organization include **Voices of the Electorate, Operation Big Vote, Black Youth Vote!, Black Women's Roundtable, the Information Resource Center and the Unity Voter Empowerment Campaign**. Since the Gulf Coast region was devastated by Hurricanes Katrina and Rita, the NCBCP convened its member organizations, sponsors and allies for the **ReBuild Hope NOW Campaign** to provide long-term relief, recovery and rebuilding efforts in those affected areas. Through these programs and initiatives, the National Coalition has trained and engaged African American leaders and community activists in overcoming institutional barriers that have hindered the growth of the Black communities politically, socially and economically.

Vision

The National Coalition envisions a nation in which all citizens from children to seniors have the tools to participate fully in the democratic process at the local, state, national and global levels. By continuing to lead the fight to eliminate remaining barriers to civic participation, the National Coalition will promote greater social and economic justice to enhance the quality of African American life.

Mission

The mission of the National Coalition is to create an enlightened community by building institutional capacity that provides and develops leadership. By educating, motivating, organizing, and mobilizing citizens in the African American community, the National Coalition seeks to encourage full participation in a barrier-free democratic process. Through educational programs and leadership training, the coalition works to expand, strengthen, and empower

our communities to make voting and civic participation a cultural responsibility and tradition.

NCBCP PROGRAM DESCRIPTIONS

Unity '06 Voter Empowerment and Civic Engagement Campaign



Since 1998, the NCBCP has convened its affiliates, member organizations, partners and allies under the **Unity Voter Empowerment Campaign**, a national civic engagement program that provides the information, skills and support that Black Americans needed to fully participate in the democratic process. Key partners have included the National Urban League, the *Tom Joyner Morning Show*, Black Entertainment Television, the National Pan-Hellenic Council, UniverSoul Circus and over 160 other national, civic, civil rights, community, faith-based, and fraternal organizations.

The Unity campaign has five overarching goals:

- Register one million new voters nationwide.
- Boost Black voter turnout in targeted states.
- Increase participation of underrepresented populations, including immigrants and Black youth.
- Educate voters about their rights and ensure voters are able to cast ballots without fear or intimidation.
- Ensure that every vote is counted.

Operation Big Vote



The primary outreach program of the National Coalition traditionally has been Operation Big Vote (OBV), a nationwide nonpartisan, grassroots civic engagement and voter participation campaign. The program supports intensive civic education, registration and get-out-the-vote (GOTV) activities at a local level. The local OBVs hire their own staff and formulate their own plans, while the national office is responsible for providing training and technical assistance. OBV partners provide an environment where local issues, often with national implications, are addressed by a cross-section of individuals who bring various interests, ages, backgrounds and experiences to the process.

*Black Youth Vote!
Our Voices! Our Issues! Our Politics!*



Black Youth Vote! is a broad based coalition of organizations and individuals committed to increasing political and civic involvement among black men and women aged 18-35. BYV! is youth led and dedicated to educating young voters in the Black community who are increasingly disenfranchised and alienated from the electoral and legislative process. Through civic education, leadership development and training, BYV! works to educate youth and young adults on how to identify issues and ways to influence public policy.

*Black Women's Roundtable
Healthy, Wealthy and Wise*



The Black Women's Roundtable (BWR) is a project that brings together individuals and organizations committed to social justice and economic equality through the increased participation of women in the political process. Initiated in 1983, BWR continues to: (1) sponsor projects emphasizing the importance of women in the political process; (2) develop leadership potential of African American women by encouraging education on the political process and preparation to run for public office; and (3) ensure the involvement of African American women in policy discussions about the significance of the effect women voters have on the political process.

Voices of the Electorate



Voices of the Electorate (VOTE) is a diverse, non-partisan coalition campaign, designed to bring together national, state and local organizations, leaders and community activists to address election reform and other issues impacting civic participation. VOTE activities include public awareness campaigns, civic education trainings, town hall meetings, and election reform legislation advocacy. VOTE serves as a clearinghouse for up-to-date information on civic issues.

*Information Resource and Training Center
(IRTC)- Information is Political Power*



The Information Resource Center (IRTC) is the National Coalition's outreach arm to its membership and the general public. The IRTC provides general information and responds to citizen's inquires regarding registration processes and voter participation. Opportunities are created for youth to intern and assist The National Coalition in analyzing voting statistics and trends. Through an investment in global communications technology, IRTC has increased its ability to serve and communicate effectively with researchers, media, public officials, students, organizations, and many others.

Rebuild Hope NOW



ReBuild Hope NOW is a project of the National Coalition on Black Civic Participation, Inc. (NCBCP), in partnership with over 40 national, regional and state-based organizations to maximize their collective strengths to bring sustained relief, recovery and rebuilding support to the millions of displaced survivors of Hurricanes Katrina and Rita.

The National Coalition staff provides assistance on civic participation techniques through regional workshops, trainings, seminars and meetings for its Operation Big Vote, Black Youth Vote!, Black Women's Roundtable and Voices of the Electorate convenors and coordinators, member organizations and other groups.

30th Anniversary/ 9th Annual Spirit Of Democracy Awards Celebration

“Lest We Forget: Celebrating the Past to Forge a Bold New Future”



The National Coalition on Black Civic Participation held its 9th Annual Spirit of Democracy Awards Celebration “Lest We Forget - Celebrating the Past to Forge a Bold New Future” on May 5, 2006, also celebrating the NCBCP’s 30th Anniversary, at the Marriott Wardman Park in Washington D.C.

NCBCP honored two of the Congressional Black Caucus leaders----Honorable James Clyburn (D-SC) and Honorable Bennie Thompson (D-MS).

NCBCP also honored five of its own including an original NCBCP Founding Board Member Mrs. Margaret Bush Wilson; Immediate Past Chair Mr. Richard Womack; Veteran Board Member Ms. Carlottia A. Scott; and Regional Directors Ms. LaTosha Brown and Mr. Vincent Sylvain. Additional honorees included Mr. Fred Keeton, Harrah’s Entertainment; Dr. Kay Coles James, J.C. Watts Companies; Mr. Nat LaCour, American Federation of Teachers.

This year’s event was co-hosted by two stars of both Broadway and Hollywood - Ms. Sheryl Lee Ralph and Mr. Ben Vereen. They kept the audience informed and entertained for the duration of the program. The Spirit of Democracy Awards Celebration was created by NCBCP to diversify and expand its funding base to build long term capacity and recognizes leaders who by their words and example, remind us all that the struggle continues.

The event was highlighted by a rousing rendition of gospel favorite, “How I Got Over,” sung by the incomparable Ms. Julia Nixon.

NCBCP COO, Kevin Parker and Jacqueline Parker greet Spirit '07 celebrity co-hosts, Ben Vereen & Sheryl Lee Ralph at stellar affair.



Spirit Of Democracy Gala Entertainers, Songstress Julia Nixon and Company



(l-r) NCBCP Executive Director & CEO Melanie Campbell; Board Vice-Chair Foster Stringer; Board Secretary Leslie Jackson; Honoree Fred Keeton; Honoree and Board Member Carlottia Scott; Honoree Margaret Bush Wilson; Board Chair A. Shuanise Washington, Honoree and Regional Director LaTosha Brown; Honoree and Regional Director Vincent Sylvain; Board Treasurer Dorothy Jackson; Board Chair Emeritus Eddie Williams.



The Chairman's Circle Award is given to the Honorable James Clyburn by NCBCP Chair Emeritus Eddie Williams and Chair A. Shuanise Washington.



NCBCP Strategizes for Unity '06 Civic Engagement and Voter Empowerment Campaign/ReBuild Hope Now

In late January 2006, a select group of civic, religious, academic, and technology leaders met in a one-day retreat in Hollywood, Florida to discuss the “Right of Return” for displaced New Orleans citizens and their access to the ballot box along with developing a strategy for the 2006 Unity Campaign.

During multiple work-sessions, the leaders gathered to receive briefings on the current state of affairs concerning the New Orleans elections, a preliminary analysis of the mid-term election cycle, and a review of lessons learned from the 2004 Unity Campaign.

Additionally, the group participated in the drafting of a Unity 06 Working Paper which was used as the basis of the 2006 campaign.

The second half of the retreat focused on messaging, mobilization and turnout, legal strategies for accessing the ballot, and a technology update. The meeting concluded with a brainstorming session that produced a four phase implementation calendar which included capacity building and fundraising, program build-out and outreach, voter contact, and voter mobilization and protection.

NCBCP Rebuild Hope Now 2006 Continues its Relief, Recovery and Rebuilding Efforts

In the days immediately following Hurricane Katrina, the failed levies, and then Hurricane Rita, the NCBCP considered it a moral and civic obligation to convene its affiliates, member organizations, board, allies and sponsors to use their combined resources and strengths to ensure a long-term commitment to the relief, recovery and rebuilding of the Gulf Coast. Thus the ReBuild Hope NOW Campaign was born in August 2005. Since then, the NCBCP has been steadfast in its determination to continue this effort, as it wrestles with the reality that too many survivors’ lives remain shattered by failed government assistance, the effects of “Katrina fatigue,” neglect, and a myriad of ills, both social and personal.

NCBCP affiliates and their networks labored in Alabama, Arkansas, Georgia, Louisiana, Mississippi, and Texas as stalwarts of aid to tens of thousands of Gulf Coast survivors throughout 2006 and will continue to be beacons of hope in the months and years to come. Below are some of the countless examples of grassroots, direct assistance that NCBCP activists delivered this year.

Alabama (Alabama Coalition on Black Civic Participation, ACBCP)

- Coordinated food donations (2 truck loads) from America’s second harvest to support internally displaced families in Alabama that were relocated from New Orleans (NOLA) and the Gulf Coast region. This donation was enough to feed families in the shelter for a two-month period.
- Coordinated relief supplies and ACBCP volunteers from its networks to assist at the temporary housing shelters in Montgomery, Mobile, Selma, and Birmingham. Served 500 families.
- In partnership with Saving Our Selves (S.O.S.) Coalition coordinated clean up and general home improvement projects for elderly residents in Mobile, Prichard, and Bayou La Batre, Alabama. Assisted about 40 families.
- Supported the Circle of Love Fellowship Ministries long-term housing shelter in Selma, Alabama



Displaced citizens get much-needed assistance, counseling and supplies in Houston. (Photos courtesy of Houston Area Urban League/Houston Coalition on Black Civic Participation.)



that assisted 100 displaced families.

- Coordinated Gulf Coast donations and launched spring break volunteer drives at Alabama State University, Concordia College and Jefferson State Community College. Recruited 15 volunteers.
- Provided financial support and training for student participants of the *Katrina On The Ground* project held in Selma, AL in which over 1100 students were trained and assigned to community-led recovery projects in several communities on the Gulf Coast.

Arkansas

- Assisted with mobilizing New Orleans displaced voters from the Fort Smith, Arkansas to travel to Louisiana to cast their votes. Provided bus transportation and absentee information voters.
- Provided 50 cell phones for NOLA displaced voters living in Arkansas.

Georgia (Georgia Coalition for the People's Agenda)

- Recruited an outreach team and conducted absentee ballot outreach to displaced New Orleans voters in the metro Atlanta region. NCBCP teams distributed over 7000 fliers in the Metro Atlanta area.
- Provided 150 cell phones to Greater St. Stephens Baptist Church for displaced New Orleans voters in Atlanta.
- Coordinated a Super Sunday Voter outreach with First Iconium Baptist Church in Atlanta to provide on-site support for absentee voters.
- Coordinated voter outreach to over 500 displaced voters to travel to NOLA to participate in the NOLA municipal elections on April 22, 2006.
- Assisted with outreach and provided support for 2 buses of

displaced voters in metro Atlanta to travel to New Orleans and participate in the NOLA run-off elections on May 20, 2006.

- Directly identified and contacted over 150 NOLA displaced families in the metro Atlanta region to encourage voter participation in the NOLA mayoral elections.
- Established a voter assistance site in Atlanta office for displaced voters. Provided voters with absentee voter information, internet access and fax service accessibility.
- Coordinated a NOLA Voter Rights Rally and Press Conference in Atlanta with over 22 state and local groups in attendance to call for the support of full voting rights for NOLA voters.
- Coordinated NOLA Community Resources Fair for displaced citizens in the metro Atlanta region. Over 100 visitors participated. Twelve (12) service providers participated offering the following:
 1. free tax services
 2. housing assistance
 3. family mental and emotional counseling services
 4. civic education
 5. absentee voter information
 6. educational opportunities
 7. children's activities (face painting, reading, balloons, games)

Louisiana (Louisiana Unity Coalition)

- NCBCP coordinated delivery of a truckload of girls' clothing donated by American Girls Company through Kids in Distressed Situations (K.I.D.S., New York) to Lafayette Restoration Center in time for holiday distribution to over 300 families.

- See Unity '06 for additional Louisiana accomplishments. (pages 16-17)

Mississippi (Mississippi Coalition on Black Civic Participation)

- Coordinated volunteer teams of over 200 African-American volunteers to work on community recovery projects in Mississippi Gulf Coast communities.
- Provided and distributed over 5000 pieces of informational and educational resource literature in the Mississippi around environmental justice, social services, and human rights.
- Coordinated recovery teams to assist with (6) church rebuilding efforts in Biloxi, Pearlinton, and Gulfport, Mississippi. Total membership of the churches are about 1200 -1500.
- Coordinated grassroots organizing and leadership training with Saving Our Selves (SOS) Coalition with two communities in the Gulf Coast: Moss Point, MS and Gulfport, MS.
- Provided mold remediation supplies such as white suits, safety glasses and masks to 500 volunteers in the Gulf Coast.
- Assisted in conducting human rights surveys and distributing support information to 165 families in the Biloxi area.
- Provided 50 cell phones for NOLA displaced voters in Mississippi.
- Coordinated church volunteer groups from Maryland to do general maintenance, assist in distribution warehouse and help supply emergency medical center. Total of three trips and about 70 volunteers.

Texas (Houston Coalition on Black Civic Participation)

Partnering with the Houston Area Urban League, the HCBCP:

- Created the Katrina/Rita Resource Pavilion to assist over 700 individuals in receiving needed services including:
 - a) FEMA onsite assistance
 - b) Mental Health Screening
 - c) Case Management Service
 - d) Counseling
 - e) Employment and Training Opportunities
 - f) Access to 10 physicians, screenings and health care professionals
- Provided access to health services to over 4,000 children and adults
- Provided intensive counseling to near 2,500 survivors
- Assisted 1,000 families move into permanent housing through Fannie Mae, Freddie Mac foreclosures and individual placements
- Provided new, unused clothing and household goods to over 6,000 families or individuals
- Provided (3) Housing Rights/ Discrimination Seminars w/the Texas Workforce Commission (200 attended and received the latest rental and homeowner information regarding occupant rights and homeowner/ neighborhood associations)
- Distributed grocery/gas cards (card value \$25-\$100) to approximately 5,950 individuals.
- Hope Fest @ Toyota Center Initial outreach to 801 Katrina Survivors

New Orleans Mayoral/Municipal Elections & 4-city forums

The National Coalition On Black Civic Participation's Katrina Survivors Empowerment Weekends

With the realization that over 150,000 Black voters remained displaced from New Orleans following the tragedies of Hurricanes Katrina and Rita, the National Coalition on Black Civic Participation (NCBCP) joined forces with the National Urban League and other prominent national and local minority organizations to host a series of Katrina Survivors Empowerment Weekends. The events were scheduled during the four weekends leading up to the April 22nd municipal elections in New Orleans in cities which had large concentrations of evacuees: Houston, TX (March 25); New Orleans (March 31); Atlanta, GA (April 7-9); and Baton Rouge, LA (April 15). The major concern was that evacuees were not receiving the necessary information and tools vital to making informed voting decisions and therefore would not fully be able to decide whom their leadership would be as the rebuilding of New Orleans moved forward. With this critical and historical election looming, the Louisiana Unity Coalition under the banner of the NCBCP hosted a series of **New Orleans Mayoral Candidate Forums**. These non-partisan forums were part of NCBCP's Unity '06/ReBuild Hope Now Campaign's *Katrina Survivors Voter Empowerment Weekends*, designed to afford displaced New Orleans residents with opportunities to remain engaged in the electoral process.

The forums were designed to:

- raise awareness among displaced New Orleanians regarding the unique methods of voting (i.e., absentee ballots and early voting periods) regardless of their current location;
- allow attendees to hear from among the 22 mayoral and other municipal candidates on their plans for rebuilding the city as well as provide a platform for residents to express their concerns and raise questions on future opportunities and other relevant topics with the candidates;

- provide information resources to Katrina/Rita survivors with recovery and rebuilding opportunities;
- educate New Orleanians on their five key voting rights: (1) the right to vote regardless of current location; (2) the right to vote during the early voting period—April 10-13 and April 15; (3) the right to vote by absentee ballot; (4) the right to vote in person in Orleans Parish; (5) the right to vote without presenting any photo identification to election officials.

The forums were moderated by a combination of local and national media personalities. Other New Orleans-based civic and community organizations which participated in these Voter Empowerment Weekends included: the Louisiana Unity Coalition, Urban League of Greater New Orleans, African American Leadership Project, United Teachers of New Orleans, Deep South Center for Environmental Justice, Neighborhood Development Foundation, New Orleans Redevelopment Authority, New Orleans Affordable Homeowners, New Orleans East Economic Development Foundation, Coalition of Minority Contractors of Louisiana, Louis Armstrong Jazz Camp, Louisiana Legislative Black Caucus, The People's Hurricane Relief Fund & Oversight Committee, New Orleans' NAACP, Louisiana Data News Weekly, V.O.T.E., Ashe' Cultural Center, Louisiana Minority Business Council and People's Institute for Survival and Beyond.

National organizations and NCBCP affiliates supporting this initiative included: SCLC, 100 Black Men of America, Atlanta Urban League, Houston Coalition For Black Civic Participation, Houston Area Urban League, National Education Association, American Federation of Teachers, The People's Agenda, NAACP Legal Defense Fund, Alabama Coalition on Black Civic Participation, Institute of the Black World 21st Century, Houston Coalition on Black Civic Participation, Black Leadership Forum, National Council of Negro Women, National Newspaper Publishers' Association, National Pan-Hellenic Council, Operation



New Orleans mayoral candidates travel to Atlanta to campaign to their displaced constituents in Atlanta during NCBCP Voter Empowerment Weekend.



NCBCP Board Member Rev. Dr. Joseph Lowery fires up a rally of national leaders, community activists and evacuees to demand the full voting rights of New Orleans displaced residents in Atlanta.

Hope, NAFEO, The S.O.S Coalition, NAACP, International Association of Black Fire Fighters, The Advancement Project, International Association of Machinist & Aerospace Workers, Communication Workers of American, AFL-CIO, Hip Hop Caucus, APRI, Common Cause, Center for Civic Participation, CBTU, Leadership Conference on Civil Rights, Black Youth Vote, National Black Caucus of State Legislators, Legacy PAC, and Blacks in Government.

The *Unity '06/ReBuild Hope NOW Campaign* proved to be the most comprehensive umbrella effort undertaken by African-American led organizations to address black voter turnout and protection in the New Orleans 2006 municipal elections. Additionally, the NCBCP gave equal prominence to other important issues such as relief, recovery, and rebuilding in the Gulf Coast region relative to the catastrophes of Hurricanes Katrina and Rita in 2005.

The NCBCP established the Rebuild HOPE Now Campaign to assist the National Coalition's state affiliates and survivors impacted by Hurricanes Katrina-Rita in Alabama, Louisiana and Mississippi and its members and affiliates in Georgia and Texas in sustaining a long-term disaster relief and rebuilding effort in the communities

NCBCP Goes "Hip Hop" for Recovery and Renewal Legislation

The National Coalition on Black Civic Participation's **Rebuild Hope NOW Campaign** partnered with the Hip Hop Caucus and the Gulf Coast H.R. 4197 Renewal Campaign to sponsor a rally and march to push for support of the House-sponsored bill that called for comprehensive assistance for victims of Hurricanes Katrina and Rita. The bill, officially called the *Hurricane Katrina Recovery, Reclamation, Restoration, Reconstruction and Reunion Act of 2005* was introduced by the Congressional Black Caucus to provide for the recovery, reclamation, restoration and

adversely damaged by Hurricane's Katrina and Rita. Central to the NCBCP's overall mission is to help create a barrier-free democracy, so a natural extension of the RBHN campaign was to offer as much assistance as possible to ensure that the voting rights of displaced residents were defended throughout the New Orleans primary elections on April 22nd as well as the run-off on May 20th.

The Empowerment Weekends also led the National Coalition to develop an exit poll to capture the experience of voters and also to document the issues that they were still facing eight months post-Katrina. The results of this poll strongly indicated that there is much to be addressed as displaced residents grapple with home repair, affordable housing, removal of debris, availability of medical care and other issues. *(Excerpts from the analysis of the poll by Dr. Silas Lee can be found in the Research Section of this report; the full analysis can be seen at www.ncbcp.org .)*

Public policy adopted over the next few months will have a profound impact on the rebuilding of New Orleans over the next five to ten years. It is clear that there remains great need for the NCBCP to continue its ReBuild Hope NOW efforts, particularly as the work impacts women and youth.

reconstruction of lives and communities and for the reunion of families devastated by Hurricane Katrina and to address the issues of poverty exposed by Hurricane Katrina. The NCBCP provided 500 t-shirts for participants and took part in the march from the U.S. Capitol to Lafayette Square (across from the White House) where the rally was held. Marchers included civic, religious and community leaders and activists as well as hurricane survivors. The National Coalition also used the event to educate New Orleans voters about their voting rights leading into the April 22nd municipal elections.



NCBCP/ReBuild Hope NOW Field Directors, Vincent Sylvain and LaTosha Brown monitor New Orleans polls in April.



NCBCP/ReBuild Hope NOW volunteer conducts exit poll survey with New Orleans resident.

NCBCP Hosts VOTE Democracy Symposium

On June 7, 2006, the National Coalition on Black Civic Participation convened its 4th Annual Voice of the Electorate (VOTE) Democracy Symposium titled “Hurricane Season 2006: Are We Ready?” at the National Press Club. The purpose of the symposium was to examine hurricane and disaster preparedness as we approached the first anniversary of the tragedy and devastation of Hurricanes Katrina and Rita.

Moderated by notable scholar and NCBCP Board Member Dr. Yvonne Scruggs-Leftwich (National Labor College), the panel featured a host of academics, first responder representatives, government officials, social welfare organization leadership, and meteorologists. The three-hour long dialogue highlighted the NCBCP-sponsored exit poll presented by Dr. Silas Lee that documented the development of a “Katrina State of Mind” based on a demoralized environment and feelings of helplessness. (Excerpts from the poll can be found in the Research section of this report.)

The panelists, representing the Departments of Homeland Security/FEMA, Housing and Urban Development, American Red Cross, National Black Nurses Association, Salvation Army, first Response Coalition, United Way of America, Operation Hope, National Urban League, NAACP, Black Leadership Forum, and the Weather Channel lead a spirited exchange with nearly 50 audience participants. The following five topic areas summarize the panel discussion:

Cultural Competency: In emergency preparedness and disaster relief work there needs to be a greater emphasis placed on cultural competency. This should include an understanding of how to properly engage and support those communities that are in need. More attention needs to be paid to the unique character of communities and potential obstacles that might exist in serving these communities in an appropriate fashion. In particular, race, gender, class, sexuality, ethnicity, religion, disabilities, and age are some of the demographic features of a community that need to be reviewed and incorporated into any disaster relief plan and implementation.

Federal Government Resources: Some Federal Government agencies described being overwhelmed and/or providing inadequate resources for disaster relief. Given the severity of the storm, especially in terms of the loss of life and the amount of property damage, it is clear that the federal government needs to provide a larger role in disaster relief.

Role of Non-Governmental Agencies: Many of the large and small non-profit organizations and community-based organizations described the limited roles that they can play in disaster relief on the scale of something like Hurricane Katrina. These organizations also described being dependent on federal government support and local first responders. If there is inadequate communication and coordination of what type of support communities need, then it is not possible for non-government agencies to effectively participate in disaster relief. Similarly, if government agencies do not respond or cannot be reached by non-government agencies, then disaster relief efforts can be stymied by this phenomenon as well.

Immediate Needs of Survivors: Many issues were presented as ongoing barriers and obstacles for survivors of Hurricane Katrina: Housing and debris pick-up were two of the issues that were mentioned the most. Employment opportunities, adequate healthcare, and the availability of a community network were also cited.

Long Term Support for the Gulf Coast Region: The development of long term redevelopment plans that include local, state, and federal components are needed. There are many lingering questions about what disaster relief is needed such as “What services are needed and how long they might be needed has not been?” The timeline and the availability of resources is a crucial issue since there appeared to be little agreement how long it might take for those that were displaced by Hurricane Katrina to move back and what support these people might continue to need upon their return.

Black Women's Roundtable "Hear Me Now" Listening Tour

2006 ACCOMPLISHMENTS
GULF COAST RECOVERY
AND REBUILDING

On August 23rd NCBCP's Black Women's Roundtable launched the Gulf South Listening Sessions Bus Tour entitled "Hear Me Now! Reflections One Year After Katrina-Rita." The bus tour participants, consisting of NCBCP national, regional and affiliate leadership, coalition members and staff, traveled through three states (Alabama, Louisiana, & Mississippi) to visit communities devastated during Hurricanes Katrina & Rita and to meet with community members about local rebuilding efforts. A special emphasis was placed on the women of these communities taking leadership in rebuilding their homes and communities, while recognizing that they often neglect their own needs or health concerns in their attempts to maintain the stability and support of their families. The Black Women's Roundtable hosted listening sessions to focus on their communal and individual needs in seven cities: Mobile, AL, Gulfport, MS, New Orleans, LA, Lafayette, LA, Baton Rouge, LA, Jackson, MS and Slidell, LA. The bus tour was launched with a prayer breakfast and press conference in New Orleans that was attended by over 60 women leaders from the political, social, community and corporate circles. NCBCP was able to meet with over 500 women and community leaders throughout the tour and looks forward to continuing the support of rebuilding efforts in the future. The NCBCP conducted surveys to determine what issues remain prevalent in the lives of survivors of Hurricanes

Katrina & Rita and the catastrophe of the New Orleans levees a full twelve months after the events. Among those participants surveyed, the three biggest changes cited were absence of housing, financial problems/loss of income and loss of contact with friends and family. Additionally, emotional/psychological barriers (depression, significant weight gain/loss, illness, etc), institutional barriers (availability of medical care, problems with insurance companies and contractors, access to transportation, etc) and the impact on children (onset of depression, discipline problems and decline in grades) were also noted as serious issues. *(Complete survey results, which were analyzed by Dr. Silas Lee—a New Orleans native and Katrina survivor himself—are documented in the Research section of this report.)*

Finally, NCBCP was excited to partner with the Opportunity Agenda to document the bus tour via blogging and video testimony. The names, faces, stories, and challenges of the Gulf Coast survivor community are poignantly captured on a 9-minute clip of the video coverage of the tour and can be found at on the NCBCP's website, www.ncbcp.org or: <http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=I0x2Xb8Fh14>.

NCBCP board members, Dr. Yvonne Scruggs-Leftwich and Marc Morial, greet BWR Tour staff and volunteers as they prepare to load bus in New Orleans.



Bishop Diana Taara Williams (in priest collar) leads a prayer circle as NCBCP staff, guests and volunteers, hold hands with New Orleans residents to view devastation in the Lower 9th Ward.



NCBCP staff and volunteers assemble "comfort bags" to distribute to women participating in one of seven listening sessions held in the Gulf Coast.



NCBCP Continues Dialogue with Government Response Agencies

The NCBCP believes that the 2005 hurricane season was a wake-up call that emergency preparedness is a serious matter that all Americans not only need to be aware of, but that organizations need to be prepared to provide assistance to their communities. It is imperative, therefore, that continued engagement with government response agencies take place, coupled with input from the civic and non-profit sectors on those agencies' policies and practices. Since the fall of 2005, the National Coalition has held a series of meetings through its **Rebuild Hope NOW Campaign** in which senior representatives of the American Red Cross, Office of Homeland Security/FEMA, Office of Housing and Urban Development and other agencies have participated. In turn, the NCBCP has been invited to and has participated in meetings held by these agencies, including:

October 20, 2005—*Coordination Meeting of Partners Engaged in Katrina-Rita*, sponsored by the American Red Cross and the National Voluntary Organizations Active in Disaster; NCBCP provided suggestions on Inclusive and Effective Partnerships and the role of non-profit/civic institutions in relief and recovery efforts.

July 25, 2006—*National Leadership Briefing*, American Red Cross; NCBCP and other groups were hosted by ARC's Chief Diversity Officer and other officials to be advised on changes the agency had and continued to make in response to complaints received from past efforts.

October 25, 2006—*National Response Plan and National Incident Management System Stakeholders Meeting: State, Local, Tribal, Private Sector & Voluntary Organizations*, sponsored by the Office of Homeland Security; NCBCP participated in a plenary session on the review and revision process and small group session to discuss cultural sensitivity, clarification and simplification of messaging, and designation of roles, among other topics.

The NCBCP also held its VOTE Democracy symposium in June 2006 in which leaders from selected government agencies, response organizations, weather monitoring institutions, and civic and community groups came together to discuss preparedness for the 2006 hurricane season. (See details under *4th Annual Voices of the Electorate (VOTE) Democracy Symposium in this report.*)

NCBCP and the National Policy Alliance (NPA)

On January 19 and 20, 2006, the National Coalition on Black Civic Participation was invited to the inaugural meeting of the National Policy Alliance, which includes principals and key staff members of the organizations that represent black elected officials and Black government employees. Convened by the Joint Center for Political and Economic Studies, the NPA seeks "to establish an ongoing, mutually beneficial collaborative relationship that will facilitate cooperative action on issues of common concern."¹ Since post-Katrina rebuilding was one of the of urgent issues that the Alliance discussed during this meeting, the NCBCP was asked to participate on a panel and roundtable discussion. The reference

for the discussion was Melanie Campbell's article, "*Right of Return Means Access to the Ballot, Access to Neighborhoods and Access to Economic Opportunity.*"² As a result, the NPA agreed to "support the efforts of the Rebuild Hope NOW Campaign and endorse its call for the President and all government agencies to immediately respond to the eight critical areas of concern identified in the September 14 Call to Action of African American leadership organizations:

- Ensuring Affected Families Immediate and Long-Term Right of Return to Gulf Coast Region
- Rebuilding and Reconnecting

1. Excerpt from NPA statement.
2. This article was written and submitted to the Harvard Journal of African American Public Policy for Volume XII—A Nation Exposed: Rebuilding African American Communities.
3. Excerpt from NPA meeting notes.

- Families and Children
- Ensuring that Local Residents have First Choice at Reconstruction Jobs and Contracts
- Providing Physical and Mental Health Assistance
- Providing Legal, Economic and Voting Protections
- Monitoring FEMA, American Red Cross, and Salvation Army Distribution of Resources
- Securing the Environment for Future Generations
- Develop Comprehensive Strategy to Address Poverty Crisis in America.”³

The NCBCP has been represented in subsequent meetings of the NPA and has participated in policy discussions on a broad range of topics—from childhood obesity to the 2010 U.S. Census. The National Coalition also helped to promote the NPA’s post-Katrina forum, “Never Again” on April 11, 2006 in which experts discussed preparedness, resources attainment, engaging public officials and dealing with affected populations.

NCBCP Works to Protect Voting Rights of 150,000 New Orleans Displaced Voters

NCBCP collaborated with several civil rights organizations in March 2006 urging the U. S. Justice Department, Civil Rights Division, to protect the rights of New Orleans (NOLA) displaced voters by enforcing the Voting Rights Act of 1965, specifically, requiring the State of Louisiana to provide satellite voting in states where evacuees currently resided.

The NCBCP, in partnership with the National Urban League, Rainbow PUSH Coalition, NAACP, National Organization of Women, Black Leadership Forum, National Council of Negro Women and National Action Network, and other prominent national and locally-based organizations to encourage and empower Hurricane Katrina survivors to protect their right to vote in the New Orleans Municipal Election held on April 22, 2006. The NCBCP participated in meetings and letter writing campaigns to the U. S. Department of Justice, including meeting with Assistant Attorney General Wan J. Kim and his

voting rights legal team. Unfortunately, the U. S. Justice Department refused to enforce the VRA to protect NOLA voters.

There are roughly 210,000 New Orleans evacuees that are voting age [over the age of 18], over 70 percent of those are black, which represents over 153,300 black voters who did not have access to the ballot on April 22nd.

The NCBCP believes that voting is essential to right of return for New Orleans residents and is committed to providing a sustained effort to fight for the voting rights of survivors of Hurricanes Katrina-Rita, for as long as necessary, as NOLA survivors of Hurricanes Katrina continue the painful task of rebuilding their lives.

NCBCP's Voting Rights Act Vigil

The National Coalition on Black Civic Participation, in conjunction with the Black Leadership Forum, held a two-day vigil in July on Capitol Hill to urge Congress to reauthorize the Voting Rights Act of 1965 before its 2007 expiration. The NCBCP convened over 200 people representing more than 60 national organizations in a unified effort to ensure that key provisions of the VRA (Section 5, pre-clearance by U.S. Department of Justice, and Section 203, minority language requirement) were not jeopardized. The Act (H.R. 9) was named the Fannie Lou Hamer, Rosa Parks and Coretta Scott King Voting Rights Reauthorization and Amendments Act of 2006 as a fitting tribute to those three brave and courageous warriors of social change and justice. It was introduced on May 2, 2006 but the floor hearing to debate it was abruptly canceled in late June. Along with the vigil, the NCBCP collected nearly 500 pledge cards demanding immediate passage of H.R. 9. The House would pass the Act without amendment on July 12; the Senate passed its version on July 20.

Hands Off The Internet

The NCBCP joined the Hands off The Internet Coalition to support the position of the internet not being unduly regulated by the government. Since the 1980's, the NCBCP has always been a proponent of the internet being fully accessible by all people and has long understood as an organization that the internet is a powerful and viable tool for civic engagement, grassroots organizing and advocacy of issues important to the Black community.

NCBCP Represents At Kapitol Hill Legislative Conference

NCBCP Executive Director & CEO Melanie Campbell was invited by Kappa Alpha Psi Fraternity, Inc. to its annual James "Biff" Carter Legislative Conference on April 24, 2006 in Washington, D.C. Dubbed "Kappas on Kapitol Hill," the conference featured a panel on Katrina Impact and Recovery efforts and included Ms. Campbell as well as Dr. William Spriggs, head of the Economics Department at Howard University, Derrick Johnson, president of the Mississippi Chapter of the NAACP, and Lugwick Gains, an Alexandria, VA City Councilman.

NCBCP Works to defend Affirmative Action

The NCBCP joined forces with the General Motors Foundation, the community-based One Michigan Coalition and others to save Affirmative Action policies and programs in the state of Michigan. The November 7th Michigan voters ballot included Proposal 2, dubiously entitled the Michigan Civil Rights Initiative, a constitutional amendment to end affirmative action statewide. NCBCP's Black Youth Vote Michigan! team took the lead in mobilizing the communities of Kalamazoo, MI by registering over 10,000 voters, educating them on the proposal and turning out voters on Election Day. The initiative was passed with a vote of 58% (yes) to 42% (no), eliminating Affirmative Action throughout Michigan, but NCBCP and its affiliates and allies will continue to monitor the effects of this law and work to ensure that the hands of the civil rights clock are not turned back.

Black Youth Vote! Registers 21,000 in 2006

Strong and vibrant in its 10th year, the NCBCP's Black Youth Vote! (BYV!) program launched its 2006 BYV! Voter Registration Project in June 2006. NCBCP/BYV! was one of 15 organizations chosen to work under a grant from Young Voter Strategies, a Pew Trust-sponsored nonpartisan project of The Graduate School of Political Management at The George Washington University. Black Youth Vote! conducted state based voter registration programs through NCBCP affiliates in seven states: Alabama, Florida, Georgia, Louisiana, Maryland, Michigan & Texas, later supporting additional efforts in three additional sites: the District of Columbia (Howard University), Massachusetts (Boston) & Tennessee (Tennessee State University).

Campaign highlights include:

The Black Youth Vote! Campaign Management Training, Washington, DC

- To kick off the 2006 Voter Registration Project, BYV! hosted the Campaign Management Training June 8-10th in Washington, DC. The training, which consisted of BYV! state coordinators, NCBCP Affiliate advisors and key volunteers, served as a kick off of the 2006 BYV! Vote Project and provided training on key components of campaign planning for the state based efforts.

BYV! Media Coverage & Partnerships

- BYV! was able to build upon the Vote Project through media coverage and partnerships. Over all, BYV! received 88 press hits through print, internet and radio articles, interviews and highlights. BYV! hosted a competition for lyrics of the BYV Movement Public Service Announcement. The competition was won by Alana Clark, a 17 year old high school senior in Georgia who wrote and performed the lyrics. The PSA was distributed to radio stations in over 14 states. NCBCP also launched a new BYV! section on the website (www.ncbcp.org/byv), highlighting BYV! campaign work and issues imprinted to young Black activists. BYV! State Accomplishments

- **The BYV! Voter Registration Project** was able to register over 21,000 voters during the 2006 registration efforts. Here is a breakdown of the accomplishments by state:

State	# Registered*
Alabama	3500
Florida	500
Georgia	2000
Louisiana	500
Maryland	500
Michigan	8000
Texas	5500
District of Columbia*	300
Tennessee*	400
Massachusetts*	400

*DC, TN, MA were not part of the original seven state efforts, but joined registration efforts later in the campaign.

Black Youth Vote! Research Project

- As a component of the 2006 Vote Project, BYV!, and in conjunction with Dr. Ronald Walters of the University of Maryland African American Institute and Dr. Tyson King-Meadows of the National Coalition of Black Political Scientists, conducted a research project to explore the influences in Black youth participation and confidence in the voting system. Pre-election surveys were compiled in Alabama and Michigan during the registration period, and analyzed by Dr. King-Meadows and compared with Election Day exit polls. Among the results, it was noted that family and community organizations are the most influential contributors to Black youth involvement and that young Black voters are skeptical about the use of new technologies in voting (i.e. machines vs. paper). *Excerpts from the analysis results can be found in the Research section of this report; for a full report, please contact the NCBCP office.*

Black Youth Vote! 6th Annual Civic Leadership Conference, Atlanta, Georgia

NCBCP was proud to host the 6th Annual Black Youth Vote! Civic Leadership Conference in Atlanta, Georgia, November 10-12th. Entitled “**All Eye’s on Us: Building Our Power, Defining Our Movement,**” the convening served as a debrief of the 2006 BYV! Vote Project, and brought together BYV! State Coordinators, volunteers, alumni and supporters. Participants attended workshops and general sessions that focused on the young Black electorate’s impact on the 2006 mid-term elections and began laying the groundwork

for and strategizing around future BYV! programs and work in the upcoming 2008 elections and beyond. The weekend also served as the genesis of a partnership with The Source magazine, whose management has expressed great interest in sponsoring BYV events as well as covering NCBCP/ BYV activities in their publication, considered the premier magazine for the hip-hop generation. Editor-in-Chief Fahiyim Ratcliffe, Executive Editor Ryan Ford and Culture & Politics Correspondent Rob “Biko” Baker were not only in attendance, but played active roles as discussion leaders throughout the conference.



Two BYV! volunteers register young voters during summer registration drive.

BYV! Conference panel leads discussion on “Power Politics: Building Our Strength Through Civic Engagement” (l-r, LaTosha Brown, NCBCP Regional Director; NCBCP/BYV! Program Associate Irene Schwoeffermann (on stage); BYV! National Co-Chair Diallo Brooks; BYV! veteran activist Illia Kenney; AFSCME Campaign Manager Jasmine Harris; The Source Magazine Culture/Politics Correspondent “Biko” Baker.



BYV! volunteer and rapper/artist, Alana Clark performs BYV! theme song, “The Movement” during BYV! Civic Leadership Conference.



NCBCP Taps Into the Power of the Sister VOTE

On Wednesday July 26, 2006 the National Coalition on Black Civic Participation convened a small group of national, state and local women leaders together in Atlanta, Georgia at historic Paschal's Restaurant to facilitate discussions on how black women can begin to work together as a collective body for the purpose of increasing their political voice, their presence and their power in the 2006 mid-term election, 2008 presidential election and beyond. A similar Power of the Sister Vote meeting was co-hosted by Clayola Brown, President of the A. Philip Randolph Institute (APRI) and NCBCP Board Member during the APRI's annual National Education Conference in Detroit, Michigan on August 19, 2006.

In both sessions, the women identified ways in which they could support each other individually and collectively. The recommendations for collective work include:

- Introduce Community Benefits Agreements to the work
- Engage the Black Church by developing women leaders from within the church
- Leverage political money from Black women
- Increase youth involvement and help them to develop their skills

The women also volunteered to work in different areas: Church Outreach; Public Policy; Organization Assessment; Youth/Under-represented Voices; Network Access; Corporate Outreach; and Message Development.

More than 60 women—from church, community, corporate, non-profit, activist, and labor organizations and a wide range of disciplines—participated in the two meetings.

NCBCP Ensures the Black Electorate are Prepared to Make Votes Count ELECTION DAY 2006 WAR ROOM

An aggressive voter education campaign launched by the National Coalition on Black Civic Participation (NCBCP), and its Unity '06 Campaign, resulted in a more informed and determined Black Electorate casting ballots in the Mid-Term Election Cycle. While numerous instances of voting machine malfunctions, inadequate supplies of ballots and voter registration errors were reported by poll watchers and calls to national election hotlines, Black voters countered by knowing their rights and taking action to protect their vote.

On Election Day November 7, 2006, the National Coalition on Black Civic Participation led a Unity '06 National "War Room Operation" at its headquarters in Washington, DC. Participants included national Black leaders representing the Black Leadership Forum, National Urban

League, NAACP Legal Defense Fund, A. Philip Randolph Institute, Coalition of Black Trade Unionists, National Education Association, AFL-CIO, The Peoples' Agenda, Black Youth Vote, Common Cause and NCBCP affiliates in several states. They monitored and tracked information coming from the ground regarding voting irregularities in key states such as: Arkansas, Florida, Georgia, Louisiana, Massachusetts, Maryland, Michigan, North Carolina, New Jersey, New York, Ohio, Pennsylvania, Tennessee, Texas, and Virginia.

NCBCP Executive Director and CEO Melanie Campbell served as moderator of three press conference calls held throughout the day through which media could learn firsthand what was occurring at polls across the country from field

reports. News organizations such as Gannett News Service, Cybercast, Pacifica Radio, BlackAmericaWeb.com, and Newhouse News Service covered the call.

The “War Room” was a final phase of Black Electorate causes leading up to the election, including voter education, voter verification and Get-Out-The-Vote activities. The 1-866-MYVOTE-1 Hotline served as an additional resource of reported voting problems. Callers to the MyVote1 national election hotline—which logged in nearly 20,000 calls—reported voting machine malfunctions which caused an increase for this type of complaint to 20 percent this election cycle over 3 percent reported in 2004. (See charts page26 .)

Other complaints registered by callers included:

- Voter registration problems including new voter identification rules that resulted in voters being turned away at the polls
- Locating the correct polling place
- Absentee voting procedures

The NCBCP noted that with such complaints signal a need for continued diligence in monitoring and changing the system. It is apparent that after six years since the Florida election debacle and \$3 billion spent to upgrade the basic machinery of the country’s democracy, election reform is still a work in progress.

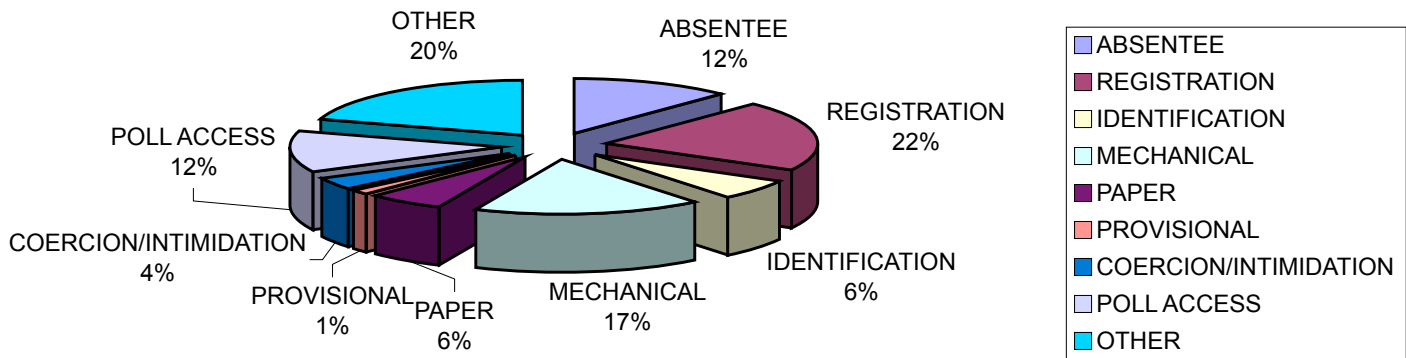
NCBCP staff, volunteers and leaders of national Black organizations gather around the “War Room” table to monitor the Black vote.



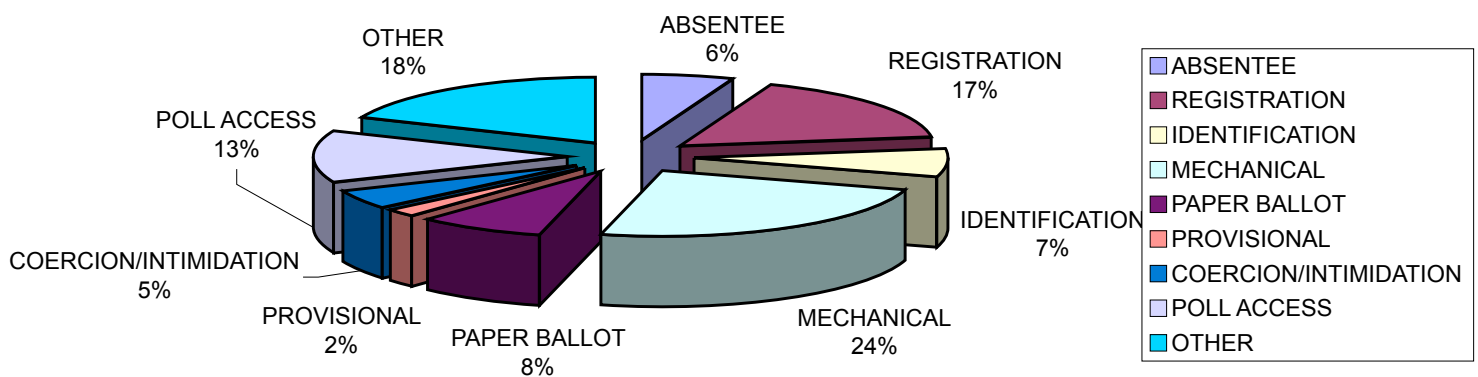
Election Day Exit Poll

The NCBCP is the only organization to develop research tools that are meant to expressly capture the voting experience of Black voters. As it did in 2004, the National Coalition, in partnership with Dr. Ron Walters of the University of Maryland, constructed an Election Day Exit Poll which was administered in Florida, Maryland and Michigan, asked a series of questions geared toward identifying any challenges that the actual voting process may pose, to what extent state-specific ballot initiatives influenced voting, party affiliation, and demographics. The results of the nearly 700 surveys were analyzed by Dr. Tyson King-Meadows, a member of the National Coalition of Black Political Scientists. *(Excerpts from the analysis can be found in the Research Section of this report.)*

2006 NATIONAL REPORT: CALLS BY PROBLEM TYPE



2006 NATIONAL REPORT: ELECTION DAY CALLS BY PROBLEM TYPE



Source: Info Voter Technologies, MYVOTE1 2006 Preliminary Report, National Transfer and Problem-Type Statistics

NCBCP Election Day Problems Chart as Reported by Unity '06 Affiliates and Partners

STATE	MUNICIPALITY	PROBLEM TYPE	SOURCE	DESCRIPTION
MD	PG County	Coercion	NCBCP MD	Misleading mailings supporting Steele
MD	Baltimore	Polling Access	NCBCP/BYV!	Long lines in some precincts
MD	Baltimore	Mechanical	NCBCP/BYV!	Machines broken in some precincts
MO	St. Louis	Mechanical	APRI	Machines malfunctioning
MO	St. Louis	Election Administration	APRI	Not enough machines
MI	Detroit	Registration	MyVote1	Registrants names not in database
MI	Detroit	Mechanical	MyVote1	Machines not functioning
MI	Macomb	Mechanical	NCBCP	Ballot processor broken
MI	Kalamazoo	Intimidation/Coercion	MI BYV!	Intimidation specifically towards black men reported
NY	Westchester	Absentee	CBTU	Misinformation on absentee ballots
NY	Westchester	Election Administration	CBTU	Felons told they need letter from parole off.
NY	Yonkers	Coercion	CBTU	Threat of police checking homes of voters
NC	Raleigh	Mechanical	APRI	Machines switching ballot selections
TX	Houston	Identification	NCBCP/BYV!	People turned away because they had no ID
TX	Houston	Registration	NCBCP/BYV!	People turned away because w/out voter reg card
VA	Chesapeake	Registration	CBTU	People turned away because they were not in database
VA	Richmond	Intimidation/Coercion	Richmond Times Dispatch	Threatening phone calls to blacks by phoney officials
GA	Atlanta Metro	Mechanical	GA Coalition for Peoples Agenda	Opposition candidates appear after punched in choices
GA	Atlanta Metro	Provisional	GA Coalition for Peoples Agenda	Refusing people provisional ballots when not in database
GA	Atlanta Metro	Registration	GA Coalition for Peoples Agenda	People turned away because they were not in database
LA	New Orleans	Election Administration	LA Voting Rights Network	No notification at old polling places to new polling places
LA	New Orleans	Registration	LA Voting Rights Network	Not registered because of 3 years of not voting
LA	New Orleans	Election Administration	LA Voting Rights Network	Insufficient signs and directions to new polling places
LA	New Orleans	Election Administration	NCBCP LA	polling locations opened late
LA	New Orleans	Election Administration	NCBCP LA	People were told wrong polling locations
MA	Boston	Election Administration	Harvard School of Law	26 out of 86 precincts ran out of cards
FL	Ft. Lauderdale	Election Administration	NCBCP FL	Cords weren't long enough to reach power outlets.
FL	Daytona	Mechanical/Elec Admin	NCBCP FL	Candidate Joyce Krusak was not on ballot (State Rep.)
IN	Delaware Co.	Election Administration	CBTU	2-5 Precincts opened late.
NJ	Camden	Identification	APRI	Voters without ID's turned away
NJ	Passaic Co +	Mechanical	ABCLocal.go.com	Machines not selecting certain party's candidates
OH	Cleveland	Mechanical		Machines broken, provisional ballots not counted yet...
PA	Philadelphia	Mechanical	MyVote1	Machines constantly malfunctioning
PA	Philadelphia	Election Administration	MyVote1	Machine power cords not long enough to reach outlet
PA	West Philly	Intimidation/Coercion	APRI	Men in black suits intimidating voters at polling places

Table 2. The Black Vote by State, 1998–2006 (Selected States)

State	BVAP (%)	Black Share of Total Vote: Exit Polls			Total Voter Turnout			Black Partisan Vote, 2006			
		1998 (%)	2004 (%)	2006 (%)	1998 (%)	2002 (%)	2006 (%)	Democrat (Gov.) (Sen.) % %	Republican (Gov.) (Sen.) % %		
California	6.4	6	6	5	42.5	36.6	32.4	71	88	26	12
Florida	12.7	10	12	14	36.7	44.2	37.5	81	92	17	7
Georgia	26.4	29	25	16	32.4	34.2	32.1	81	--	7	--
Illinois	13.8	17	10	10	40.8	41.8	38.5	80	--	16	--
Maryland	26.4	21	24	23	41.9	45.4	40.5	84	74	15	25
Michigan	13.1	19	13	12	43.0	44.1	51.5	91	90	9	9
Missouri	10.2	8	8	13	39.0	45.0	48.3	--	91	--	8
New York	14.8	9	13	10	38.0	36.7	33.8	89	88	10	11
Ohio	10.5	10	10	12	41.2	38.4	44.6	77	85	20	15
Pennsylvania	9.0	6	13	8	33.2	38.6	43.3	87	90	13	10
Tennessee	14.8	11	12	13	23.7	38.0	40.0	94	95	4	4
Texas	11.0	10	12	8	28.7	32.8	30.1	63	67	16	26
Virginia	18.4	n/a	21	16	23.1	29.2	43.8	--	85	--	15

Source: Information on the black voting-age population is from the U.S. Census publication, *Voting and Registration in the Election of November 2004* (P20-556), Table 4a. The actual share numbers from 1998, 2004, 2006 are from VNS (1998) and Edison/Mitrofsky (2004-06). Statewide turnout numbers are from the Committee for the Study of the American Electorate.

Source: Taken from "Blacks and the 2006 Midterm Elections" by David Bositis, Joint Center for Political and Economic Studies, November, 2006.

An aggressive voter education campaign launched by the National Coalition on Black Civic Participation (NCBCP), and its Unity '06 Campaign, resulted in a more informed and determined Black Electorate casting ballots in the Mid-Term Election Cycle. While numerous instances of voting machine malfunctions, inadequate supplies of ballots and voter registration errors were reported by poll watchers and calls to national election hotlines, Black voters countered by knowing their rights and taking action to protect their vote. However, it was also noted that six years and \$3 billion spent since the Florida debacle of 2000 has not ensured the full enfranchisement of every vote.

The NCBCP attempted to look at the reasons behind the persistent challenges Black voters face at the polls, and what is at stake in the new political landscape

Election Day was led by veteran political analyst Dr. Ron Walters, Dr. Yvonne Scruggs-Leftwich (Center for Community & Economic Justice), Lillie Coney (National Committee for Voting Integrity), Rev. Lennox Yearwood (Hip Hop Caucus) and Kristen Clark-Avery (NAACP Legal Defense Fund).

While the need to find polling locations was the primary reason for people to utilize voter hotlines on Election Day, problems with electronic machinery was definitely a factor in the 2006 elections, as noted in the analysis of calls received to the 1-866-MYVOTE-1 voter assistance hotline. Ken Smukler, of InfoVoter Technologies, the architect of the hotline and Kirk Clay of Common Cause released a preliminary report on the calls received. The biggest increase in problem type occurred under “mechanical” (3% of calls in 2004 vs. 17% in 2006), leaving observers to ponder the reliability of new electronic voting machines that have become so prevalent in the country’s elections.

The shift of power in the House and the Senate is of great interest to the NCBCP and its constituency. The briefing brought together in a 2nd panel—“Where Do We Go From Here?” Impact of the Black Vote on the Agenda Priorities of the 110th Congress and the Balance of Power in the States”—Dr. Joe Leonard (Black Leadership Forum), Dr. Margaret Simms (Joint Center for Political and Economic Studies), Dr. Maya Rockeymoore (Global Policy Solutions), Marc Morial (National Urban League) and Dr. Juan Andrade (U.S. Hispanic Leadership Institute) to weigh in on the implications for the Black and Latino communities under the new leadership. It was widely agreed that because of key committee chairmanships and changing policy priorities that this could signal a major opening for people of color to move significant pieces of their agenda and to participate in the process more fully through staffing opportunities.

Both panels were moderated by Citizen Journalist Faye M. Anderson.

NCBCP Board Member Dr. Yvonne Scruggs-Leftwich, Sr. Professor at the National Labor College, addresses the audience at the 2006 Post-Election briefing at the National Press Club. Other panelists shown are (l-r) Kirk Clay (Common Cause), Lillie Coney (National Committee for Voting Integrity), Melanie Campbell (NCBCP), Faye Anderson (Moderator), and Dr. Ronald Walters (African American Institute, Univ. of Maryland).



at its 3rd Biannual Post-Election briefing. “Impact of the Black Vote on the Mid-Term Election Cycle,” was hosted by the National Coalition on Thursday, November 9, 2006 at the National Press Club in Washington, D.C. The two-panel event began with a discussion around “What Happened on Election Day with the Black Vote?”. This analysis of Black voter turnout, voter suppression and state ballot initiatives on

Technical Assistance And Training

The National Coalition on Black Civic Participation prides itself on the knowledge base, skills and expertise of its staff and professional support team. Because it has distinguished itself as a thought leader on civic issues, the NCBCP's staff are often requested to lead and/or participate in seminars, workshops, panel discussions and trainings by its member organizations and allies. The NCBCP was part of many such events in 2006, including:

MEMBER ORGANIZATION EVENTS

Keynote speaker, Delta Sigma Theta Sorority, Inc., Tuscaloosa (AL) Alumnae Chapter Founders Day (March 2006)

Exhibitor, NAACP 97th Annual Convention Information Exchange Center, Washington, D.C. (July 2006)

Exhibitor, National Urban League Convention, Atlanta, GA (July 2006)

Exhibitor, Alpha Kappa Alpha Sorority, Inc. National Boule, Detroit, MI (July 2006)

Participant, 100 Black Men of America 20th Anniversary Fall Leadership Conference Community Capacity Building Workshop "Affiliation Development" (September 2006)

Training/Presenter, A. Philip Randolph Annual Education Conference, Detroit, MI (August 2006)

Presenter, Council of Presidents Meeting (includes all 9 Black Fraternities and Sororities), Washington, D.C. (September 2006)

Exhibitor/Panelist, Congressional Black Caucus Foundation 36th Annual Legislative Conference, Issue Forum "Voting Rights Act Reauthorization and the Black Electorate in New Orleans" (September 2006)

ALLIES AND PARTNERS

Hurricane Katrina Panel: *Rebuilding New Orleans and the Gulf Coast/Fighting for Human Needs in Washington, D.C. and Nationwide*, 5th Annual Black Voices for Peace National Martin Luther King, Jr. Commemoration, Plymouth Congregational Church, Washington, DC (January 2006)

Contributor and Participant, Louisiana Network Annual Mardi Gras Bash, Washington, D.C. (February 2006)

Co-Sponsor/Trainer, "Reclaiming the Ballot, Reclaiming New Orleans One Vote at a Time," Texas Southern University Thurgood Marshall School of Law, Houston, TX (February 2006)

Participant, Pelosi Forum with Civil Rights Leaders and Civic Groups on African Americans and Katrina Relief, Washington, D.C. (February 2006)

"Healthy, Wealthy & Wise" Black Women's Roundtable presentation to University of Missouri Kansas City Women's Center program From Individual to Community Leadership (March 2006)

Panelist, opening plenary session, Role of Government in Shoring Up HBCUs, Preparing a Diverse Workforce Pool, Poverty Abatement, and Wealth Creation; the National Association for Equal Opportunity in Higher Education (NAFEO) 31st Annual Conference on Blacks in Higher Education, New Orleans, Louisiana. (March 2006)

Speaker/Panelist, United States Hispanic Leadership Institute 24th Annual National Conference, Voting Rights Reauthorization Act March & Rally and Forum "A History of African American & Latino Political Coalitions: Lessons Toward a New Force in American Politics," Chicago, IL (March 2006)

Panelist/Exhibitor, Prince George's County (MD) 7th Annual Harlem Renaissance Festival, Panel Discussion "Inspire the Vote" (May 2006)

Exhibitor, 2006 National Hip Hop Political Convention at Northeastern Illinois' Jacob Carruthers Center for Inner City Studies, Chicago, IL (July 2006)

Trainer, Student Government Association training @ Morehouse College, Atlanta, GA (August 2006)

Panelist, "Energized Electorate: Young Voter Turnout in the 2006 Elections and Beyond," Hosted by Demos and Young People For the American Way, New York, NY (November 2006)

The National Coalition on Black Civic Participation (NCBCP) began its 30th year grappling with the lingering devastation caused by the Gulf South hurricanes, and concluded 2006 keenly focused on the Mid-Term elections. Throughout the 12 months, the Coalition's public voice echoed by the media reached a diverse demographic audience that served to position the organization and its leadership as thought leaders.

Whether staging public forums, garnering support for passage of the Reauthorization of the Voting Rights Act (VRA), alerting displaced hurricane disaster survivors about their voting rights, the Coalition's distinctive voice was present -- branding the organization as a responsible and knowledgeable information source on issues affecting the African American electorate. Radio interviews, television appearances, newspaper and magazine articles, internet blogs, website resource listings and web-based video clip, along with international media coverage combined to heighten the NCBCP's visibility among key audiences.

The National Coalition worked diligently over the year to strengthen already existing partnerships and develop new relationships with key national and local media outlets. Partners included:

- American Urban Radio Network (AURN) - AURN is the largest radio network reaching urban America with more than 200 weekly shows airing over 475 stations, AURN reaches an estimated 25 million listeners.
- Reach Media- Home of The Tom Joyner Morning Show, Black America Web (BAW), and the "Sky Shows." The Tom Joyner Morning Show aired in more than 115 markets, reaching eight million listeners. BAW is the #1 website targeted to African American adults with 750,000 registered members, more than 5 million page views per month, and approximately 20,000 visitors per day.
- National Association of Black Owned Broadcasters (NABOB) – NABOB is the first and largest trade organization representing the interests of over 220 African-American owners of radio and television stations across the country.
- National Newspaper Publishers

Association & BlackPressUSA Network – comprised of 200 local newspapers that reach the African American community throughout the country.

- CBS Television - CBS is the number one rated network with a primetime line-up that was watched by more than 233 million people in 2006.
- The Opportunity Agenda – The Opportunity Agenda utilizes multimedia products such as videos, pod casts, publications, and strategic media partnerships, to help elevate the voices of spokespersons focused on creating opportunity in America.

The development and dissemination of tested issue-based messages, media alerts, press announcements, statements by the NCBCP's Executive Director issued on a consistent, yet relevant basis, focused the media's attention on the Coalition's efforts to protect every African American's right to full civic participation. Starting with (the multi-city voter information and candidate forums jointly convened under the "*Rebuild Hope NOW*" banner for displaced hurricane survivors, to the production of a hip hop song encouraging Black youth to engage in the political process, NCBCP garnered local, regional and national press coverage.

The Coalition enlisted the support of celebrity spokeswoman, Sheryl Lee Ralph and NUL President, Marc Morial, to voice messages promoting civic engagement. Aided by a national public service campaign sponsored and aired by AURN stations and the members of NABOB, hundreds of thousands of displaced hurricane survivors contacted Louisiana's Secretary of State to request absentee ballots. The result, voter participation among displaced survivors topped official expectations.

Media outreach for the Coalition's intensive voter education and voter protection efforts during the November Mid-term elections proved to be an overwhelming success. The Coalition invited the media to participate in its "war room" monitoring of voting patterns, voter turnout, or voting irregularities encountered throughout the country. For the first time, reporters were given the opportunity, via conference call, to hear in real time, field reports in polling locations either historically troubled or

located in states where key races were thought to be close. Analysis during the three Election Day calls was provided by noted political strategists and pollsters including Dr. Ron Walters, University of Maryland, Dr. Charles Ogletree Jr, Harvard Law School, and Dr. Silas Lee, Silas Lee & Associates. Observations were also offered by Marc Morial, President, National Urban League, Williams Lucy, Secretary/Treasurer, AFSCME National Coalition headquarters staff, Rev. Joseph Lowery, the Peoples' Agenda, on-the-ground affiliates and civil rights activists.

Consistent coverage over the year, coupled with the conscious decision to focus on branding the NCBCP as the

primary organization (with less focus on the programs), resulted in an increase in name recognition for the organization. The strategic implementation of publicity tactics integrated with the increased utilization of media partners, broadened NCBCP's core audience and had a significant impact on millions of citizens in the organization's target market, furthering the Coalition's efforts to promote civic participation in the African American community. Clearly, the National Coalition played a major role in the increased diversity reflected in the newly elected Congress.

NCBCP: In the News – 2006 Part II – Sample Coverage

Media outlets listed provided coverage throughout the year.

Broadcast: Television & Radio

CNN
 MSNBC
 Hearst-Argyle Television News Service
 ABC Radio Network
 BET News
 Democracy NOW (Radio, Internet & TV)
 WSB-TV – Atlanta, GA
 CBS 46 – Atlanta, GA
 WXIA-TV (NBC) – Atlanta, GA
 WDSU-TV (ABC) – New Orleans, LA
 WGNO-TV 26 (ABC) – New Orleans, LA
 WVUE TV 8 (FOX) – New Orleans, LA
 WWL TV 4 (CBS) – New Orleans, LA
 KATC-TV (ABC) – Lafayette, LA
 WAFB-TV - Baton Rouge, LA
 WBRZ-TV – Baton Rouge, LA
 WBLA & WGMB-TV – Baton Rouge, LA
 KSLA – Shreveport, LA
 WWMT-TV – Kalamazoo, MI
 WREG – Memphis, TN
 WMC – Memphis, TN
 KRIS – Corpus Christi, TX
 XM/Radio One – Satellite Radio Broadcast
 American Urban Radio Network News (AURN)
 “Bev Smith Show” – Syndicated nationally
 “Tom Joyner Morning Show” – Syndicated nationally
 “Al Sharpton Show” – Syndicated nationally

“Michael Eric Dyson Show” – Syndicated nationally
 WGOK-AM- (Mobile, AL)
 KPFK-FM (Los Angeles)
 WAMU-FM – DC
 WPFW (DC/Pacifica)
 WRFG Radio – Atlanta, GA
 WAOK Radio - Atlanta, GA
 WABE 90.1FM (NPR) – GA
 KEXZ - (LA)
 WMUK-FM (MI)
 Minneapolis Public Radio – MN
 WGR-AM – Buffalo, NY
 WBLS-FM – NY, NY
 WBAI (NY/Pacifica)
 KBOO-FM – Portland, OR
 KBMS-AM (Portland, OR)
 WHAT-AM – Phila., PA
 100.3-FM/Radio One – Phila., PA
 WGCV-AM (Columbia, SC)
 WVOL (Nashville, TN)

Print Media & Wire Services

AP Wire Service
 Washington Post
 Gannett News Service
 National Journal
 Interpress News Service
 Black Enterprise Magazine
 The Crisis Magazine
 The Network Journal Magazine
 The Final Call

NCBCP: In the News – 2006 Part II continued

Atlanta Journal Constitution
Birmingham News
Detroit Free Press
New Orleans Times-Picayune, LA
The Advocate – Baton Rouge, LA
Chronicles of Philanthropy
ComputerWorld

Internet: Websites & Blogs

BlackAmericaWeb.com
Black Enterprise.com
Yahoo! News
Bloomberg.com
BlackAmericaWeb.com
US Newswire
ArriveNet
Alternet
Imdiversity
Black Collegiate
North Jersey.com

News-hq.org/blogs/new-jersey
Mlive.com
Realblackradio.com
Common Ground Media Collective (New Orleans)
The Town Talk (Alexandria-Pineville, LA)
Indybay
Hurricane Katrina Media Center in Mississippi
New Orleans Agenda
Cybercast News Service
Troublewater

Indybay.org
Acenet.edu
Wiretap
NewCaliforniaMedia
Advancement Project.org
Anderson@large
Niaonline.com
UnityFirst.com
Black Commentator
Chat-Topica-theblacklist.net
Dogonvillage.com

Minority Press

BlackPressUSA/NNPA member newspapers
Southern Digest
Amsterdam News

Baltimore Times
Baltimore Afro-American
New Orleans LA Weekly
New Orleans Drum
The Atlanta Inquirer
The Atlanta Daily World
Chicago Standard
Dallas Examiner
Louisiana Data Weekly
Louisiana Weekly
Milwaukee Times Weekly
Philadelphia New Observer
The Philadelphia Tribune
New Pittsburgh Courier
Washington Informer
Westside Gazette
Wilmington Journal (NC)
Carolina Peacemaker

Regional Press

Arkansas News Bureau
Arkansas Democrat Gazette – AK
Ft. Smith Southwest Times Record, AK
Pine Bluff Commercial – AK
Birmingham News – AL
Mobile Beacon, Mobile, AL
California Advocate – CA
Norwich Bulletin - CT
Herald-Tribune – Sarasota, Southwest FL
Central Florida Advocate – FL
Metro Courier, Augusta, GA
New Orleans City Business
Acadiana - Lafayette Daily Advertiser (LA)
Bayou Buzz - LA
Thibodaux Daily Comet – LA
Houma Courier - LA
Michigan Tech News - MI
Kalamazoo Gazette - MI
Clarion Ledger – Jackson, MS
Elmira Star-Gazette - NY
News of the Northwest

Summary of the April 22nd Exit Poll of the New Orleans Mayor's Race and Rebuilding Exit Poll

On April 22nd 463 voters completed an exit poll measuring the perceptions of voters about their voting experience and barriers to rebuilding that they have encountered since Hurricane Katrina. Since the Louisiana legislature and the federal court rejected the request to allow satellite voting facilities in states with a heavy population of Louisiana evacuees, the civil rights community has been intimately engaged in monitoring voter enfranchisement for the April 22nd primary.

Since hurricane Katrina, New Orleans merged 256 of its polling locations into 76 voting precincts, creating concern that the voting rights of residents would be compromised. A second component of the exit poll was to measure the voting experience of residents and if they encountered any problems.

The Voting Experience

Overall, voters did not experience the severe disruptions that some anticipated for the April 22nd election. As demonstrated by the results below, with the exception of the absence of satellite voting outside of Louisiana for displaced voters and a few minor errors at some polling locations, the voting experience for a majority of the residents was uneventful.

Rebuilding Challenges

1. Two-thirds of the respondents (66%) are “Very/Somewhat Satisfied” with how the rebuilding process is going for them. This is in contrast to nearly a third (29%) of the respondents who are “Very/Somewhat Dissatisfied” with the rebuilding process. More than any other racial group, African Americans are more likely to be “Very/Somewhat Dissatisfied” with how the rebuilding process is going for them at 33% compared to 22% for whites.

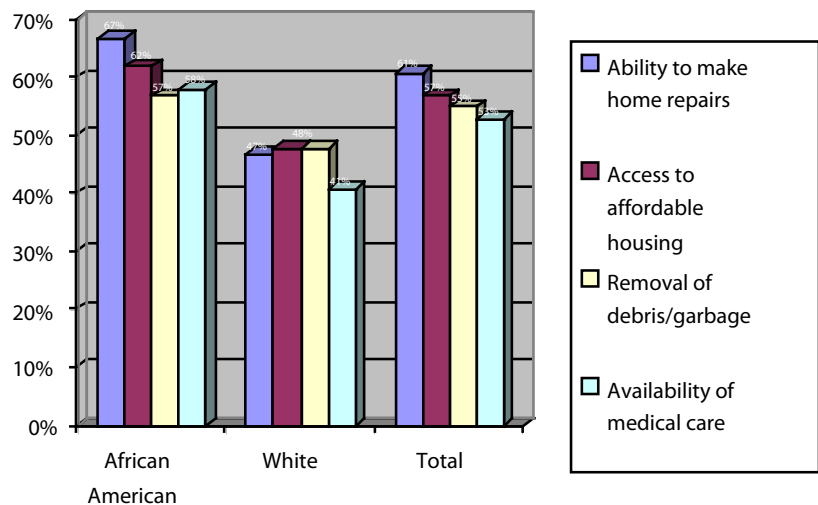
2. Eight rebuilding indicators were evaluated by the respondents to measure if they are “Very/Somewhat Serious” problems to them in their efforts to reclaim the dignity and wholeness to their lives. Unlike whites at 40% and above, nearly 6 out of 10 African Americans have a “Very/Somewhat Serious” problem making home repairs, locating affordable housing, having garbage/debris removed and securing medical care. The continuous burden of such issues will further discourage residents from rebuilding.

The eight rebuilding indicators tested were:

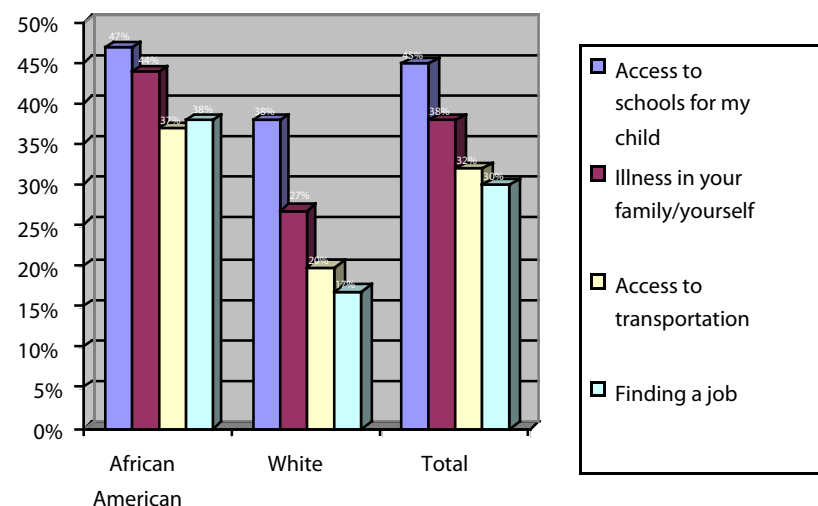
- Ability to make home repairs
- Access to affordable housing
- Availability of medical care
- Access to schools for my child
- Removal of debris/garbage
- Finding a job
- Access to transportation
- Illness in your family/yourself

Excerpts taken directly from summary as commissioned and developed by Dr. Silas Lee & Associates; a full copy of the summary may be obtained at www.ncbcp.org.

Of the eight indicators tested, the four major issues that are a “Very/Somewhat Serious” problem for residents attempting to rebuild are:



The remaining four indicators (access to schools and transportation, illness in your family and finding a job) were identified as a “Very/Somewhat Serious” problem by less than 50% of the respondents. However, as the chart below illustrates, African American residents are more likely than whites to be negatively impacted by access to schools and transportation, illness and finding a job.



Summary of the Katrina-Rita Gulf South Listening Sessions Bus Tour

Excerpts taken directly from summary as commissioned and developed by Dr. Silas Lee & Associates; a full copy of the summary may be obtained at www.ncbcp.org.

More than a year after Hurricanes Katrina and Rita, thousands of African American women are still trying to rise from the devastation inflicted on their lives and community. Caught in the whirlwind of despair and survival, the two natural disasters exposed the inter-locking relationship of race and gender in constructing the destiny of African American women. The data from the survey administered to African American women during the recent Gulf Coast listening tour clearly demonstrate that the fragile social and economic existence of African American women was further exacerbated by the two hurricanes.

During the week of August 22nd, the National Coalition on Black Civic Participation hosted a 7 Day-7 City Black Women's Roundtable Listening Sessions Bus Tour in New Orleans, Mobile, Gulfport, Lafayette, Baton Rouge and Jackson. The Tour Theme, "Hear Me NOW!, Reflections One Year After Katrina-Rita", epitomizes the Tour purpose---to learn what it means, not only to live through the life-altering affects of Hurricanes Katrina and Rita, but, also how women directly impacted by the storms have survived one year later.

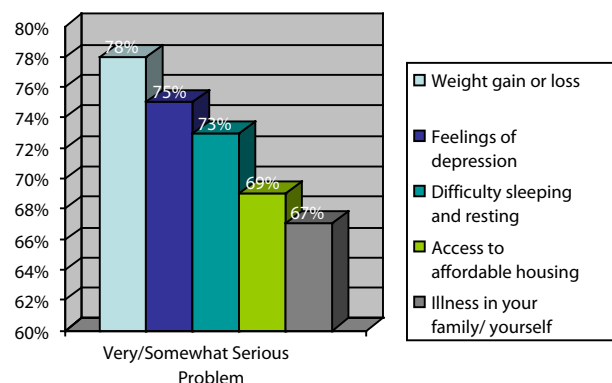
One hundred (100) respondents completed surveys to measure their experiences in the rebuilding process, the barriers encountered and how they have been affected by this natural disaster.

SUMMARY of the RESULTS

Prior to Hurricanes Katrina and Rita, minority women in the Gulf Coast region were imprisoned in the *concrete dome of inequality*. According to the U.S. Census Bureau and the Institute for Women's Policy Research, black women especially in New Orleans were critically underpaid in comparison to their white counterparts \$19,000 to \$36,000. This income disparity explains why 7 in 10 (69%) respondents said, "Access to affordable housing is a very/somewhat serious problem for them."

Although much attention has been focused on rebuilding the physical facilities in their respective communities, the top five *very/somewhat serious problems* identified by the respondents indicate that African American

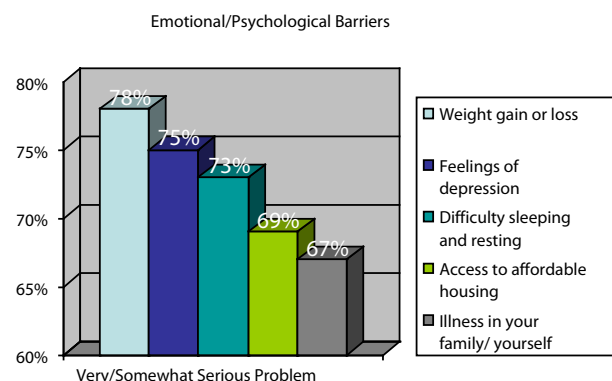
women of the Gulf Coast remain emotionally traumatized as they struggle to secure a sense of dignity and stability. This is confirmed by the identification of the five dominant *very/somewhat serious problems* affecting their survival and recovery:



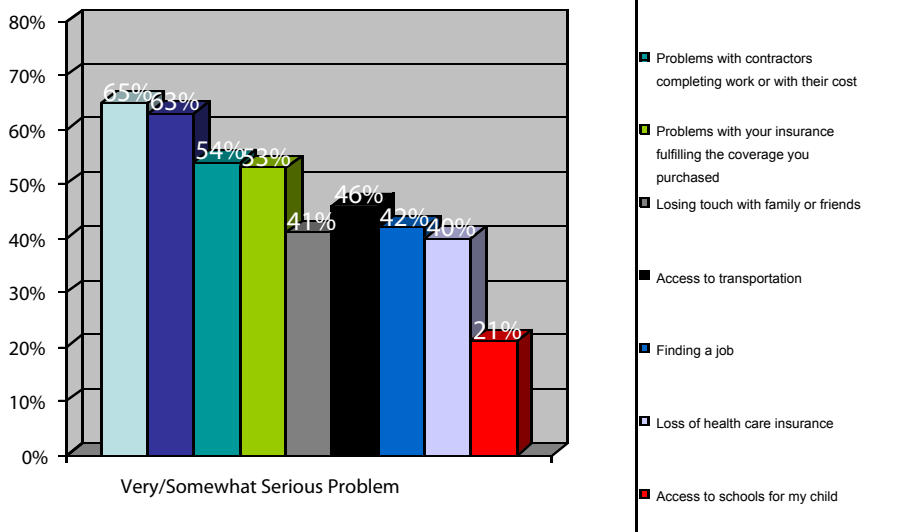
In two cities, a disproportionate number of women are in need of emotional intervention to prevent the long-term effects of their trauma, permanently damaging their emotional stability and relationships. In New Orleans, a startling 94% of the respondents cited *depression and weight gain* as a *very/somewhat serious problem* for them in comparison to approximately 80% for those living in the Gulfport region.

The REBUILDING EXPERIENCE

Although not mutually exclusive, the results for the fourteen rebuilding indicators measured by the respondents can be separated into emotional/psychological and institutional barriers with some cross-over of the issues.



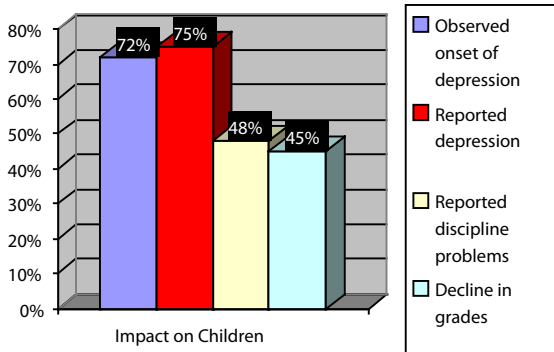
Institutional Barriers



state of mind, inter-locking institutional barriers converge to handicap the recovery and stability of African American women of the Gulf Coast. After experiencing fluctuations in their weight, lacking sufficient rest, and battling depression, more than half of the respondents lack access to medical care (65%) and experience problems with contractors completing work or within the projected cost (54%) and problems with insurance companies fulfilling the coverage purchased (53%).

THE IMPACT on CHILDREN

The data corroborates the fact that the children of the disaster were just as emotionally affected as their parents. Uprooted from their familiar environment and friends, an astounding 72% of the respondents observed the onset of depression in their children (75% of the total respondents reported depression as a very/somewhat serious problem) and 48% reported discipline problems and 45% noticed a decline in their grades at 45%.



CONCLUSION

August 29, 2005 exposed the existence of two Americans separated by race, class and gender. For the African American women of the Gulf Coast, the natural disaster epitomized the inter-relationship between race and gender and how the institutionalization of social and gender inequities have impacted their quality of life before Hurricanes Katrina and Rita, as well as their ability to rebuild. While many citizens analyze the recovery process as largely a project of individual initiative, the weight of these historical inequities have now been placed on the shoulders of the women of the Gulf Coast and it is a significant contributor to their depression and the discipline and academic problems of their children.

Since the disasters of 2005 are not the last natural catastrophes to affect this country, it is imminently clear that governmental agencies and community organizations form strategic partnerships to restore America's social contract and safety net with its citizens regardless of a person's race, gender and class. Recovery from events such as these should not be a function of social status, but collaboration between people, institutions and government. As the people of the Gulf Coast rebuild, let us be diligent in eradicating the policies and practices which have contributed to the acceptance and institutionalization of inequality.

Copyright © 2006 National Coalition on Black Civic Participation (www.nbcpc.org).

Analysis of Exit Polls from the 2006 Election & The Black Youth Vote! Surveys

Excerpts taken from analysis as commissioned from Dr. Tyson King-Meadows, National Coalition of Black Political Scientists.

“Young Voters in the 2006 Election,” CIRCLE, Center for Information & Research on Civic Learning & Engagement, Fact Sheet, December 12, 2006.

Blacks and the 2006 Midterm Elections, David A. Bositis, Joint Center for Political and Economic Studies, pg. 2

“Voting and Registration in the Election of 2004,” Census Bureau, Department of Commerce, Table 2. Race, Hispanic Origin, Sex and Age, for the United States, May 25, 2005. See also, “Reported Voting and Registration by Race, Hispanic Origin, Sex and Age Groups: November 1964 to 2004”, Bureau of the Census, U. S. Department of Commerce, Table 4-1.

2000 National Opinion Poll, David A. Bositis, Joint Center for Political and Economic Studies, p. 8.

2004 National Opinion Poll: Politics and the 2004 Elections, Joint Center for Political and Economic Studies, p. 11.

Released December 7, 2006.

Before and on Tuesday, November 7, 2006, the National Coalition on Black Civic Participation (NCBCP), in partnership with Dr. Tyson King-Meadows and the National Conference of Black Political Scientists, and Dr. Ronald Walters and the African American Leadership Institute at the University of Maryland, College Park, performed two pilot surveys.

The first was a pre-election day survey of African Americans (Black) and non-African American respondents done in conjunction with NCBCP’s Black Youth Vote! initiative designed to educate, register, and motivate prospective voters aged 18-35 in seven states (Alabama, Florida, Georgia, Louisiana, Maryland, Michigan and Texas). During this pre-election cycle, the Black Youth Vote! initiative surveyed voters in Alabama and Michigan. These two states were of great interest for different reasons. The second state, Michigan, drew particular interest from the Coalition and its partners because of the heightened environment generated by the number of groups involved in registering voters and disseminating information about the anti-affirmative action ballot proposal (Proposition 2).

The second pilot survey was an Election Day Exit Poll focused on African Americans (Black) and non-African American respondents who left polling stations in Michigan, Florida, and Maryland. These surveys were specifically designed to gather data about voters’ experiences at the polls, with questions aimed at assessing the frequency of identification challenges, difficulties with voting apparatuses, ease of reading ballots, and voter confidence. The exit polls also sought to provide data that would assist in the evaluation of progress toward correcting problems discovered in the 2000 and 2004 election cycles. Many of these problems were the subject of election reform efforts at both the national and state levels, and some became the subject of DOJ lawsuits. As such, questions were asked about whether respondents voted with a provisional ballot, whether respondents were motivated by problems in Ohio in

2004, and the length of time spent waiting to vote. A third set of questions assessed what broad issues motivated votes (e.g., jobs, homeland security, the war in Iraq) and which specific state-focused ballot initiatives motivated voters to turn out. By examining voter response to both the state-specific context and the national issue context, the Coalition hoped to assess whether there were racial differences in how voters thought about the 2006 election cycle.

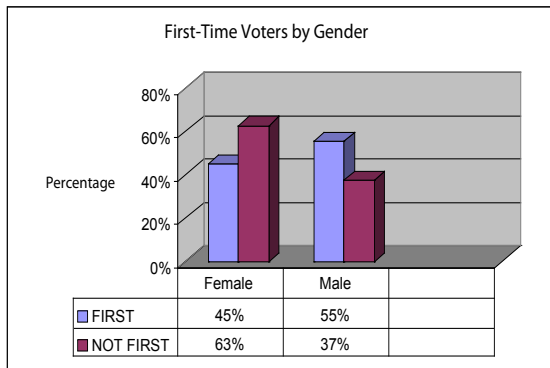
FINDINGS FROM THE EXIT POLLS

Age and Party Affiliation

In the Exit Polls, 75 and older year olds expressed 100% affiliation with the Democratic party. The 45-54 year olds in the poll exhibited the next strongest affiliation with the Democratic party (83.6%) followed by individuals falling in the age cohort right above. While the 65-74 year olds had a more diversified partisan affiliation, the second strongest partisan affiliation for the Republican party was expressed by individuals between the ages of 35 and 44 years old. The 18-24 age group had the second lowest Democratic party affiliation of 66.7% and the third strongest Republican party affiliation of 6.2 % compared. The Independents were strongest amongst 18-24 year olds with 17.3% followed by 65-74 year olds with 15%.

First Time Voters

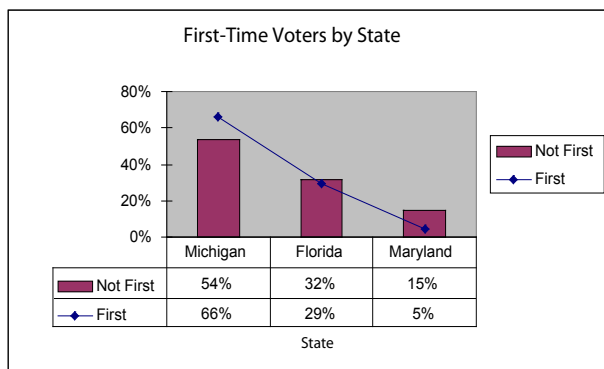
As noted above, most of the total respondents in the Exit Polls were not first-time voters. However, a slight gender difference did emerge. Men were more likely than women to be first time voters. There were also differences between the states.



ballots. Of course, the 2004 finding was anticipated since that sample was heavily weighted toward younger, first-time voters, many of whom may have transient addresses as students or otherwise have a questionable voter roll status.

The Effect of Ohio (2004) and Michigan's Proposition 2 on Voter Motivation in 2006

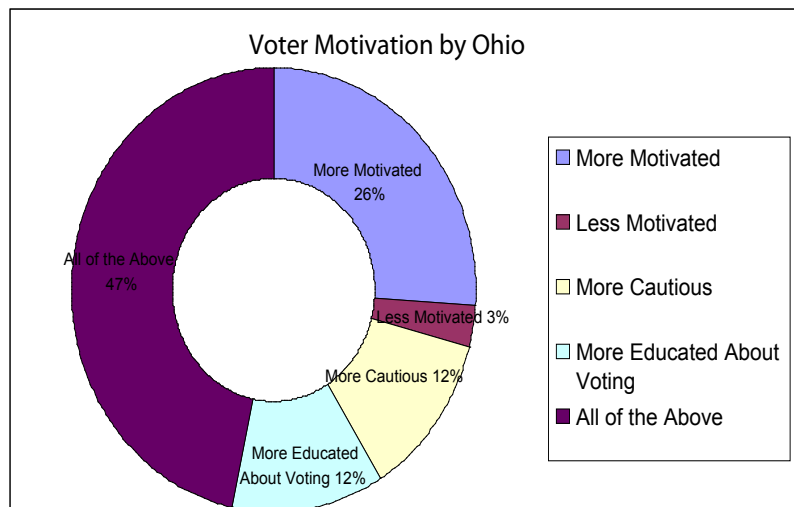
The events of Florida and Ohio will forever remain etched in the minds of American voters. Whether by state malfeasance or administrative ineptitude, many people of color were disenfranchised. We wanted to ascertain, albeit in limited fashion, whether voters were motivated by the events in Ohio to cast a vote in 2006.



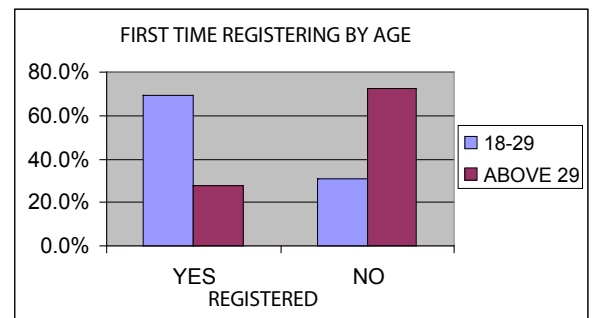
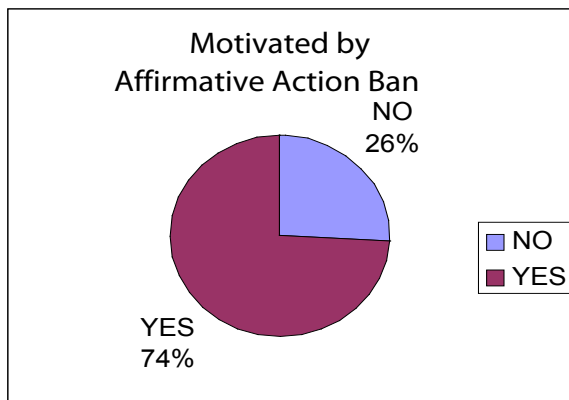
Voting System Preferences, Voter Confidence, and Provisional Ballots

Controversies in Florida during the 2000 election and in Ohio during the 2004 election placed election administration in the forefront of voter concerns. Many saw strange parallels between the actions of states in the twenty-first century and those of states' rights advocates from the late nineteenth and early twentieth-century who used federalism as a smoke screen for racial oppression. Because evidence has shown that voting apparatuses can have a discriminatory impact, we were particularly interested in how confident voters were in 2006. Therefore, on the question of voting system confidence the Exit Poll yielded a result that favored "paper balloting" and "touch screen" over the punch cards that generated the debates during the 2000 election cycle.

In this NCBCP Exit Poll, we were glad to see that only 9% of the respondents voted by provisional ballot. This is a remarkable departure from our 2004 findings where 26% of the respondents utilized provisional



The initiative to ban affirmative action in Michigan was an equally powerful motivator for voters. An overwhelming majority of respondents indicated that they were motivated to vote by Proposition 2, even for those who did not note affirmative action as an important issue in the election.

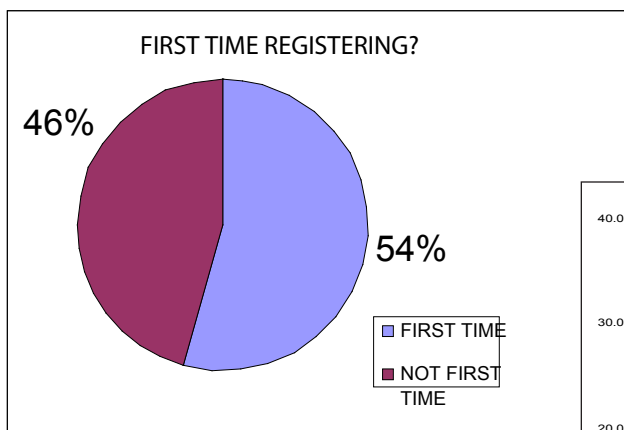


FINDINGS FROM THE BLACK YOUTH VOTE! SURVEY

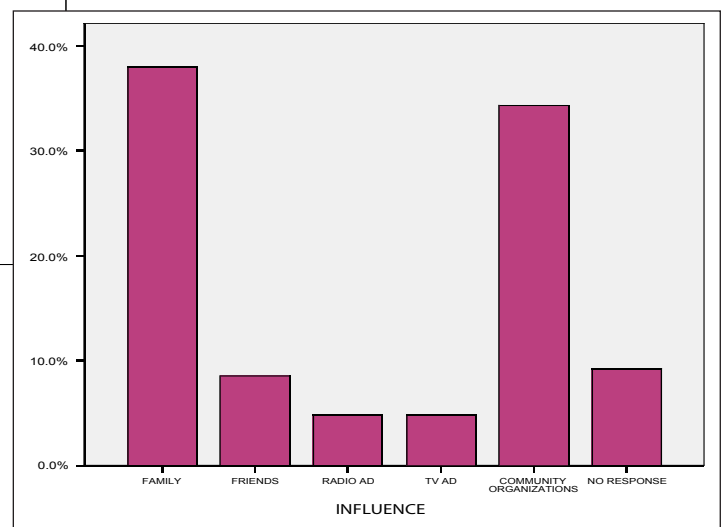
Responses to Black Youth Vote! Poll provided an interesting compliment to the Exit Polls. For example, the majority of respondents were registering for the first time. Almost 54 percent of the respondents were registering for the first time.

Interestingly, 26.3 percent of those above 29 in Michigan were also first time registrants.

Respondents were also asked if they had problems registering to vote. Less than 5 percent indicated that they had problems registering to vote. However, 73 percent of the respondents indicated that they would indeed follow up with the elections board to ensure that their name appeared on the voting rolls.



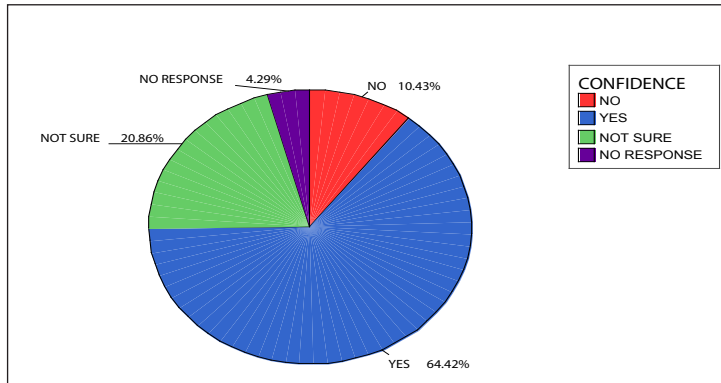
To ascertain why these registrants were participating, respondents were also asked “Who/what influences whether or not you will vote and how informed you are about voting?” The responses are interesting to note here.



First time registering by age cohort, with those below 29 years old collapsed into one category. Almost seventy percent of those in aged 18-29 were first time registrants, compared with only 27.6 percent of those above 29 being first time registrants. Most of these first time registrants were in Alabama, with a full 86.7 percent of those aged 18-29 being first time registrants. In Michigan, only 41 percent of those aged 18-29 were registering for the first time.

These socializing agents worked: 88.3 percent of those surveyed indicated that they planned on voting in November of 2006. The resilience of respondents to participate is startling given their answers to

another question tapping voter confidence. The graph below depicts respondents' confidence that their votes would be counted:



Finally, the Black Youth Vote respondents were asked to identify issues that were important to them.

ISSUE	FREQUENCY MENTIONED
CRIME	3.27 %
CRIMINAL JUSTICE	1.43 %
ECONOMY	10.63 %
EDUCATION	5.93 %
ENVIRONMENT	0.41 %
HEALTH CARE	9.82 %
HOMELAND SECURITY	6.13 %
JOBS	27.61 %
OTHER	1.23 %
SOCIAL SECURITY	4.70 %
WAR IN IRAQ	12.88 %

What you see from the table above is that respondents mentioned “Jobs” and the “War in Iraq” more frequently than other issues. The “Economy” was the third most frequently mentioned issue of importance to the respondents.

APPENDIX A 2006 Contributors and Sponsors

AFL-CIO
AFSCME
Alpha Kappa Alpha Sorority, Inc.
Alpha Phi Alpha Fraternity, Inc.
Altria Corporate Services, Inc.
American Airlines
American Federation of Teachers
American Gaming Association
AMGEN
AT & T
Atlanta Police Department
BET Foundation
Black Leadership Forum
Brazile & Associates
Carnegie Corporation of New York
Clyburn Consulting, LLC
The Coca-Cola Company
Communications Workers of America
Community Baptist Church
CompuCredit
Congressional Black Caucus Foundation, Inc
Delta Air Washington
Delta Sigma Theta Sorority, Inc.
Delta Sigma Theta Sorority – Tuscaloosa
Alumnae Chapter
Democratic National Committee
Dickerson Employee Benefit
Eddie Williams & Associates, LLC
Enterprise Rental
Fannie Mae Foundation
The Ford Foundation
General Motors Corporation
General Motors Foundation
George Washington University – Young Voter
Strategies
Greater New Orleans Foundation
Harrah's Entertainment
Hospital, Professional & Technical & Service
Employees
International Association of Black Professional
Firefighters
International Association of Machinists &
Aerospace Workers
International Union of Painters & Allied Trades
Issue Dynamics
J. C. Watts Companies
Kappa Alpha Psi Fraternity, Inc.
Lawyers' Committee for Civil Rights Under Law
Ledge Magazine
MGM Mirage
Ms. Foundation For Women

National Black Caucus of State Legislators
National Education Association
National Urban League
Nielsen Media (VNU, Inc.)
OIC of America
Phi Beta Sigma Fraternity, Inc.
PHRMA
Quixote Foundation
Religious Coalition (RCRC)
Service Employees International Union
SEIU Local 722
Service Master
Sigma Gamma Rho Sorority, Inc.
The Source Magazine
State Farm Insurance Company
Twenty-First Century Foundation
UNITEHere!
United Food & Commercial Workers Int'l Union
Verizon
Voices for Working Families

Individual Contributors

Donna Brazile
Kevin Briscoe
Diallo Brooks
J.A. Burrell
Anita R. Estell
Gregory Griffin
Dawn Lawson
Cecelia Luschnig
Chief Richard J. Pennington
Major Stan Savage
Carlottia Scott
Dr. Yvonne Scruggs-Leftwich
Delisa Saunders, Ph.D.
Dr. Ronald Walters

APPENDIX B NCBCP 2006 Official Partners

ABFE
AFL-CIO
A. Philip Randolph Institute
Alpha Phi Alpha Fraternity, Inc.
Alpha Kappa Alpha Sorority, Inc.
Altria Group, Inc.
AMGEN
American Airlines
American Federation of Teachers
American Urban Radio Network
Black Congress on Health, Law & Economics
Black Leadership Forum
Blacks In Government
Change To Win*
Congressional Black Caucus Foundation
Coalition of Black Trade Unionists
Common Cause Education Fund*
Council of Presidents – 9 National Black Fraternities & Sororities
Data New Weekly New Orleans
Delta Sigma Theta Sorority, Inc.
Fels Institute of Government at the University of Pennsylvania
General Motors Corporation
Hope Coalition America/Operation HOPE
Institute of Caribbean Studies
International Association of Black Professional Firefighters
Joint Center for Political and Economic Studies
Kappa Alpha Psi Fraternity, Inc.
Lafayette Restoration Center
League of Women Voters*
MYVOTE1 Consortium*
National Council of Negro Women
National Education Association
National Labor College
National Urban League
NAACP Legal Defense Fund
Ohio Election Protection Coalition
100 Black Men of America, Inc.
The Reform Institute*
Saving Our Selves Coalition (SOS)
Service Employees International Union
Sigma Gamma Rho Sorority, Inc.
State Farm Insurance Companies
Source Magazine
The Opportunity Agenda
The Peoples' Agenda
Tom Joyner Morning Show
We Care America*
Zeta Phi Beta Sorority, Inc.

*MYVOTE1 Consortium Members

LEST WE FORGET!

The Survivors of Hurricanes Katrina and Rita

We believe we all have a responsibility to stay the course for as long as it takes to revive and rebuild the lives of all the survivors by joining the survivors in their fight for access to affordable housing, livable wages, a quality public education, access to the ballot without barriers and the right to return to their communities.



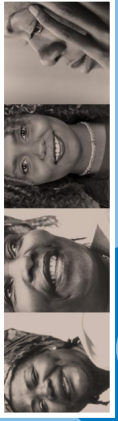
We believe that the right thing to do is for our government to develop a regional "Marshal Plan" for the Gulf Coast and a comprehensive response that engages the public, private, philanthropic, civic, faith, education, labor and grassroots sectors in helping to restore a sense of hope and restoration.



We must do this not only for the survivors of Hurricanes Katrina and Rita, but also the nation, to regain a sense of responsibility for our most valuable resources---our children, who are our future, and our elders, who have sacrificed and paid their dues to live in dignity in their senior years.



Whether whispering our shouting, we are ready to hear you now!



Affluence Power *Abundance* Together *Unity*
Educating *Informing* Inspiring *Mobilizing* Networking
Promoting Healthy *Wealthy* *Wise Women*



CELEBRATING THE PAST TO FORGE

National Coalition on Black Civic Participation
1900 L Street, NW, Suite #700
Washington, DC 20036
www.ncbcp.org

A BOLD NEW FUTURE

