

2018 Michigan Progressive Summit Schedule

8:30 – 9:00	Registration
9:00 – 10:00	Welcome & Morning Plenary
10:10 – 11:25	Breakout Session I
11:35 – 12:50	Breakout Sessions II
1:00 – 2:00	Lunch & Panel
2:10 – 3:25	Breakout Sessions III
3:35 – 4:35	Afternoon Plenary
4:35 – 5:05	Closing

Lunch Panel - Flint Water Crisis: What happened? What's going on now? Where do we go from here?

Room: Main Expo Hall

Session Type: Panel

Session Presenters:

Melissa Mays, Water You Fighting For? & Flint Rising

Nayyirah Shariff, Flint Rising

Pamela Pugh, City of Flint

San Juana "Juani" Olivares, Genesee County Hispanic Latino Collaborative



2018 Michigan Progressive Summit Breakout Sessions

Breakout Session #1

Policies Impacting Communities of Color

Room: Boardroom A

Session Type: Panel

Session Presenters: Lacy Dawson, Melanie McElroy, Michigan Voice; Denzel McCampbell, Engage Michigan

Session Description: *Emergency Management, failing education systems, expensive car insurance, unreliable transportation, high incarceration rates, mass deportations all have two things in common: they all affect communities of color and these policies are decided through process that lacks equity and inclusion.*

An Intersectional, Interconnectedness and Solidarity Approach to Achieving Environmental Reform

Room: Classroom 2325

Session Type: Workshop/Skill Building

Session Presenters: Marnese Jackson, NAACP

Session Description: *With NAACP's multi-issue advocacy agenda, environmental injustice, including climate change, is a common thread that runs through all of the sectors in which we are engaged. Civic Engagement and Voting Rights, Criminal Justice, Economic Opportunity Education, Gender Justice, and Health are all impacted by environmental injustice and climate change through multiple mechanisms. To address an issue which is a threat multiplier for all sectors of society, a multi-faceted, comprehensive approach is needed. In this session, participants will learn practical steps to get started in local organizing, organizing principles, strategy, and how leaders are taking on climate threats, challenging political opposition, and cultivating movements to deliver thriving, sustainable communities.*

Using Lobbying and Activism to Influence the Executive and Judicial Branches - Youth Track

Room: Classroom 2337

Session Type: Workshop/Skill Building

Session Presenters: Maggie Thompson, Generation Progress

Session Description: Now that the White House and, by extension, the entire Executive Branch is controlled by the Trump Administration, it's now more important than ever to know how to mobilize about the federal rulemaking process and protect our federal courts. In this session you will learn the basics of how federal regulations come to be, how judicial nominees become judges, and the various pressure points for both processes. At the end of the session will have the opportunity to take direct action by submitting a public comment to the federal agency regulating bump stocks.

Wake Up! The State Budget Matters

Room: Classroom 2331

Session Type: Workshop/Skill Building

Session Presenters: Renell B. Weathers, Community Engagement Director, Michigan League for Public Policy

Session Description: Michigan's state budget is more than just a document, it outlines our priorities and our collective efforts to create a Michigan where all residents have a pathway toward economic opportunity. It is also a powerful tool for achieving racial and ethnic equity. It's important that we speak up and tell lawmakers what matters to us, our children, our neighbors and our community.

Behind The Curtain: Why The Amount Of Money In Politics Is Growing And Tips For Following It

Room: Boardroom B

Session Type: Workshop/Skill Building

Session Presenters: Craig Mauger, Michigan Campaign Finance Network

Session Description: Michigan elections are becoming increasingly expensive, and the upcoming 2018 election in Michigan could be one of the priciest in state history. The presentation will detail how the role of money in Michigan politics has changed over the last decade and how you can follow all of the cash.

Building Strong Communities: Organizing with a Reproductive Justice Lens

Room: Boardroom C

Session Type: Workshop/Skill Building

Session Presenters: Emily Clancy, East Michigan Community Organizer, Planned Parenthood Advocates of Michigan

Session Description: *This session will focus on defining reproductive justice, especially as it relates to one's power and privilege in society. The presentation will explore how the reproductive justice movement developed as a response to the history of choice in the US and reproductive oppression. We will discuss reproductive justice as it relates to current events, and then, participants will breakout into small groups for an activity. Using prompts and discussion cards, participants will examine how the reproductive justice framework can be incorporated into other social movements to build stronger families and communities.*

Michigan's Broken School Funding System

Room: Riverfront Suite A

Session Type: Panel

Session Presenters:

Wanda Cook-Robinson, Oakland Intermediate School District Superintendent

Tameka Ramsey, Michigan Education Justice Coalition Coordinator

Randy Liepa, Wayne Regional Education Services Association Superintendent

Session Description: *Have you been wondering why Michigan hasn't gone #RedForEd yet? There is a growing movement for full and fair school funding in our state. Come find out how our Legislature has slashed education funding over the years, what it's done to our student achievement, and what we can do about it. The future of our state will be bleak if we don't get this right soon.*

Breakout Session #2

Fundraising 101 – Raising the Money to Fund a Winning Campaign

Room: Boardroom A

Session Type: Workshop/Skill Building

Session Presenters: Rebecca Bahar-Cook

Session Description: *Campaigns cost money and most candidates don't come to the table knowing who and how to ask for funds. This workshop will teach you how to get started. You will learn about finding donors within your personal and professional networks, how to message yourself to prospective donors, how much to ask for and how to keep your fundraising organized and on task.*

The State of Immigration Activism

Room: Boardroom B

Session Type: Panel

Session Presenters:

Samantha Magdaleno & Jose Franco, One Michigan for Immigrant Rights

Session Description: *This session will give attendees an understanding the current climate of Immigrant rights activism. We will the past and moving forward with progressive allies and accomplices.*

The Diminishing Safety Net: Threats to Our Building Blocks in Michigan

Room: Classroom 2331

Session Type: Workshop/Skill Building

Session Presenters: Julie Cassidy, Policy Analyst, MLPP &

Renell B. Weathers, Community Engagement Director, MLPP

Session Description: *We continue to see attacks on the very programs designed to provide for those in need. Programs like Medicaid and SNAP (Supplemental Nutrition Assistance Program) are building blocks in providing a society where everyone can have a good quality of life. Participants will walk away from this session with information on the landscape of the social safety net in Michigan and throughout the country. We will also equip attendees with tools to take action against these attacks and amplify the necessity for social safety net programs.*

Voter Suppression Today and How We Combat It

Room: Classroom 2325

Session Type: Panel

Session Presenters: Sharon Dolente, ACLU of Michigan;

Baldomero Gonzalez, League of Conservation Voters of Michigan;

Isra Daraiseh, National Network for Arab American Communities

Session Description: *The voice of voters continues to be suppressed in this country. Rather than poll taxes and literacy tests, it is a complicated web of voting laws and rules that make it easier for some and harder for others to make their voices heard on Election Day. This session overview the state of voting access in Michigan and then share multiple strategies (at the state, local and programmatic level) to overcome voter suppression.*

Beyond Running for Office – Youth in Civic Leadership - Youth Track

Room: Classroom 2337

Session Type: Workshop/skill building

Session Presenters: Maggie Thompson, Generation Progress

Session Description: *In 2018 we have seen a surge of young candidates running for office, making this the year young people can demonstrate their civic power. However, civic leadership goes beyond running for office, and in this session, Generation Progress will walk you through different paths to springboard into civic leadership, and maybe someday run for office. Whether it is founding a non-profit, serving on a board or commission, or becoming a campaign staffer, there are myriad paths to civic leadership for progressive young people.*

Telling Your Health Care Story

Room: Classroom 2321

Session Type: Workshop/skill building

Session Presenters: Joe Soltis, Progress Michigan

Session Description: *Attacks on health care have been constant since the rise of the Tea Party and all too real since the 2016 election. Join staff from Progress Michigan to learn about an exciting new way to share your story, get tips on how to talk about health care and get tips on telling a compelling story.*

Go Digital! Tools You Need to Engage Online

Room: Boardroom C

Session Type: Workshop/skill building

Session Presenters: Christian Bowe, Progress Michigan

Session Description: *It is extremely important for community groups to have a presence in the digital space. Social media, email, and digital petitions are just some of the tools we can use to get our message and issues in front of people. This session will walk participants through best practices for digital organizing.*

Breakout Session #3

How Can We Tackle Racial Justice?

Room: Boardroom A

Session Type: Workshop/skill building

Session Presenters: LaShawn Erby

Session Description: *Racial Justice cannot happen without a look at our Implicit Bias. This workshop does just that. If you plan to attend this session, please take the White/Black Implicit Assessment before you arrive. <https://implicit.harvard.edu/implicit/> If you are unable to take it before the session, please bring a digital device to the session. This interactive workshop is a great foundation for those serious about true Racial Justice. Participants will leave with specific action items and additional resources to use moving forward.*

We are Building Movements & Saving Communities!

Room: Boardroom B

Session Type: Workshop/skill building

Session Presenters: Tameka Ramsey, T. Ramsey & Associates

Session Description: *Learn how to bring solidarity and power into a community that is sustainable, through movement building and leadership development. Participants will walk away with an understanding and tools on how to engage their community and build power to effect change.*

Changes in Immigration: Breaking Families Apart

Room: Boardroom C

Session Type: Workshop/skill building

Session Presenters: Ruby Robinson, Michigan Immigrant Rights Center

Session Description: *This session will go into what is currently occurring in our nation's immigration system. Participants will learn immigration basics, along with recent changes that include the expected public charge rule change. This rule change could potentially end our family-based immigration system, disproportionately affecting communities of color.*

How to Share Your message Through Earned Media Tactics - Youth Track

Room: Classroom 2325

Session Type: Workshop/skill building

Session Presenters: Giovanni Rocco, Generation Progress
& Hugh Madden, Progress Michigan

Session Description: *This session will help give young people the nuts and bolts of press engagement so that whatever action they plan is set up to get coverage in the press and online, and with the message they want. Participants should leave this session with a basic understanding of how to pitch a reporter, draft media advisories and releases, and how to designate and prep spokespeople for any action to be sure their message is heard.*

Who do I Talk to? Using VAN Effectively to Reach People

Room: Classroom 2321

Session Type: Workshop/skill building

Session Presenters: Henry Griffin & Brian Merlos

Session Description: *VAN is a great tool to engage constituents and community members. Participants will learn best practices and tools to use VAN effectively. This session will send you on the path to becoming a data wizard!*

2018 Ballot Initiatives: What You Need to Know

Room: Riverfront Suite A

Join us as we discuss initiatives that will appear on the ballot in 2018. Participants will hear from various initiatives and gain information to take back to their communities!

Invisible Workers: Slavery, Gender Violence and Poverty in Food Labor

Room: Classroom 2331

Session Type: Workshop/skill building

Session Presenters: Jonathan Roberts

Session Description: *Analyzing food labor in the United States through the lens of slavery, this breakout session will explore historical features of the food and restaurant industry, including tipping, the minimum wage and the absence of collective bargaining in workplaces. We will connect these historical labor practices to contemporary issues in the industry (discrimination, poverty, sexual assault). Through understanding the root causes of inequity in food labor, we will then be empowered to discuss actionable ways for participants -- from growers to consumers -- to intervene in the food system.*

Poll Workers: How You Can Make Our Elections Run Smoothly

Room: classroom 2337

Session Type: Workshop/skill building

Session Presenters: Isra Daraiseh, National Network for Arab American Communities & Scott Urbanowski

Session Description: *Michigan needs thousands of poll workers (or precinct inspectors) to make our elections run smoothly. Learn about what it's like to be a poll worker, and hear about how one organization successfully got many new poll workers involved in our elections.*